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Alfred Reed papers

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Miami Special Collections
Title:	Alfred Reed papers
ID:	ASM0436
Date:	1966-1984 (date of creation)
Date:	1966-1984 (date of creation)
Physical description:	Boxes
Language:	English
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Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Alfred Reed was a native New Yorker-born in Manhattan on January 25, 1921. His parents loved good music and made it part of their daily lives; as a result, he was well acquainted with most of the standard symphonic and operatic repertoire while still in elementary school. Beginning formal music training at the age of ten, he studied trumpet and was playing professionally while still in High School. He worked on theory and harmony with John Sacco, and continued later as a scholarship student of Paul Yartin.

After three years at the Radio Workshop in New York, he enlisted in the Air Force during World War II, and was assigned to the 529th Army Air Force Band. During his three and a half years with this organization, Alfred Reed became deeply interested in the Concert Band and its music. He produced nearly 100 compositions and arrangements for band before leaving the Service. Following his release, he enrolled at the Juilliard School of Music as a student of Vittorio Giannini. In 1948 he became a staff composer and arranger with NBC and, subsequently, ABC in New York, where he wrote and arranged music for radio and television, as well as for record albums and films.

In 1953 Mr. Reed became conductor of the Baylor Symphony Orchestra at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, at the same time completing his interrupted academic work. His Master's thesis was the "Rhapsody for Viola and Orchestra," which later was to win the Luria Prize. It received its first performance in 1959, and was published in 1966. During the two years at Baylor he also became interested in the problems of educational music at all levels, especially in the development of repertoire material for band, orchestra and chorus. This led, in 1955, to his accepting the post of editor in a major publishing firm. He left this position in September, 1966, to join the faculty of the School of Music at the University of Miami, as Professor of Music, holding a joint appointment in the Theory Composition and Music Education Departments, and to develop the Unique Music Merchandising Degree Program at that institution.

With over 200 published works for Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Chorus and various smaller chamber music groups, many of which have been on the required performance lists, Dr. Reed was one of the nation's most prolific and frequently performed composers. His work as a guest conductor and clinician has taken him to 40 states, Europe, Canada, Mexico, and South America, and for six consecutive years, six of his works have been on the required list of music for all Concert Bands in Japan. He left New York for Miami, Florida, in 1960, where he has made his home ever since. In the Fall of 1980, following the retirement of Dr. Frederick Fennell, Dr. Reed was appointed conductor and music director of the University of Miami Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Scope and content

Alfred Reed was a composer and conductor who later became a professor and music director at the University of Miami. The Alfred Reed Papers contains condensed scores, full scores, conductor and scores of J. S. Bach's music, all by Alfred Reed. Also included is an autographed score by Brazilian composer Hector Villa-Lobos.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions governing use

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Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
 - **Description identifier:** ArchonInternalCollectionID:797
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Access points

- University of Miami. School of Music (subject)
- University of Miami. Wind Ensemble
- Reed, Alfred (subject)
- Villa Lobos, Heitor (subject)

- Sheet Music (documentary form)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
id1840	File -			1
id1842	File - Johan Sebastian Bach - Conductor Scores (larger size)			1 1
id1843	File - Full Scores			1 2
id1844	File - Full Scores			1 3
id1841	File -			2
id1847	File - Condensed Scores			2 1
id1848	File - Full Scores			2 2
id389229	File - Full Scores			2 3
id389230	File - Johan Sebastian Bach - Full Conductor Scores			2 4
id389231	File - Premiere Sonate-Fantaisie Desesperance pour Piano et Violon, by Hector Villa-Lobos, autographed			2 5
id389232	File - Geraldine D. Rasmussen Sheet Music (found in Alfred Reed Collection)			2 6