1981

0332: Jane Boedeker Shepherd Papers, 1937-1982

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REGISTER

OF THE

Jane Boedeker Shepherd Papers

Accession Number: 1981/05.0332
(Ms 89)

Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
1985
JANE BOEDEKER SHEPHERD (JANE HOBSON) PAPERS, 1935-1983

Accession Number: 332
Processed By: Cora P. Teel; word-processed document prepared by Amanda Quait, 1998.
Date Completed: January 1985
Location: Special Collections Department

This collection was a gift of Mrs. Shepherd and was received on various dates between 1981 and 1983.

Linear feet of shelf space: 4

Literary rights: not assigned to Marshall University.
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Explanatory notes:
“Bx” refers to box in which papers are filed.
“Fd” refers to folder.
“SBk” refers to scrapbook.
CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION

The Jane Shepherd Papers consist of letters, contracts, printed programs, newspaper clippings, school papers and photographs, all related to her career as a mezzo-soprano and voice teacher.

Printed programs of her performances between 1935 and 1979 comprise the bulk of the collection. Other items relating to her professional singing career include a scrapbook and newspaper clippings of reviews, publicity material and photographs. Notes from classes, certificates and a transcript reflect her years as a student, from 1935 until 1946, at William Woods College, Fulton, Missouri; the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music; and the Juilliard School of Music.

The papers also contain items relating to her years as a voice teacher at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, from 1958 until 1983. These paper include a sabbatical leave report on her studies in Vienna, and several items regarding three of her pupils, Paulette Vineyard, Faith Esham, and Patricia Prunty.

Of particular note are holograph letters from Margaret Matzenauer and Phyllis Curtin as well as items autographed by George Szell and Robert Casadesus. Several items bear annotations by Mrs. Shepherd or staff members who interviewed her during the receipt of the collection.
JANE BOEDEKER SHEPHERD (JANE HOBSON), 1918-1984

Born Flora Jane Boedeker on March 17, 1918, at Murray, Nebraska, Jane Shepherd began at age seven the piano training which was to carry her through an associate degree at William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri, a Diplome d’Execution in Piano from the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France, and a bachelor’s and master’s degree from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. At the urging of teachers and fellow musicians, she was encouraged to begin voice training, completing four years on a fellowship at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. This training culminated in the receipt of the prestigious Walter W. Naumburg Foundation Prize and a concert at the Town Hall in New York City in 1946.

With her career as a mezzo-soprano thus launched, Mrs. Shepherd took the stage name of Jane Hobson, her grandmother’s name, and, associated with Columbia Artists Management, toured extensively in the United States and Canada. Her marriage in 1948 to Huntington, West Virginia, native Robert V. Shepherd somewhat limited but by no means ended her career. She continued to appear with such major orchestras as the Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louise, and National Symphonies, and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Perhaps her most notable association was with George Szell and the Cleveland Orchestra, with whom she performed on numerous occasions Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony.

Mrs. Shepherd also shared her musical gift with her adopted city and state of Huntington, West Virginia. She taught privately, hosted a local classical music radio show, and finally, in 1958, joined the faculty of Marshall University (then College), where she coached many voice students until her retirement as Artist-in-Residence and full Professor of Music in 1983. In addition to numerous local appearances in recitals and concerts, Mrs. Shepherd also assisted in the formation of the Huntington Chamber Orchestra and in the organization of district and regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions. Governor Jay Rockefeller appointed her to the West Virginia Arts and Humanities Commission for two consecutive terms.

Jane Shepherd died unexpectedly on July 28, 1984, from complications arising from a fall that she suffered in her home several weeks earlier. She was survived by her husband, her son and daughter-in-law Brian and Kathryn Shepherd, two grandchildren, and her brother, Charles Boedeker, of Walnut Creek, California.

From Huntington Herald-Dispatch 29 July 1984, and the Shepherd papers.
I. CORRESPONDENCE AND PERSONAL PAPERS

Bx 1  Correspondence and personal papers  19 Fd

Fd 1  Letters sent, undated  2 items

Fd 2  Letters received, 1948-1980  12 items

These letter concern arrangements and expressions of appreciation for performances.

Fd 3  Letters received, undated  3 items

Fd 4  Letter received, Columbia Artists Management, 1952-1973  5 items

Fd 5  Letter received, Margaret Matzenauer, undated  2 items

Fd 6  Letters received, Jay Rockefeller, 1969-1982  7 items

Expressions of appreciation for performances and letters of appointment to the West Virginia Arts and Humanities Commission.

Fd 7  Letters from family, 1948-1949; undated  3 items

A letter from her father describes the reaction of the people from her hometown upon hearing her first national radio broadcast, “Metropolitan Opera Auditions of the Air.”

Fd 8  Secondary correspondence, 1947-1955;  2 items

Letters to her brother Charles Boedeker and to Miss Harriet Casto of the Anderson-Newcomb Company of Huntington, West Virginia.

Fd 9  Invitations sent, 1970-1977; undated  7 items

Fd 10  Biographical sketch, 1962  2 items

Fd 11  Resume, 1940  1 item

Fd 12  Transcript, Juilliard School of Music, 1946  1 item
### Bx 1  cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fd</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Certificates, 1971-1982</td>
<td>6 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Passport, 1937</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Notations (holograph)</td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Compositions by Jane Boedeker</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>“Song for solo voice…” by Francis Jammes, translated by Richard Wilbur</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>“Gift of Ada Furst”</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A print and photograph so identified by Mrs. Shepherd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Special programs, 1942</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Shepherd credited the recital by Martha Lipton as having influenced her decision to change from piano to voice training.</td>
<td></td>
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### Bx 2  School papers

<table>
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<th>Fd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>William Woods College, Fulton, Missouri, 1940-1960</td>
<td>5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Printed material (articles, programs) about alumna Jane Shepherd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music notebooks, undated</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music: Papers from Music Literature, 1940</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music-Classnotes, 1941</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music - Classnotes, 1942</td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music - Classnotes, 1942; undated</td>
<td>9 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, 1940-1942</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Programs of undergraduate and graduate recitals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bx 2  cont’d

Fd 8-9 Notebook, school unidentified  1 item

Fd 10 Juilliard School of Music Fellowship Regulations  1 item

Fd 11 Juilliard School of Music class notes  1 item

  German diction class.

Fd 12 Juilliard School of Music class notes  1 item

  Italian diction class.

Fd 13 Miscellaneous notes  7 items

  Notebook on stage make up and diction among others.

II. PROFESSIONAL PAPERS

Bx 3  Professional Papers  13 Fd

Fd 1 Radio script, Metropolitan Opera Auditions of the Air, 1948  1 item

Fd 2 Score  1 item

  This annotated score of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony was used by Mrs. Shepherd in her performances with George Szell and the Cleveland Orchestra; bears Szell’s inscription.

Fd 3 Items found in score in fd 2  8 items

Fd 4 Columbia Artists Management Itineraries, 1948-1953  6 items

Fd 5 Voice Students, 1954  1 item

Fd 6 Contracts, 1948-1955  9 items

  Primarily with Columbia Artists Management.

Fd 7 Contracts, 1970-1983  24 items

  Marshall University teaching contracts.
Bx 3  cont’d

Fd 8  Marshall University Reports, 1972-1982  14 items

Fd 9  Special Students, 1970-1981  11 items

Items relating to Paulette Vineyard, Faith Esham and Patricia Prunty include articles, newspaper clippings and letters. Of special interest is the letter from Phyllis Curtin concerning Patricia Prunty at Yale University, which reveals the close friendship between Miss Curtin and Mrs. Shepherd.

Fd 10  Miscellaneous items from classroom  2 items

Includes the name plate from her office.

Fd 11  Creative Arts Bulletin, Marshall University, 1970-71  1 item

Fd 12  Printed material about Phyllis Curtin  4 items

Fd 13  Printed material, 1952-1955  2 items

The Columbia Artists Management list of Artists.

III. PRINTED MATERIAL AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Bx 4  Programs, 1937-1979  20 Fd

These are programs for more than three performances and are arranged alphabetically by sponsoring group or orchestra.

Fd 1  Bach festival, Baldwin Wallace College, 1964-68  5 items

Fd 2  Bach festival, Rollins College, 1962-65  4 items

Fd 3  Baptist Temple, Charleston, W. Va., 1966-74  7 items

Fd 4  Blowing Rock, North Carolina, 1952-57  8 items

Fd 5  Bynden Wood, Pennsylvania, 1952-1953; undated  6 items
Bx 4  cont’d

Fd 6  Carnegie Hall, 1948-1965  4 items
Fd 7  Church of the Saviour, Cleveland, Ohio, 1965  4 items
Fd 8  Cincinnati Conservatory, 1940-1961  8 items
Fd 9  Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, 1954-1962  3 items
Fd 10  Cleveland Orchestra, 1950-1965  9 items
Fd 11  Columbus Symphony, 1957-1975  7 items
Fd 12  Community Concert Association, 1948-1959  26 items
Fd 13  Lakeside Association, 1963-1965  5 items
Fd 14  Marshall University (College), 1956-1979; undated  24 items
Fd 15  Minneapolis Symphony, 1953-1959  4 items
Fd 16  National Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C. 1955-1957  3 items
Fd 17  National Symphony Orchestra, Washington, D.C., 1955-1959  4 items
Fd 18  Opera for College, 1947-1949  3 items
Fd 19  Town Hall, New York, 1945-1953  4 items

   Includes the program of Mrs. Shepherd’s appearance as the recipient of the Naumburg Prize (as Jane Boedeker).

Fd 20  William Woods College, 1937-1960  4 items

Bx 5  Programs, 1935-1977  11 Fd

These are programs of various performances, representing no more than two for each sponsoring group. They are also arranged alphabetically by sponsoring group or orchestra.

Significant in this box is the earliest program of the collection, a recital in 1935.
Bx 6  Printed Material and Photographs

Fd 1  Programs of performances of others, 1941-1967  20 items

Fd 2  Newspaper Clippings: Artist Series, Huntington, W. Va., 1956  4 items

Fd 3  Newspaper Clippings: Bach Festival, 1963-1965  12 items

Fd 4  Newspaper Clippings: Bach Mass, Pittsburgh; undated  4 items

Fd 5  Newspaper Clippings: Beethoven with Szell, 1958-1959  22 items

Fd 6  Newspaper Clippings: Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with other orchestras, 1958-1965  5 items

Fd 7  Newspaper Clippings: Blossom Festival, 1968  6 items

Fd 8  Newspaper Clippings: Cosi Fan Tutti, 1948-1959  20 items

Fd 9  Newspaper Clippings: Die Fledermaus, 1960  5 items

Fd 10 Newspaper Clippings: Huntington newspapers, 1950-1977; undated  39 items

Fd 11 Newspaper Clippings: Met auditions, 1948  3 items

Fd 12 Newspaper Clippings: Nebraska, 1943-1948  3 items

Fd 13 Newspaper Clippings: Paul Paray, 1962  2 items

Fd 14 Newspaper Clippings: Salome, 1958  6 items

Fd 15 Newspaper Clippings: Verdi’s Requiem, 1959-1961  4 items

Fd 16 Newspaper Clippings: Wedding, 1948  3 items

Fd 17 Newspaper Clippings: miscellaneous, out-of-town papers, 1948-1969  29 items

Fd 18 Newspaper Clippings: other miscellaneous, 1960-1974  8 items

Fd 19 Newspaper Mats  7 items
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bx 6 cont’d</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 20</td>
<td>Publicity brochures and releases</td>
<td>20 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 21</td>
<td>Miscellaneous printed material</td>
<td>9 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 22</td>
<td>Photographs - publicity, 1945-196_</td>
<td>22 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 23</td>
<td>Photographs - Blowing Rock, N. C.</td>
<td>5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 24</td>
<td>Photographs - William Woods College</td>
<td>3 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fd 25</td>
<td>Photographs - general</td>
<td>27 items</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bx 7</th>
<th>Framed Certificates and photographs</th>
<th>8 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes autographed photographs of Margaret Matzenauer and Robert Casadesus.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. OVERSIZED ITEMS

**Scrapbook 1 - Pressbook, 1948 - 1956**

**Framed Item # 9 - Diploma, Ecoles d’art americaines en France, conservatoire de musique (1938)**

**Oversized Bx 1** | 3 items |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diplomas from the Cincinnati Conservatory and the Juilliard School of Music.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Oversized Fd 1** | 7 items |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posters, certificates of appointment to the West Virginia Arts and Humanities Council, and other items.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>