

5-24-2017

Carpenter, Howard R., 1919-2016 (MSS 613)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 613 CARPENTER, Howard R., 1919-2016

1 box. 12 folders. 135 items. n.d. Originals.

SC2016.72.1

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dr. Howard R. Carpenter was born in 1919 in Natural Bridge, New York to Sophie and Clinton Carpenter. He married Milton Jean Carter and had one son, John, who is married to Sandy and had one grandson, Cody.

Carpenter earned his B.S. degree in Music Education in 1942. He also received the M.M. degree (1948) and a Ph.D (1953) in composition from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, New York. He also received minors in Musicology and Theory during his graduate study. He began his tenure in the Western Kentucky University Music Department as a professor of music in 1953 and became head of the Music Department in 1965, a position he held until 1975. His primary teaching assignments included music history and literature, composition, counterpoint, strings and German, a language in which he was quite proficient. Prior to his employment at WKU, Carpenter was Head of the Music Department at the University of Richmond, VA, 1949-52.

Throughout his distinguished career, Carpenter had been active as a performing musician, both as a conductor and instrumentalist, recording and performing with such artists as Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, and Brenda Lee. He was an Army Band leader for four years, organist and choir director at Broadway Methodist Church for six years, Principal Violinist of Nashville Symphony for seven years, violinist and celesta player in the Rochester Philharmonic for three years, recording artist in various Nashville studios, one of the founding members of the Nashville Strings, and a member of various string quartets throughout his life.

He was highly distinguished as a composer, having received numerous accolades for his Symphony in D and also as author among whose writings is "Kentucky Music," a book that described musical aspects of Kentucky culture and tradition. Indicative of his general scholarship and lifelong love of learning, Carpenter received a Diploma from the Goethe Institute, Schwäbisch-Hall in 1970. Professional memberships included: Phi Mu Alpha, Pi Kappa Lambda, KMTA, Southeastern Composers' League, Phi Delta Kappa, Alpha Sigma Omicron, Blackfriars, KEA and MENC.

Dr. Carpenter retired from WKU in 1984 after thirty-one years. Howard Carpenter exemplified a wonderful blend of administrative skill, academic scholarship and musical ability that together ensured his lofty place in the history of scholarship and music.

COLLECTION NOTE

Undated manuscript music composed by Howard R. Carpenter. Many of the pieces include penciled notes indicating that they are still in draft form. The most complete piece appears to be his "Symphony in D" found in Folder 8.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Manuscript music	n.d.	135 items
Folder 1	Inventory		1 item
Folder 2	"Overture" drafts and compositions	n.d.	41 items
Folder 3	"Poem" drafts and compositions	n.d.	38 items
Folder 4	"Impressions of Racquette River" drafts and compositions	n.d.	4 items
Folder 5	Various named compositions	n.d.	7 items
Folder 6	Miscellaneous unnamed drafts	n.d.	5 items
Folder 7	"Pastorale" for strings	n.d.	5 items
Folder 8	"Symphony in D"	n.d.	33 items
Folder 9 Oversized C2,D1 #4	Unnamed draft orchestral piece	n.d.	1 item

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS CARPENTER, Howard R., 1919-2016 n.d.
613

Manuscript orchestral music for several pieces composed by Howard R. Carpenter, a music professor at Western Kentucky University from 1953 to 1984.

1 box. 9 folders. 135 items. Originals.
SC2016.72.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Music and musical affairs

Musical scores

Western Kentucky University – Relating to

Jeffrey 05/24/2017