

Dr. Irvin Stein collection of Eugene Ormandy material

Ms. Coll. 1249

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Last updated on January 10, 2017.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2016 December 13

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Stein, Irvin, 1906-
Title	Dr. Irvin Stein collection of Eugene Ormandy material
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1249
Date [inclusive]	1953-1990
Extent	0.2 linear feet (1 box)
Language	English
Abstract	Dr. Irving Stein (1906-2000) was an orthopedic surgeon and professor at the University of Pennsylvania, who also served on the board of the Philadelphia Orchestra. This collection documents his relationship with Eugene Ormandy (1899-1985), the conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and his efforts to memorialize Ormandy's accomplishments following his death.

Cite as:

Dr. Irvin Stein collection of Eugene Ormandy material, 1953-1990, Ms. Coll. 1249, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Dr. Irvin Stein was born in North Carolina in 1906 and died in Philadelphia on February 3, 2000. At age fifteen, Dr. Stein enrolled in the University of North Carolina and went on to medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Stein completed his intern and resident training at Johns Hopkins University Medical Center and at the University of Pennsylvania. He then went on to work as a surgeon at the Philadelphia General Hospital and to teach orthopedic surgery at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. In addition, Stein served on the board of the Philadelphia Orchestra and appears to have developed a friendship with Eugene Ormandy, the conductor of the Orchestra. In 1971, Stein operated on Ormandy, correcting a 55 year-old injury during a famously successful hip surgery. An article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* quotes Ormandy, "Dr. Stein has become my dearest friend--like a younger brother," (October 12, 1971).

Eugene Ormandy was born on November 8, 1899 in Hungary and died in Philadelphia on March 12, 1985. He became internationally famous for his 44-year role as the conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Under his leadership, the Philadelphia Orchestra received three gold records and won two Grammy Awards. At age five, Ormandy began studying violin at the Royal National Hungarian Academy of Music, giving his first concerts at age seven and graduating with a master's degree at age fourteen. He moved to America in 1921 and became a violinist at the Capitol Theatre in New York City. In 1931, Ormandy served as a substitute conductor for the Philadelphia Orchestra which ultimately led to his first major appointment as a conductor in Minneapolis. In 1936, Ormandy began his work with the Philadelphia Orchestra as associate conductor under Leopold Stokowski. After two years, he became the lead conductor and remained so until his retirement in 1980.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents Dr. Irvin Stein's relationship with Eugene Ormandy, the conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and Stein's efforts to memorialize Ormandy's accomplishments following his death through the Eugene Ormandy Memorial of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. In this collection, researchers will find articles and press releases relating to Eugene Ormandy, dating from 1953 to 1988. The majority of articles, however, date to 1971, when Dr. Stein operated on Ormandy's hip, "creating a new joint" and correcting an injury that occurred when Ormandy was playing soccer in Hungary around 1916 and which left Ormandy limping for more than 55 years. Also relating to this surgery is memorabilia from the Lily Ball (benefiting the Easter Seal Society) at which Ormandy was awarded "The Gallantry Award" and Dr. Stein was awarded "The Rehabilitation Physician of the Year Award." Other articles and press releases document the Philadelphia Orchestra following Ormandy's death.

There is a small amount of correspondence between Ormandy and Stein, the bulk relating to Stein's request, on behalf of the board of the Philadelphia Orchestra, that Ormandy conduct a concert of the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra. Ormandy's refusal is documented in several drafts and two personal letters of explanation to Stein. There are also two letters from Ormandy's wife, Gretel, to Stein after Ormandy's death.

Finally, researchers will find documentation of the efforts made to create the Eugene Ormandy Memorial of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. Stein served on the founding committee and the collection includes a newspaper article regarding the gift of Ormandy's archival material at Penn in 1988 as well as correspondence relating to meetings, contributions, and benefit concerts and a few programs for the benefit concerts.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2016 December 13

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Source of Acquisition

Gift of Katherine Sachs.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

At the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts:

Eugene Ormandy papers, 1921-1991, Ms. Coll. 91

Eugene Ormandy photographs, 1880-1992, Ms. Coll. 330

Eugene Ormandy family home movies, 1932-1947, Ms. Coll. 1051

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- Philadelphia Orchestra.
- University of Pennsylvania. Libraries.

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Concert programs
- Correspondence

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Ormandy, Eugene, 1899-1985
- Ormandy, Gretel

SUBJECT(S)

- Conductors (Music)--United States
- Music
- Physicians--United States
- Symphony orchestras

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
<i>Newsweek Magazine</i> with article "Eugene Ormandy: The Philadelphia Story", 1953 March 2.	1	1
Ormandy-Stein correspondence, 1968-1988.	1	2
Lily Ball (awards given to Eugene Ormandy and Dr. Irvin Stein), program and newspaper clipping, 1971 October.	1	3
Newspaper clippings relating to Ormandy surgery performed by Dr. Irvin Stein, 1971, undated.	1	4
Philadelphia Orchestra news releases relating to Riccardo Muti and "Eugene Ormandy Appreciation Day", 1985 November 12-13.	1	5
Newspapers articles regarding the Philadelphia Orchestra following Ormandy's death, 1986, undated.	1	6

Eugene Ormandy Memorial of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries programs and articles, 1988-1989, undated.	1	7
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Eugene Ormandy Memorial of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries correspondence relating to contributions, meetings of the Eugene Ormandy Archive Committee, Founders Committee for the Eugene Ormandy Library Fund, the Memorabilia Committee of the Eugene Ormandy Memorial, and the Eugene Ormandy Memorial Founding Committee, 1986-1990.	1	8
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