

LOUIS HASSELMANS PAPERS

Mss. 865

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections,
Special Collections, LSU Libraries
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Revised 2009

Updated 2020

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HASSELMANS (LOUIS) PAPERS

1825-1945

Mss. 865

LSU Libraries, Special Collections

SUMMARY

Size	116 items, 4 printed volumes
Geographic Locations	France, New York, Chicago, Spain
Inclusive Dates	1825-1940
Bulk Dates	1914-1940
Languages	English, French, Italian, Spanish, German
Summary	The papers of Louis Hasselmans consist of concert programs, newspaper reviews of opera and orchestral concerts, several personal papers (1914-1945), and photographs of Metropolitan Opera singers. Papers of his grandfather, 1825, 1844-1896, consist of musical programs and concert announcements, congratulatory letters and poems, and other items relating to his musical career.
Access Restrictions	Baton used by Hasselmans restricted due to fragility.
Copyright	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation	Louis Hasselmans Papers, Mss. 865, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	U:156, 11:10, Vault, Mss.Mf:H
Alternate Formats Available	Richard Wagner letter available on microfilm. Some digital images of photographs are available in the Louisiana Digital Library

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Louis Hasselmans was the son of the Belgian harpist Alphonse Hasselmans and grandson of Joseph Hasselmans. He was born in Paris in 1878 and received his musical education at the Paris Conservatoire where he studied composition and conducting and, in 1893, won the First Prize in cello. From 1893 to 1909 he toured Europe as cellist with the Capet Quartet; his debut as a conductor occurred in 1905 with the Lamoureux Orchestra in Paris. In 1909 he began a conducting career which included seasons with the Opera-Comique in Paris (1909-1911) and Montreal (1911-1913), the Chicago Civic Opera (1918-1920), and the Metropolitan Opera as its director of French repertory (1921-1936). His wife, Minnie Egener, died during his tenure at the Met. In 1936, Hasselmans became a Professor of Music at Louisiana State University and remained there until 1948. Hasselmans died in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1957.

Joseph (Josef) Hasselmans, grandfather to Louis, was born in Antwerp in 1814. He was a conductor, violinist, and harpist; two major schools of harp playing arose from his teachings (one through his son, Alphonse). He conducted the Strasbourg Theatre Orchestra and the Strasbourg Conservatory, was involved in the Grand Theatre of Marseilles, and taught in the Marseilles Conservatory.

References: Baker's Biographical Dictionary (New York: Schirmer, 1980); International Cyclopedia of Music and Musicians (New York: Dodd, Mead, and Co., 1985); The New Grove's Dictionary of Music (London: Macmillan Publishing, 1980).

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Items relating to the musical careers of Louis Hasselmans and Joseph Hasselmans. The papers of Louis Hasselmans consist of correspondence, personal papers, concert programs, newspaper reviews of operas and orchestral concerts, printed volumes, autographed photographs of Metropolitan Opera performers (1922-1943), and a baton.

Joseph Hasselmans papers include correspondence with a photostatic copy of a letter from Richard Wagner (Feb. 12, 1858); manuscripts, with lyrics, poems, and a biographical sketch; printed material including playbills and a prospectus of the Strasbourg Theatre; and legal documents, with a contract dated Apr. 12, 1896.

SUBGROUP AND SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Subgroup I: Louis Hasselmans Papers, 1894-1940 (111 items)

Series 1. Correspondence, 1921-1945

Correspondence to Hasselmans includes four letters written by Paul Dukas, Jaroslav Turek, Albert Huberty, and an unknown author. These letters are in reference to performances conducted by Hasselmans and are complimentary in nature. A fifth letter, written by Hasselmans, expresses thanks on receiving an honorary doctorate. Letters have been filed chronologically. The original of the Huberty letter is found in the Photograph Series.

Series 2. Printed Material, 1914-1940

Materials include programs and newspaper reviews of performances conducted by Hasselmans, publicity items, a fraternity certificate, and four printed volumes containing the scores of "Pelléas et Mélisande," "Louise," Paul Dukas's "La Péri," as well as a copy of *Gabriel Fauré* (Paris: Rieler, 1929), a biography by Fauré's son Phillippe Fauré-Fermiet. Operas often encountered in the reviews include "Manon," "Pelléas et Mélisande," and "Ariane et Barbe-Bleue." Of interest are several reviews of the Orquesta Pau Casals. Programs from the Metropolitan Opera, Chicago City Opera, and Orquesta Pau Casals are also included. An 1894 invitation to a concert with Hasselmans as cellist and a newspaper advertisement for opera training comprise the publicity. Two items are filed in oversize- these are the Kappa Gamma Psi fraternity certificate and the Paul Dukas score of "La Péri," which is in fragile condition.

Series 3. Photographic Material, 1917-1943

Photographs include autographed studio portraits of Metropolitan Opera singers, Lionel Barrymore, and several unidentified individuals. Some are oversize, as indicated by "OS" after the number. The following is a complete inventory of photographs:

- P865-2: Angelo Bada, 1922 autographed, in costume in "La Savoie"
- P865-3: Lionel Barrymore autographed studio portrait
- P865-7: Mario Chamlee autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-8: Julia Claussen, 1927 autographed studio portrait
- P865-9: Philine Falco, 1922 autographed studio portrait, at Ravinia
- P865-10: Yvonne Gall autographed studio portrait on postcard

- P865-40: Albert Huberty, 1924 autographed studio portrait on postcard, letter on reverse
(photocopy in correspondence)
- P865-16: Marguerite Luft, 1943 autographed studio portrait
- P865-17: Jose Mojica, 1926 autographed photograph of a sketch, Ravinia
- P865-18: Grace Moore, 1929 autographed full studio portrait, in costume
- P865-19: G. Morera, 1933 autographed studio portrait, Barcelona
- P865-20: Frances Peralta autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-21: Lilly Pons, 1931 autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-22: Rosa Ponselle, 1925 autographed full studio portrait, in flapper garb
- P865-23: Rosa Ponselle, 1928 autographed full studio portrait, in costume
- P865-24: [Rosa] Raisa autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-25: Sydney Rayner, 1943 autographed studio portrait, in costume as "Canio" in
"Pagliacci," New York
- P865-26: Elizabeth Rethberg, 1927 autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-27: Giacomo Rimini autographed studio portrait
- P865-17: Tito Schipa, 1925 autographed full studio portrait
- P865-29: Marion Talley, 1927 autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-30: Georges Thill, 1932 autographed studio portrait
- P865-31: Ambrogio Thomas autographed studio portrait on postcard, in costume
- P865-32: Lawrence Tibbett, 1931 studio portrait, autographed to Minnie Egener
- P865-33: Armand Tokatyan, 1930 autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-34: Gertrud Wettergren autographed studio portrait
- P865-35: Clarence Whitehill, 1926 autographed studio portrait, in costume
- P865-36: Giulio Gatti-Casazza to Minnie Egener, 1917 autographed studio portrait
- P865-38: Unidentified to Louis Hasselmans, 1932 autographed studio portrait in costume of
"Ariane et Barbe-Bleue"
- P865-39: unidentified, New York, 1927 postcard, autographed by (?)ervatuy
- P865-1 OS: Pasquale Amato in costume "as Columbus"
- P865-4 OS: Michael Bohnen, 1925 autographed studio portrait
- P865-5 OS: Lucrezia Bori, 1926 autographed studio portrait
- P865-6 OS: Ana Bourskaya, 1926 autographed at Ravinia, full portrait in flapper garb

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- P865-11 OS: Beniamino Gigli, 1923 autographed studio portrait
- P865-12 OS: Jeanne [Gordon], 1926 studio portrait, autographed to Minnie Egener
- P865-13 OS: Nanette Guilford, 1923 autographed studio portrait
- P865-14 OS: Hope Hampton, 1928 autographed studio portrait, New York
- P865-15 OS: Sammuy Lee, 1926 autographed studio portrait
- P865-28 OS: Antonio Scotti, 1926 studio portrait in costume, autographed to Minnie Egener,
New York

Series 4: Artifacts (1 item)

A baton, used by Hasselmans, is housed in the vault and restricted due to fragility.

Subgroup II Joseph Hasselmans Papers, 1879-1902, (18 items)**Series 1. Correspondence, 1851-1883 (1899?)**

Letters in the group are mainly congratulatory in nature and include three presentations written in honor of Joseph Hasselmans and signed by his students at Strasbourg and Marseilles. Of particular interest is a photostatic copy of a letter written by Richard Wagner (12 February 1858).

Series 2. Manuscripts, 1862-?

Papers include what appears to be a biographical sketch; the lyrics for a presumably unpublished cantata, "Sebastopol, or, The Revenge of Moscow;" and two poems of unknown origin, one of which is dedicated to the Duc D'Orleans.

Series 3. Printed Material, 1825, 1844, 1858, 1885

Includes two broadside playbills for concerts given in Nantes and Baden-Baden, a prospectus for the 1825 season of the Strasbourg Theatre, and a citation naming Hasselmans an "Officier d'Academie."

Series 4. Legal Documents, 1884, 1896

Group contains a contract dated 12 April 1884 and a French Treasury note of 1896.

INDEX TERMS

Hasselmanns, Joseph, 1814-1902.
Wagner, Richard, 1813-1883.
Opéra-Comique (Paris, France)
Metropolitan Opera (New York, N.Y.)
Chicago Civic Opera (Chicago, Ill.)
Opera--United States--History.
Musicians--United States--Photographs.
Singers--United States--Photographs.
Photoprints.
Programs.
Artifacts.
Autographs.
Conductors (Music)
Musicians.
Harpists.
Violoncellists.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
U:156	1	1	Subgroup I: Louis Hasselmans Papers, 1894-1940 Series 1, Correspondence, 1921-1945 Series 2, Printed Material, 1914-1940 Series 3, Photographic Material, 1917-1943
	2	2-4	
		1-13	
11:10	3	1-2	Oversize printed items (certificate and Dukas score) and 10 photographs.
Vault:	--	--	Series 4, Artifacts (Restricted due to fragility)
U:156	1	5	Subgroup II: Joseph Hasselmans Papers, 1879-1902
Mss.Mf:H	--	--	Richard Wagner letter on microfilm (Feb. 12, 1858)