

Weill-Lenya Research Center

Series 33 Weill Papers

<68> items.

Contents: Official documents, awards, contracts, memoranda, address lists, receipts, correspondence. Most items from Weill's period of residence in the U.S. Includes Weill's German marriage certificate, U.S. visa, U.S. certificate of naturalization, several certificates announcing his membership in organizations such as ASCAP; his parents' will; materials related to the Broadway production of *Street Scene*, as well as correspondence about foreign and film rights; holograph memoranda and typed or holograph address lists (after 1933); several receipts and royalty statements; and various certificates of award or recognition. Also includes: papers inserted into the books in Weill's library (Ser. 90), one holograph manuscript of Alan Jay Lerner, and one typescript by Weill and Caspar Neher.

Arrangement: Items are filed chronologically by exact or approximate date. Undatable items are filed at end.

In English (mainly) and German. Photocopies (mainly) and some originals.

Assembled and arranged at the Weill-Lenya Research Center; most items from Lenya's estate.

For papers relevant to the Weill Estate (including his will), see Series 30, Box 3.

1871 December 15

Birth registration of the twins Emma and Emil Ackermann in Wiesloch. Photocopy. Typed transcription by Anna Krebs included (930907).

1897 March 8

Marriage registration of Albert Weill and Emma Ackermann in Wiesloch. Photocopy. Filed with typed transcription and draft family tree by Anna Krebs (931214).

1906

Title page of *Die Schwergeprüften. Ein symbolisch-dramatisches Festspiel . . . gewidmet von Dr. A. Ackermann* (Berlin: Verlag Itzkowski, 1906), a "pogrom play" by Weill's maternal uncle. Photocopy (020315).

[191-?]

Postcard: photo of three boys on parallel bars on recto; class schedule and other notations in pencil on verso. Photocopy and transcription laid in.

[192-] (probably early 1920's)

“Interims-Quittung über Abzug vom . . .”

Receipt for union dues (Genossenschaft Deutscher Bühnen-Angehöriger) in Charlottenburg for Lottchen [i.e., Lotte] Stein, a singer who gave several concerts with Weill in the 1920's. Photocopy.

1920 May 12

Postcard (?) in Weill's hand identifying people in a cast photo from *Zehn Mädchen und ein Mann*, performed in Lüdenscheid in 1920. Photocopy and color photocopy. Returned by Yale University Press (see Fig. 1 in *A new Orpheus*); original at Yale, box 59, folder 22? Photo filed as Ser.70/1854.

1921 March 2

Notice of lecture entitled “Beethoven, sein Leben und Schaffen” delivered by Kurt Weill at the Berend-Lehmann-Verein in Halberstadt on Sunday, 6 March 1921. Original and enlarged photocopy. Original contains several markings on verso.

1926 January 28

Marriage certificate (“Bescheinigung der Eheschliessung”) for KW and Karoline Blamauer, issued in Charlottenburg. Photocopy. Photocopy also on file in Ser.35/I/2; original on file in Ser.30, box 7, folder 18.

1926 April 1

Letter of congratulations to Emma Weill on the success of her son, Kurt. Signed by members of the Schwesternbund der Leipzig-Loge Nr. 496. Preservation copy laid in.

1928 September

Title page of sheet music of “Kanonen-Song” (UE, 1928) inscribed to Otto Klemperer. Photocopy (941212), received from Lotte Klemperer.

[1929]

Vocal score of *Die Dreigroschenoper* (UE 8851) with title page autographed to Norbert Gingold, conductor of the first Vienna production. 960507, presentation letter from Gingold laid in. Boxed separately.

[1929a]

Published sheet music of “Bilbao Song” with a dedication to “Wiesengrund” (i.e., Theodor Adorno), including added musical notation. Photocopy (060527), from the Adorno Archiv.

1929 January-1930 January

Papers of the Akademie der Künste, Berlin, pertaining to KW’s nomination for membership. Brief description laid in. Negative photocopies (950116) from Akademie der Künste.

[late 1929]

Notes in Weill’s hand on premiere performances of Arbeiterchöre, *Der Lindberghflug*, and *Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny*. Photocopy (010412) from Dr. Roland Bélicha.

[1930?]

“Vorschläge zur szenischen Ausführung der Oper Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny / Caspar Neher und Kurt Weill.” 12 leaves, typescript with annotations in KW’s hand. Accompanied by English translation (leaves 13-17), probably by Lys Symonette. Photocopy.

[1930a]

“Vorschläge zur szenischen Ausführung der Oper Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny / Caspar Neher und Kurt Weill.”

10 leaves, typescript. Presumably a later version. Accompanied by English translation by Lys Symonette. Preservation copy laid in. Photocopy (000524) from Universal Edition.

[1933]

15 pages of documents pertaining to ownership and disposal of Weill and Lenya's property in Klein-Machnow in 1933, specifically, its sale (or transfer) to Erich Gädtke. Accompanied by two letters from the firm of Hamburger, Weinschenk and Molnar. Photocopies.

[1933?]

Title page of book by René Crevel, *Les pieds dans le plat* autographed to Weill. Color printout (090090) from eBay.

[1933-]

Address book, containing Paris addresses and telephone numbers of, among others, Brecht, Aufricht, Honegger, and Vambery; some New York addresses included as well. Also contains a few notes in the back related to automotive maintenance. Small notebook with lined paper, 14 cm. Preservation photocopy laid in. Returned by David Drew, 851200.

1935

Ahnentafel der Kinder des Nathan Weill (Sohn des Low Weill) in Kippenheim (hrsg. von Alfred Sonder, Mannheim. -- Frankfurt: Schirmer & Mahlau, 1935. Genealogical study of the Weill family. Text and tables. Original and photocopy. Filed in Oversize, drawer 2.

1935 January?

Photocopy of first page of vocal score of "J'attends un navire" from *Marie Galante* (Heugel, H.30,912) inscribed to Marlene Dietrich. Photocopy (970603) from Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek, Marlene Dietrich Collection.

[1935-36]

“‘Road of Promise’ Committee”
Typed list of names on 2 leaves. Preservation copy laid in.

[after 1935]

“Scholtz’s Opernführer (Opera-Guide) Leipzig 1935”

Entry from Johannes Scholtz’s *Opernführer : Oper, Operette, Ballett, Schauspielmusik* (10th ed.) on KW, typed out in English presumably by KW himself. The heading quoted above is in KW’s hand. Photocopy. Additional photocopy laid in.

1936

Title page of vocal score of *The road of promise* (Heugel, 1935), bearing the following manuscript dedication: “For Norman [Bel Geddes] / in great friendship and in hope / of a long and successful collaboration / Kurt Weill / New York 1936.” Photocopy.

[1936?]

Manuscript notes, from KW’s copy of Maxwell Anderson’s *The wingless victory* (Anderson House, 1936). [2] leaves; 16 x 11 cm. Found in Ser.90/15. Preservation copy and additional description laid in.

1937 August 27

Visa issued by the American Consulate in Toronto to Curt [*sic*] Julian Weill. Photocopy on 2 leaves.

[between 1937 and 1941?]

Manuscript notes, from KW’s copy of Whitman’s *Leaves of grass* (Grosset & Dunlap, n.d.). [2] leaves; 13 x 8 cm. Found in Ser.90/219, presented to KW by Paul Green in 1937. Preservation copy and additional description laid in.

[late 1930’s]

List of addresses in New York, some names or addresses crossed through or checked off. Includes Orson Welles, Aaron Copland, Harold Clurman, Marc Blitzstein, et al. 3 typed leaves, 28 cm. Preservation copy laid in. Returned by David Drew, 851200.

1938 November

Sixteen-bar holograph of melody of “Moritat von Mackie Messer,” inscribed to Ralph B. Allan. Color printout from eBay (100194).

1939 May 25

Certificate of election to ASCAP issued to KW.

1939 September 7

Receipt and warranty issued by the Mathushek Piano Mfg. Co. for a Chickering grand piano purchased by KW on 30 Sept. 1937. Preservation copies laid in.

1940 February 2-1943 [July]

Series of letters and royalty statements issued by Dramatists Play Service for amateur productions of *Knickerbocker holiday*. Statements issued twice a year cover the period from November 1939 through June 1943.

1941 May 16

Letter to Albert Weill from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Palestine Broadcasting Service, Jerusalem. Regarding a performance of *Der Jasager* in Hebrew. Preservation photocopy laid in.

[1942?]

Complete published edition (Chappell) of "Three Walt Whitman Songs" with inscription to Paul Robeson on title page. Boxed separately. **Formerly filed in Ser.13 First Editions.**

1942 April 17

"ACA-ASCAP survey"

Questionnaire for providing data about publication, copyright, and performance for a new composition, in this case *The ballad of Magna Carta*. Filled out in KW's hand. Framed under glass. Boxed separately.

1942 April 17a

"ACA-ASCAP survey"

Questionnaire for providing data about publication, copyright, and performance for a new

composition, in this case the *Konzert für Violine und Blasorchester*. Filled out in KW's hand. Color printout of recto and verso (110307).

1942 October 10

Letter agreement between Russell Lewis and Samuel Schwartz; and Edwin Justus Mayer, Kurt Weill, and Ira Gershwin to work on a musical version of "Nell Gwyn." Typescript, signed by KW. Accompanied by cover letter from Audrey Wood to Mayer, dated 19 October 1942. Photocopies (950805) from NYPL, Billy Rose Theatre Collection.

[1942? December]

Complete published edition (Chappell) of "Three Walt Whitman Songs" with title page inscription: "Merry Christmas / from Kurt and Lenya" in Weill's hand. 040816; gift of Peter Poor. Boxed separately.

1943 March 4-September 17

Receipts for advances from Cheryl Crawford to Kurt Weill for the play *Tinted Venus*, issued by the Authors' League of America. Five typed receipt forms.

1943 June 22-July 16

Series of weekly royalty statements and receipts for the west coast tour of *Lady in the dark*, issued by Sam H. Harris & Co. All statements signed by Weill. Six typescript (carbon) leaves.

1943 August 27

Certificate of Naturalization issued to KW by the U.S. District Court in New York City. Preservation photocopy laid in.

1943-44

Two versions of a contract between KW and Bertolt Brecht to collaborate on a musical version of "The righteous maiden of Setzuan" (in English). The first is dated 1943 and signed by KW; the second is dated March 7, 1944 and is signed by both KW and Brecht. There are significant differences between the two contracts. Also included: an unsigned contract dated 1943 in which Brecht gives KW power of attorney for selecting a translator/adaptor and arranging a production of the same play. Photocopies (060513) from the Bertolt-Brecht-Archiv.

1944 June 21

Report of Francis Arthur Glass, M.D. to Isidor Fried of New England Life Insurance on KW's health. Typescript. Photocopy.

[1945]

“Certificate of Nomination for an award”
KW's nomination for the Academy Award for scoring of a motion picture (*Knickerbocker holiday*) in 1944.

1945 April 20

Biography of KW for United Artists film, *One touch of Venus*. “From Bill Blowitz” written at top of first leaf. Three typescript leaves. Photocopy (original at Yale) with pencil and ink annotations at the top of the first leaf.

1945-46

Three memos of works to be adapted, dated 7/12/45 and 2/9/46 (the third is undated). Pencil on 3 sheets of Ritz-Carlton notepaper (14 cm.). Preservation copies laid in. Returned by David Drew, 851200.

[1946-1950]

“Bulletin de declaration” of the Société des Auteurs & Compositeurs dramatiques (SACD) registering a French adaptation of *Lady in the dark* by Jacques Darioux and Marc Blanquet. Signed by both adaptors, Moss Hart, Ira Gershwin, and KW. 150290, purchased from Mel and Esther Wacks. Preservation photocopy laid in.

1946 April 4

Will of Albert and Emma Weill (KW's parents) in the form of a letter to their children. Includes list of specific bequests. Three leaves, typescript. Photocopy.

1946 April 15

Certificate issued by the American Arbitration Association appointing KW to the National Panel of Arbitrators.

1946 August 1

Press release of the Playwrights' Company announcing Weill's membership. Photocopy (081109).

1947 January 27-1950 January 28

Mainly official correspondence and contracts related to *Street scene*, including fan letters (TLS from Hans Heinsheimer and Donald Oenslager, among others), dates ranging from 27 January-22 May 1947; one typed memo from John F. Wharton regarding the costs of the Broadway production and of the anticipated tour, dated 2 April 1947; one contract between the Playwrights' Company and KW for the recording rights, dated 21 February 1947; a series of letters regarding an unauthorized film version of *Street scene*, dates ranging from 18 March 1947 through December 1948; and correspondence dealing with various amateur or foreign production rights, dates ranging from 17 April 1947 to 28 January 1950. Photocopies.

[1948]

Holograph draft of lyrics of "Love song" (from *Love life*) by Alan Jay Lerner, accompanied by telephone message: Mr. Lerner (will call). Found in Ser. 90/155. Original lyric draft stored off-site. Preservation copy and description laid in.

[1949 Spring]

English translations of three telegrams from KW to Bloch Erben, Universal-Edition, and Brecht, all pertaining to a production of *Die Dreigroschenoper* at the Munich Kammerspiele, 1948-49. 1 leaf, typescript. Photocopy.

1949 May 19

Certificate awarding KW the David Bispham Memorial Medal from the American Opera Society of Chicago for *Down in the valley*.

1949 May 19(a)

Contract between Lawrence Tibbett, KW, and Maxwell Anderson, in which Tibbett agrees to make himself available to perform in a work to be written for him by Weill and Anderson. Signed and initialed by all three parties. Photocopy (010917) from Roger Gross Ltd.

1949 May 29

Empty envelope addressed to Mr. Kurt Weill from Albert Weill in Israel. Postmarked Nahariya 29. 5. 1949. Found in Ser.90/74. Preservation copy laid in.

1950 [March]

Empty envelope from The Kuklapolitan Players, labeled "Kurt Weil [*sic*]." Added in pencil in Lenya's hand: "Kurt's favorite TV programme sent to him in the hospital by it's [*sic*] creator Burr Tillstrom / 1950."

1952 May 23

Certificate of recognition of KW's contribution to synagogue music issued by the Park Avenue Synagogue, New York City. Boxed separately.

1957

Weil-de Veil: a genealogy 1360-1956 / by Ernest B. Weill. -- Scarsdale, NY, 1957. Genealogical study of Weill family. Text and table. 2 photocopies. Filed in Oversize, drawer 2. Original (130004) shelved with Weill's Library (Ser. 90) in the Reading Room.

1969-1970

Drama Desk Award issued to KW for *Mahagonny* [i.e., the production of an English translation of *Austieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny* off-Broadway in 1970]. Original and photocopy. Boxed separately.

[1970]

Undated certificate of election to the Songwriters Hall of Fame, signed by Johnny Mercer. (Date established by telephone call to Songwriters Hall of Fame). Boxed separately.

1973 December 2

Certificate of election to the Theater Hall of Fame, signed by Mayor John Lindsay. Accompanied by program for induction ceremony, which lists the other members. Boxed separately.

1976-1977

Certificate of nomination for the Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award for best score, for the Broadway production of *Happy end* in 1977. (Note: Program for awards ceremony filed in Ser.50A under *Happy end*.) Boxed separately.

1979 October 10

Award of Merit, for "Kurt Weill's outstanding country song 'September song,'" issued by ASCAP. Wooden plaque. Boxed separately.

[n.d.]

Brown paper folder, bound with scotch tape. Labeled "Manuscripts, lyrics, etc. / story-outlines" in KW's hand. Penciled additions in David Drew's hand partially erased.

[n.d.]

Title page of vocal score of *Der Zar lässt sich photographieren* (Universal-Edition, 1927), bearing the following manuscript dedication: "To Mr. [possibly "Mrs."] Gershwin / with the kindest regards / Kurt Weill." 2 photocopies (46 cm.).

[n.d.]

Calling card of Charles Alan with name crossed out, bearing the following message in blue ink: "Greetings & love from Chas[?]." Found in Ser.90/140.

[n.d.]

Pencil drawing of an Indian chief [?]. 1 leaf, torn. Found in Ser.90/72.

[n.d.]

4 blank German postcards, each featuring the same lithograph by A. Paul Weber. Found in Ser.90/33.