
Inventory of the Aaron Blumenfeld Papers, 1958-[ongoing]

Collection number: ARCHIVES BLUMENFELD 1

The Music Library

University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Aaron Blumenfeld Papers

Date (inclusive): 1958-[ongoing]

Collection number: ARCHIVES BLUMENFELD 1

Creator: Blumenfeld, Aaron

Extent: Number of containers: 2 document boxes, 3 flat storage boxes, 3 cartons
Linear feet: 5.25

Repository: The Music Library

Berkeley, California 94720-6000

Shelf location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language: English

Acquisition

November, 1989, and every year since.

Donor

Aaron Blumenfeld

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of the Music Library.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item,] Aaron Blumenfeld Papers, ARCHIVES BLUMENFELD 1, The Music Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Biography

Aaron Blumenfeld was born in Newark, N.J. on April 18, 1932. His father was a noted scholar and author on Jewish jurisprudence and a rabbi. He attended New York University (1950-52) and received a teaching certificate. Blumenfeld attended Juilliard School of Music from 1952 to 1954, first studying double bass, and later composition with Bernard Wagenaar. In 1962 and 1974, he received a B.A. and a M.A. in music composition from Rutgers University, where he studied with Robert Moevs. He attended Yeshiva University in 1967, and the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1968 for studies in Cantorial music.

Blumenfeld taught music, hebrew, and religion in various schools between 1956 and 1971 in New Jersey. He also conducted synagogue choirs and played the organ. During his sojourn in Israel (1974-77), he taught jazz piano at the Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem and performed in many concerts. He has taught piano improvisation at the University of California, Berkeley Extension Division since 1979.

Blumenfeld wrote instrumental and vocal music. He wrote Jewish music such as his Holocaust Memorial Cantata, as well as classical genres such as piano concertos, piano solo music, chamber music, and songs. He authored a music theory book, *A New Perspective on Twelve Tone Harmony*.

Blumenfeld and his wife Barbara make their home in Richmond, California. They have three married children, and eight grandchildren.

Scope And Content

The core collection, mostly music manuscripts, correspondence, concert programs and performance tapes, were given to the Music Library in November, 1989. The composer has been donating other manuscripts every year, as documented by the acquisition correspondence (8/1). This is an ongoing collection; the composer will continue to donate more manuscripts from time to time.

The music manuscripts and books were arranged in four series by the composer (Orchestral Works, Chamber Works, Student Works, Books) when the materials were delivered to the Music Library. We felt that it is important to keep the collection as close to the original arrangements as possible but with modification to make sure the materials fit into the right categories. We retained the sub-categories of Chamber Works but made them into Series of their own. We also made minor adjustments to make the terms broader so that we can include materials donated later (e.g., duos, instead of duo sonatas; trios, instead of trio sonatas). Thus, we now have fourteen series as follows: Orchestral Works, Piano Works, Duos, Trios, Other Chamber Ensembles, Chamber Opera, Songs, Choral Works, Student Works (Music), Writings, Juvenalia (Writings and Notes), Correspondence, Concert Programs, and Audio Materials.

At the time of the initial donation, there were only Choral Works accompanied by orchestras. Thus, the composer has classified them under Orchestral Works. Due to the new works, we have now separated the manuscripts into the its own series. However, the symphonic poems remain in the Orchestra Series because it is not primarily a choral work.

The early works of the composer are divided into two sections: Student Works (Music) and Juvenalia (Writings and Assignments). The Student Works (Series IX) are early complete musical compositions. The Juvenalia (Series XI) includes diaries, school term papers, and miscellaneous music assignments.

Concert Programs are classified with reviews and biographical materials in Series VII. Most journal articles on the composer discusses his life as well as his works. And often, the article came into being because of an upcoming concert or premier performance of a work. Therefore, it is hard to separate these materials into separate series.

Finally, the audio materials includes tapes of his compositions, improvisations on the piano by the composer, and radio interview. There are reel-to-reel, cassette, as well as video tapes.

Series I: Orchestral Works

- Box-folder 1/1 **Barrelhouse Piano Concerto-Suite. (Derived from Piano Concerto, No. 1). Full score, photocopy.**
- Box-folder 1/2 **Barrelhouse Concerto-Suite. Coda. Full score.**
- Box-folder 9/1 **Concerto for Clarinet (B-flat) and Orchestra (1995)**
- Box-folder 4/1-2 **[Concertos, piano, no. 1, Bb Major] Concerto in Bb, "Barrelhouse;" Movts. 1-2, 3 (1978). Full score (Oversize)**
- Box-folder 4/3 **Piano Concerto No. 2 (1983). Full score (Oversize)**
- Box-folder 1/3 **Piano Concerto, No. 3, for piano and chamber orchestra. Full score.**
- Box-folder 5/1 **Piano Concerto, No. 4 (1983-84). Full Score . (Oversize)**
- Box-folder 1/4 **Piano Concerto, No. 4, 3rd Movt. Short Score.**
- Box-folder 5/2 **Piano Concerto, No. 5 (1985). Full Score**
- Box-folder 1/5 **Piano Concerto, No. 5. Short score with piano part.**
- Box-folder 1/6 **Piano Concerto, No. 5. Short score.**
- Box-folder 5/3 **Piano Concerto, No. 6 (1986). Full score.**
- Box-folder 5/4 **Piano Concerto, No. 6. Piano part.**
- Box-folder 1/7 **Piano Concerto, No. 6. Parts.**
- Box-folder 5/5 **Piano Concerto, No. 7 (1989). Full score.**
- Box-folder 6/1 **Piano Concerto, No. 8 (1990). Full score.**
- Box-folder 9/2 **Piano Concerto, No. 9 (1995). Full score**
- Box-folder 1/8 **Dancing School Rag. Full score.**
- Box-folder 1/9 **Ezk'roh: A symphonic song. Full score. [Reduction for Violin, Piano, and Voice is listed under the Song Subseries 7/3]**
- Box-folder 1/10 **Ezk'roh: A Symphonic Song for the Ingathering & Redemption of the Jewish People. Full score, photocopy. Corrected, final version of piece with some orchestration improvements, marked in red.**
- Box-folder 1/11 **Fantasy Variations for violin and orchestra (1993). Full score, violin part in pocket.**
- Box-folder 6/2 **From the Depths of the Temple: Holocaust Memorial Symphonic Poem. For orchestra, chorus, baritone, and narrator (1988). Full score.**
- Box-folder 2/1 **[From the Depths of the Temple] Holocaust Memorial Symphonic Poem. Parts.**
- Box-folder 2/7 **Homeward Bound Rag. Full score.**
- Box-folder 2/8 **Jewish Holidays and Festivals: Suite for String Orchestra (1992)**
- Box-folder 2/9 **Romance for Piano and Orchestra. Full score.**
- Box-folder 2/10 **United Nations Rag. Full score.**

Series II: Piano Works

Box-folder 2/11	Blues Piano Variations (1989)
Box-folder 2/12	Four Meditations on the Ultimate Question, Book I
Box-folder 2/13	Four Meditations on the Ultimate Question, Book II
Box-folder 2/14	Twelve Nocturnes for Piano (1991)
Box-folder 2/15	Twelve Nocturne Studies for Piano (1997)
Box-folder 2/16	Piano Sonata, No. 3 (1984-85)
Box-folder 2/17	Piano Sonata, No. 4 (1989)
Box-folder 2/18	Suite No. 1: Twelve Short Pieces for Piano: For the Twelve Tonal Centers
Box-folder 2/19A	Suite No. 2: Twelve Miniatures for Piano: For the Twelve Tonal Centers
Box-folder 2/19B	Twelve Piano Rags -- "Original manuscript used to Create primary copy for book"
Box-folder 2/20	Twelve Waltzes for Piano, nos. 1-4 (1992)
Box-folder 2/21	Twelve Waltzes for Piano, nos. 5-8 (1992)
Box-folder 2/22	Twelve Waltzes for Piano, nos. 9-12 (1992)

Series III: Duos

Box-folder 3/1 **Sonata Series, No. 1: Sonata for Violin and Piano (1975). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/2 **Sonata Series, No. 2: Sonata for Cello and Piano (1978-79). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/3 **Sonata Series, No. 3: Sonata for Viola and Piano (1976-79). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/4 **Sonata Series, No. 4: Sonata for Oboe and Piano (1979). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/5 **Sonata Series, No. 5: Sonata for Clarinet and Piano (1980). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/6 **Sonata Series, No. 6: Sonata for French Horn and Piano (1980). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/7 **Sonata Series, No. 7: Sonata for Trumpet and Piano (1980). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/8 **Sonata Series, No. 8: Sonata for Flute and Piano (1981). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/9 **Sonata Series, No. 9: Sonata for Bassoon and Piano (1981). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/10 **Sonata Series, No. 10: Sonata for Trombone and Piano (1981). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/11 **Sonata Series, No. 11: Sonata for Double Bass and Piano (1982). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/12 **Sonata Series, No. 12: Sonata for Tuba and Piano (1982). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/13 **Sonatina [No. 1] for Violin and Piano (1992). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/14 **Sonatina, No. 2, for Violin and Piano (1992). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/15 **Sonatina, No. 3, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/16 **Sonatina, No. 4, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/17 **Sonatina, No. 5, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/18 **Sonatina, No. 6, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/19 **Sonatina, No. 7, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/20 **Sonatina, No. 8, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/21 **Sonatina, No. 9, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/22 **Sonatina, No. 10, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/23 **Sonatina, No. 11, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/24 **Sonatina, No. 12, for Violin and Piano (1993). Score and part**

Box-folder 3/25 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 13 & 14 (1996). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/26 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 15 & 16 (1996). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/27 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 17 & 18 (1997). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/28 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 19 & 20 (1997). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/29 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 21 & 22 (1997). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/30 **Twenty Four Sonatinas for Violin and Piano, No. 23 (1997) & No. 24 (1998). Score and part.**

Box-folder 3/31 **Waltz for Clarinet and Piano (1994). Score and part.**

Series IV: Trios

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box-folder 3/32 | Three Phoney Phugues for Phlute, Hoboe, and Clorinette (1991). Score only |
| Box-folder 3/33 | No. 1, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Violin, Cello, and Piano (1983-84). Score and parts. |
| Box-folder 3/34 | No. 2, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Viola, Double Bass, and Piano (1985). Score and parts. |
| Box-folder 3/35 | No. 3, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano (1985). Score and parts. |
| Box-folder 3/36 | No. 4, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Clarinet, French Horn, and Piano (1986). Score and parts. |
| Box-folder 3/37 | No. 5, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Trumpet, Bass Trombone, and Piano (1986). Score and parts. |
| Box-folder 3/38 | No. 6, Trio Series: Trio Sonata for Flute, Tuba, and Piano (1987). Score and parts. |

Series V: Other Chamber Ensembles

Box-folder 6/ Oversize 4	Anthem-Rhapsody for Brass Quintet and Piano. Photocopy. Note on cover by composer: Manuscript lost. (Oversize)
Box-folder 3/33	Sonata for Chamber Ensemble and Piano: Piano Sextet (1988). Full score.
Box-folder 3/34	Sonata for Piano, Chamber Ensemble, and Two voices (1987). Full score.
Box-folder 3/35	Sonata for Piano, Chamber Ensemble, and Two voices (1987). Libretto and parts.

Series VI: Chamber Opera

Box-folder 3/36 **Hashiur = The Lesson: One Act Chamber Opera (1986). Full Score.**
Box-folder 3/37 **Hashiur - The Lesson: One Act Chamber Opera (1986). Parts.**

Series VII: Songs

Box-folder 7/1 **A-ni Chamol Alechem**
Box-folder 7/2 **Behind the Windshield: Song for Baritone and Piano (1988)**
Box-folder 7/3A **Ezk'roh: For Violin, Piano, and Voice. [For Orchestral version, see Orchestra Series 1/9]**
Box-folder 7/3B **Gray Daze: For Soprano and Piano (1995)**
Box-folder 7/4A **Haiku: 42 Miniatures for Female Voice and Piano (1988)**
Box-folder 7/4B **Maya's Poem: For Soprano and Piano (1995)**
Box-folder 7/5 **Monolith**
Box-folder 7/6A **The Peace: For Soprano, Flute, French Horn, and Piano (1994). Score and parts.**
Box-folder 7/6B **Prayers of Supplication from the Psalm of David: 12 Songs for baritone and piano (1996). In 7 books.**
Box-folder 6/,
Oversize 5 **Song of Songs: For Soprano and Orchestra (1990) [Piano version, 1987]. Full score. (Oversize)**
Box-folder 7/7 **Song of Songs: For Soprano and Piano (1987)**
Box-folder 7/8 **[5] Songs on Poems by Shlomo Ibn Gabirol**
Box-folder 7/9 **The "Times and Seasons" Songcycle: For Soprano, Baritone, and Piano (1984)**
Box-folder 7/10 **Trinity Poets Songcycle II (1990)**
Box-folder 7/11 **Trinity Poets Songcycle III**
Box-folder 7/12 **Trinity Poets Songcycle IV (1992)**
Box-folder 7/13A **Trinity Poets Songcycle V (1993)**
Box-folder 7/13B **Trinity [Poets] Songcycle VI (1997)**
Box-folder 7/14 **Variations on the Turtle: Song for Baritone and Piano (1988)**

Series VIII: Choral Works

Box-folder 7/15 **Biblical Chant for Cantor, chorus, and Percussion (1992)**
Box-folder 6/3 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata for Friday Evening Sacred Service (1985). Full score.**
Box-folder 2/2 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata -- Vocal Score**
Box-folder 2/3 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata -- Piano PT. with vocal cues**
Box-folder 2/4 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata -- Choral Score**
Box-folder 2/5 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata -- Orchestra Parts**
Box-folder 2/6 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata -- Text**

Series IX: Student Works (Music)

Box-folder 7/15	Blues Prelude (1975)
Box-folder 7/16	Canonic Hymn for Brass Choir
Box-folder 7/17	24 Dominant-Tonic Etudes in the Early Classical Style
Box-folder 7/18	"Inspiration": Joel 3 & 4: Anthem for Baritone, Choir, and Organ (1955)
Box-folder 7/19	Four Nocturnes in the Early Style
Box-folder 7/20	Four Pieces for Piano
Box-folder 7/21	Ragtime Compositions (15 pieces)
Box-folder 7/22	String Quartet: Suite for 7 Models
Box-folder 7/23	Piano Sonata, No. 1 (1956)
Box-folder 7/24	Piano Sonata, No. 2
Box-folder 7/25	Sonata for Trombone and Piano (1975)
Box-folder 7/26	Suite for Piano: Five Compositions Utilizing Blues and Barrelhouse Piano Techniques (1972)

Series X: Writings

- Box-folder 7/27A **Blues and Boogie Piano Styles (manuscript)**
- Box-folder 7/27B **Free Improvisation at the Piano, Part II: The Psychology of Music Improvisation: Course Description and Lesson Plans [A Proposal for a New Course]**
- Box-folder 7/28 **A Method for Avant Garde Piano Improvisation (1983). Photocopy**

Series XI: Juvenalia (Writings and School Assignments)

Box-folder 7/29	Diary I
Box-folder 7/30	Diary II
Box-folder 7/31	Term Papers and School Assignments I
Box-folder 7/32	Term Papers and School Assignments II
Box-folder 7/33	Term Papers and School Assignments III
Box-folder 7/34	Term Papers and School Assignments IV

Series Xii: Correspondence

Box-folder 8/1	Acquisitions Correspondence (between the composer and the Music Library. Includes gift agreement 11/22/89 and a list of corrections to his compositions 1/31/94)
Box-folder 8/2	Personal Letters (1958-1993)
Box-folder 8/3	Personal Letters (1958-1993). Photocopies (acid-free)
Box-folder 8/4	Letters to the editor

Series XIII: Concert Programs, Reviews, Biographical Materials

Box-folder 8/5 **Concert Programs, 1972-present**
Box-folder 8/6 **Newspaper Clippings : 1971-1993. Photocopies.**
Box-folder 8/7 **Journal Articles I-- on Blumenfeld and his music**
Box-folder 8/8 **Journal Articles II-- on Blumenfeld and his music**
Box-folder 8/9 **Miscellany -- Reviews and Course Descriptions**
Box-folder 8/10 **Printed Music - in journal, *Music for the Love of It*.**

Scope and Content Note

Meditation #3 for Piano (June 1996). Excerpt from Rag #2, from Twelve Piano Rags for Piano in the Classic Rag Style (June 1997).

Box-folder 8/11 **Biographical Materials -- Documents, Photographs, etc.**

Series XIV: Audio Materials

Note

[All items stored in Box 8]

A. Reel-To-Reel Tapes

tape 1 **October, 1983. Free Improvisation at the piano. Mill College**
tape 2-3 **November, 1983. Free Improvisation at the piano. Mills College. Tapes 1 & 2.**
tape 4-5 **December, 1983. Free Improvisation at the piano. Mills College. Tapes 1 & 2.**
tape 6 **February 7, 1988. Concert Tape.**
tape 7-8 **November 17, 1985. Martinex Forum Concert Tapes, 1 & 2.**

B. Cassette Tapes

tape 9 **Piano Concerto No. 5**
tape 10 **Piano Concerto No. 6**
tape 11 **Hashiur**
tape 12 **Holocaust Memorial Symphonic Poem**
tape 13 **Holocaust Memorial Cantata**
tape 14 **Piano Sonata No. 3**
tape 15 **Nocturnes 4, 5, 7, 12**
tape 47 **Nocturnes for Piano, No. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12;
Waltzes for Piano, No. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11**
tape 48 **Sonatas for Violin and Piano, No. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9
Piano Improvisations**
tape 16-17 **Blues Piano Improvisations**
tape 18-20 **Free Improvisations at the Piano**
tape 21 **Ten Free Improvisations at the Piano**
tape 22 **Twelve Free Improvisations at the Piano**
tape 23-25 **Piano Improvisations (10/83, 11/83, 10/87)**
tape 26 **Sonata for Trumpet**
tape 27 **Sonatinas 6, 7, 9**
tape 28 **Trio Sonata: Trumpet, Trombone, Piano**
tape 29 **Trio Sonata: Clarinet, French Horn, Piano**
tape 30 **Trio Sonata: Viola, Double Bass, Piano**
tape 31 **Trio Sonata: Oboe, Bassoon, Piano**
tape 32 **Jazz Sonata**
tape 33 **Haiku**
tape 34 **Three Songs for Baritone and piano**
tape 35 **Songs of Songs**
tape 36 **Songs from the Trinity Songcycles II, III**
tape 45 **Nocturnes, waltzes, songs, and Sonatina No. 6**
tape 46 **Twelve Original Blues Piano Improvisations (with list)**
Interviews
tape 37 **KPFA Radio. 11/10/86; 6/1/81**
tape 38 **SCSM. 6/86**
tape 39 **KKUP. 10/86**
tape 40 **Program CHALIL. 3/87**
tape 41 **KJAZ. 5/20/90**
tape 42 **Porgy and Bess II. Outline of the Plot as conceived by the originator, 1/7/93.**

C. Video Tapes

C. Video Tapes

tape 43

Blues Piano Concert-Lecture. Channel 28. El Cerrito

tape 44

Tape of 10 Original Free Improvisations (piano) by Aaron Blumenfeld. Audio only, no video.

Series XV: Sketches

Box-folder 9/3	Cantata for Choir (and Orchestra). Notebook, undated.
Box-folder 9/4	[Concertos, piano, no. 1, Bb Major] Concerto in Bb, "Barrelhouse". Notebook. 1966-
Box-folder 9/5	[Concertos, piano, no. 1, Bb Major] Concerto in Bb, "Barrelhouse"; 3rd Movt. 1966-
Box-folder 9/6	Piano Concerto, 1st Movt.