
Finding Aid of the Ella Fitzgerald Collection of photographs and music, 1920-1996

Collection number: 135

UCLA Library, Performing Arts Special Collections

University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Ella Fitzgerald Collection of photographs and music,

Date (inclusive): 1920-1996

Collection number: 135

Creator: Fitzgerald, Ella

Extent: 1 box (0.5 linear ft.)

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Performing Arts Special Collections
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: This collection consists of photographs, music sheets, folios, and ozalid copies

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Performing Arts Special Collections for paging information.

Language: English

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Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Ella Fitzgerald Collection of photographs and music, 135, Performing Arts Special Collections, University of California, Los Angeles.

Biography

Ella Jane Fitzgerald was born on Apr. 25, 1917 in Newport News, VA; grew up in Yonkers, NY, and in 1932 went to live with an aunt in Harlem; was virtually a homeless school dropout who danced and sang on street corners for money and was in state reform school for over a year; won an amateur talent contest at the Apollo theater; sang with Chick Webb Orchestra, 1934-39; became recording artist for Decca (1936-55) and Verve (which became Pablo Records); recorded nearly every year from 1939-89, while touring with jazz bands and more than 40 symphony orchestras; won 12 Grammy awards and countless other awards, including Commander of Arts and Letters, Paris (1990), the American Music award (1978), National Medal of the Arts (1987), and was honored by the Kennedy Center (1979); her numerous recordings include her series of eight "Songbook" albums made from 1956-64, featuring the music of Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Harold Arlen, Jerome Kern, and Johny Mercer; she died on June 15, 1996 in Beverly Hills, CA.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of fourteen photographs of Ella Fitzgerald, and about 4600 music sheets (70%), folios (20%), and ozalid copies (10%), some sheets accompanied by correspondence to Fitzgerald or manuscripts lyrics.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Fitzgerald, Ella.

Women jazz singers--United States--Archival resources.

Popular music--United States.

Box 1, Folder 1 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo postcard; 3" x 5" Professional portrait

Box 1, Folder 2 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo postcard; 3" x 5" Professional portrait (with scarf)

Box 1, Folder 3 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 4" x 4" Professional medium portrait Slight stain on bottom right corner Labelled "Ella Fitzgerald" on bottom margin

Box 1, Folder 4 **Scope and Content Note**

Color photo; 4" x 6" Live performance. 3/4 length shot standing in front of piano in red dress

Box 1, Folder 5 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 8" x 10" 1/2 length shot in front of wall and framed poster Back and sequin dress

Box 1, Folder 6 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 10" x 8" 1/2 length performance shot, holding microphone and cord Flower pattern dress

Box 1, Folder 7 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 8" x 10" 1/4 length semi-profile shot, against white background Black dress and pearl necklace

Box 1, Folder 8 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white promotional photo; 8" x 10" 1/4 length portrait Black jacket Labelled "Ella Fitzgerald" on bottom margin

Box 1, Folder 9 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white promotional photo; 8" x 10" Near-full length performance shot, holding microphone, White dress Keyboardist visible in bottom right corner Labelled "Ella Fitzgerald" in bottom margin

Box 1, Folder 10 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 10" x 8" Close-up, facial portrait, 3/4 profile, with right-hand fingers visible at left bottom of photo Black jacket with white collar, and black earring

Box 1, Folder 11 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo postcard; 3" x 5" Professional portrait (with scarf)
(duplicate of item in folder 2)

Box 1, Folder 12 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo; 4" x 4" Professional medium portrait Slight stain on bottom right corner Labelled "Ella Fitzgerald" on bottom margin (duplicate of item in folder 3)

Box 1, Folder 13 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo Professional portrait Shot from back with head turned to face camera Labelled "Ella Fitzgerald" on bottom margin

Box 1, Folder 14 **Scope and Content Note**

Black and white photo (with glasses, earrings, and pearls)

Box 1, Folder 151, 351. 1, 351. 1, 351. **Smalls, Charles. Smalls, Charles. Smalls, Charles. The Wiz. The Wiz. The Wiz.**

Scope and Content Note

The Wiz
originally in Folios Box 1