
Finding aid of the Brubeck Collection

Collection number: MSS 004

Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections
University of the Pacific Library
Stockton, California

Date Completed:

on going

Encoded by:

Michael Wurtz

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Brubeck collection

Dates: ca. 1890-

Bulk Dates: ca. 1945-

Collection number: MSS 004

Creator: Brubeck, Dave

Creator: Brubeck, Iola

Collection Size: 220+ linear feet

Repository: University of the Pacific. Library. Holt-Atherton Dept. of Special Collections
Stockton, California 95211

Abstract: The Brubeck Collection consists of a broad range of materials created and accumulated by Dave and Iola Brubeck throughout their lives. It not only documents Brubeck's musical career, but also the history of jazz and related topics. Items date from the 1920s to the present as the collection continues to grow.

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

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

Preferred Citation

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Biography / Administrative History

Dave Brubeck is a world-renowned pianist and composer of jazz and classical music. Brubeck has been performing professionally since the 1930s and continues to tour the world. The Brubeck Quartet embodied the sound of "West Coast jazz" and was one of the most popular bands in the world during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1959 the Quartet released the groundbreaking album *Time Out*, which featured jazz performed in unusual time signatures. One of the tunes from this album, "Take Five," became the best selling jazz single in history.

Throughout his career, Brubeck has been a pioneer in exploring musical approaches such as polytonality (playing multiple keys within the same tune) and polyrhythms (playing multiple rhythms within the same tune). Although best known as a jazz musician, Brubeck's compositions include large-scale choral and orchestral works in a classical tradition. In addition to his musical achievements, Brubeck is also known for his life-long support of human rights and social justice.

Scope and Content of Collection

Series I: Papers contain business contracts, correspondence and royalty statements, personal correspondence, clippings, itineraries, biographies and writings of Dave Brubeck, programs, promotional materials (including magazine advertising and posters), and memorabilia relating to the career and interests of Dave Brubeck. Series II: Photographs contain promotional and personal photographs of Dave Brubeck, his family, colleagues and acquaintances. Series III: Music contains sketches, manuscript and printed scores by Dave Brubeck, his sons and colleagues. Series IV: Audio materials contain rehearsal and performance tapes made by Dave Brubeck and colleagues; commercial

recordings made by Dave Brubeck ensembles; and interviews with Dave Brubeck. Series V: Visual materials consist of video and film performances by Dave Brubeck ensembles.

A detailed finding aid/inventory of materials is available at <http://library.pacific.edu/ha/brubeck/content.asp>.

Indexing Terms

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

Brubeck, Dave - 1920-

Brubeck, Iola - 1923-

Brubeck, Howard - 1916-1993

Brubeck family

Milhaud, Darius - 1892-1974

Desmond, Paul - 1924-1977

Columbia Records, Inc.

Fantasy Records

Atlantic Records

Concord Jazz, Inc.

Associated Booking Co.

Sutton Artists Corp.

Shawnee Press, Inc.

Derry Music Co.

Jazz

Composers - United States

Wright, Eugene - 1923-

Morello, Joe - 1929-

United States - Race relations

Other Finding Aids

A detailed finding aid of each series and subseries can be found at <http://library.pacific.edu/ha/brubeck/content.asp>

Series I: Papers

Subseries A: Business Correspondence ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

consists of letters to and from the Brubecks and agents, promoters, record executives, and attorneys.

Subseries B: Business Papers ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

includes contracts, bills, receipts, and cashbooks that document Brubeck's tours and the business side of his career.

Subseries C: Personal Correspondence ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

contains letters to and from the Brubecks and friends, colleagues, and fans. Includes letters from figures such as Louis Armstrong, Chick Corea, Elton John, Clint Eastwood, and Bill Clinton.

Subseries D: Biographical Materials ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

includes interviews, clippings, and writings by Brubeck and others on his career and accomplishments in jazz and classical music.

Subseries E: Clippings

Scope and Content Note

consist primarily of reviews of Brubeck performances, but also include jazz polls and clippings collected by Brubeck on friends such as Paul Desmond, Louis Armstrong, and Duke Ellington.

Subsubseries: General Clippings ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subsubseries: Mentions ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subsubseries: Polls ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subsubseries: Reviews ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subseries F: Concert Programs ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

cover performances from throughout Brubeck's career, dating to a 1934 school show. Includes programs from all of his major premiers as well as many foreign tours.

Series I: Papers

Subseries G: Promotional Materials ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subseries G: Promotional Materials ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

contains posters, flyers, news releases, and other documents publicizing Brubeck's music and concerts.

Subseries H: Memorabilia ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

includes a broad range of items such as awards, certificates, souvenirs, and artwork.

Series II: Photographs

Scope and Content Note

Contains thousands of photographs that visually document Brubeck's bands and career. Includes extensive images of notable tours such as a 1958 State Department sponsored tour of Europe and Asia, and the ground breaking 1987 tour of the Soviet Union.

c.1890-1949 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

1950-1959 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

1960-1969 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

1970-1979 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

1980-1989 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

1990-1999 ([Detailed Inventory](#))

2000- ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Series III: Musical Scores, Sketches, and Parts

Scope and Content Note

Includes original manuscripts, copyists' scores, and published version of jazz and classical compositions by Brubeck and others.

Subseries A: Secular ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subseries B: Sacred ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Series IV: Audio Materials

Scope and Content Note

Consists of commercial recordings and unreleased recordings of Brubeck concerts, studio sessions, interviews, and performances of Brubeck works by other musicians.

Subseries A: Commercial Recordings ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subseries B: Personal Audio Tapes ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Subseries C: Audio Interviews ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Series V: Video and Film Materials ([Detailed Inventory](#))

Scope and Content Note

Includes videotapes of concert performances dating to 1959, as well as television interviews and documentaries, television soundtracks ("Mr. Broadway," 1964) and film appearances ("All Night Long," 1961).