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## Guide to the Lillian Birmingham Collection, 1889-1973

California State Library  
Sacramento, California

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Lillian Birmingham Collection,

**Date (inclusive):** 1889-1973

**Box Number:** 934-942

**Collector:** Birmingham, Alma

**Extent:** 9 boxes

**Repository:** California State Library

Sacramento, California

**Language:** English

### Access

Unrestricted.

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### Preferred Citation

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## Access Points

Music--Instruction and study--California  
Composers--California  
Singing--Instruction and study--California  
Birmingham, Lillian, 1871-1942

## Contents

Clippings, correspondence, photos, programs, publicity, scrapbooks, posters, postcards and posters concerning the career of Lillian Birmingham and her daughter Alma Birmingham.

The Lillian Birmingham Collection is arranged in chronological order of the events in the lives of Lillian Birmingham and her daughter, Alma Birmingham. The collection was arranged originally in that manner by Alma Birmingham, the donor. The California State Library staff has endeavored to keep that arrangement intact with other minor changes to correct obvious mistakes, to include data present, but unlisted, and to clarify wordings which appeared confusing. The original inventory lists prepared by Ms. Birmingham to complement the arrangement have been augmented by a detailed description of the actual items in each listing. (For the original inventories see Box No. 942.)

Alma Birmingham also prepared an index, year by year, of various persons and events in her mothers life. This index includes listings of performers, composers, music teachers, conductors, agents, recitals, concerts, conventions, and the like. The index lists these people and events by the year in which material related to them is dated and in which they are grouped within the collection. The index is located on the original collection folders prepared by Alma Birmingham which are grouped in Box No. 942.

## Biography

Lillian Birmingham, nee Kraft, was born in 1871 at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She possessed a deep, rich contralto voice and began singing during her teens . In 1889 she moved to San Francisco and was married there in 1890 to J.E. Birmingham, a jeweler. During her long singing career, she studied in London and Paris, and performed in San Francisco, other California cities, London, New York, and Hamilton, Canada. Her last public performance was in San Francisco in 1932, but she remained active and influential in California music, both as a member and leader of numerous musical organizations and events, and as a teacher of voice. In March, 1942, she suffered a severe stroke and died a few days later. That same year, the Lillian Birmingham Scholarship fund was established by her family in memorial of her.

- Birmingham, Lillian, 1871-1942.
- Jacobs-Bond, Carrie, 1862-1946.
- Stewart, H.J. (Humphrey John), 1856-1932.

## Other Correspondents

- Adams, J. P.
- Allen, Frank Gates, Mrs.
- Allen, Warren Dwight, 1885-
- Armsby, Leonora Wood
- Baen, C. E.
- Bangert, Bess
- Barker, J. W.
- Barnabee, Henry Clay, 1833-
- Behymer, L. E.
- Belden, J. G.
- Bell, Lois Bonnie
- Bisphan, David
- Bishop, Rowena
- Black, D. G.
- Bouhy, Jacob
- Breslin, April
- Cadman, Charles Wakefield, 1881-1946.
- Campbell, Louise Marriner

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- Cimini, Lina
  - Claire-Dux
  - Coats, Daisy Bannerman
  - Corkrum, Winina R.
  - Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965.
  - Davis, George Gibson
  - Davis, R. S.
  - Dawson, Ken B.
  - Dill, Marshall
  - Duane, C. D. L.
  - Du Luert, Lynn
  - Easton, Wendell
  - Elkus, Albert
  - Evans, Lawrence
  - Fay, Maud
  - Girton, Tom
  - Gow, George C.
  - Green, Clay
  - Gresham, James Wilmer, 1871-
  - Griswold, Grace
  - Hale, Marshall
  - Heink, Schumann
  - Henley, Homer
  - Henschel, George, Sir, 1850-1934.
  - Hinz, Claudia
  - Huntington, Carlos
  - Husband, Robert
  - Irish, Leiland Atherton, Mrs.
  - Jardine, Agnes Bishop
  - Johnson, Mabel T.
  - Kahn, Florence P.
  - Kelly, Edgar Stillman, Mrs.
  - Kinney, Mabel Ford
  - Leibling, George
  - Lyssac, Paul
  - McKee
  - Maloney, Thomas A.
  - Meralu, Gaetano
  - Millholland, H. I.
  - Mills, Helen H.
  - Mirovitch, Alfred
  - Monteux, Doris G. (Doris Gerald), 1895-1984.
  - Moore, Earl V.
  - Morrison, George A., Jr.
  - Munro, Charles L.
  - Myers, Roy S., Mrs.
  - Nunan, Carl T.
  - Ober, Julia

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- O'Coinnell, W. J.
  - Pasmore, Henry B.
  - Payne, Clair
  - Piastro, Mishel
  - Randegger, Alberto
  - Redding, Joseph Deighn, 1859-1932.
  - Ribeyron, John
  - Ritchie, Delbert C.
  - Rolph, James, Jr.
  - Rosenkrans, Chester W.
  - Rossi, Angelo
  - Rothwell, Walter Henry
  - Sanford, W. E.
  - Sand, Frederick N.
  - Schoenberg, Arnold, 1874-1951.
  - Scott, Gustav A.
  - Search, Frederic Preston
  - Shea, John F.
  - Sloss, M. C., Mrs.
  - Smale, Lola Gwin
  - Smyth, James G.
  - Stanwood, Cornelia
  - Stauffer, Paul Clarke.
  - Stillman Kelly, Mrs. Edgar: see Kelly, Edgar Stillman, Mrs. Stratford, Gerry
  - Swanson, W. G.
  - Sweeney, Mary J.
  - Symington, Powers, Mrs.
  - Tandy, Richard
  - Tevis, Gordon
  - Weinholz, Paul, Dr.
  - White, H. E.
  - Williamson, Raymond D.
  - Wilson, Alvina Heur
  - Wunder, Clinton

#### **Photographs**

- Photo of J. W. Taber's London photographic studio.
- Photo of Jack London at his place in the Valley of the Moon, Ca.
- Photo postcard of Maude Fay to LB.
- Photo of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Campbell.
- Photo postcard of LB in "Legends of Yosemite" in New York City.
- Autographed photo postcard of H. J. Stewart.
- Autographed photo of Carrie Jacobs-Bond.
- Photo of LB and San Francisco Junior Musical Club.
- Photo of the "Woode Picnic" at Atherton, California.
- Photo of production of "School for Scandal," sponsored by San Francisco Sorosis Club, directed by LB.
- Photo of Royal Belgian Bank on San Francisco City Hall steps.

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- Photo of Mrs. A. M. Jamieson, L. E. Behymer, Mrs. Armsby, and LB at Mrs. Armsby's house.
  - Poem by Clay Green on a photo postcard of himself.
  - Photo of Mrs. Edgar Stillman-Kelley and LB with unidentified others.
  - Photo of Mrs. Edgar Stillman-Kelley and LB with unidentified man.
  - Photo of Mrs. E.J. Ottaway, Mrs. J. A. Jardine, and LB.
  - Photo, taken by conductor Eugene Ormandy, of Sunday guests at the Birmingham home at Belvedere, CA.
  - Photo of San Francisco Symphony Board. -Photo of LB.
  - Photo (autographed) of Mrs. And Mrs. Edgar Stillman-Kelley.
  - 2 photos of cast of San Francisco Musical Club "Jinks" production of "P. T. Barnum."
  - Photo of LB at National Council of Jewish Women program.
  - Photo of LB and B. W. S. Buckely at Cliff House.
  - Photo note and autographed photo of Carrie Jacobs-Bond.

#### **Broadsides**

- Poster advertising recital at Knox Church, Hamilton, Ontario.
- Poster photo of Berkeley Greek Theatre from April issue of San Francisco *Musical Review*.

#### **Periodicals**

- Issue of the *Wasp*, Vol. XLI, autographed photo of LB removed from the issue.
- November issue of *Pacific Coast Musical Review*, vol. LVIII.

**Title:** Margaret Blake Alverson Collection,

**Date:** 1880-1920.

Box 934-941    **Arranged chronologically.**

Box 942        **Index to collection prepared by Alma Birmingham.**