



MSS 097: Boswell Sisters Research Collection

COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope & contents: Collection consists of newspaper/magazine articles about the Boswell Sisters, sheet music featuring them, and video and audio recordings. Most clippings are photocopies.

Accession number: A2012-033

Dates of collection: 1922-2007

Creator/collector: Materials collected by Kenneth McLean

Language: English

LOCAL SUMMARY

Acquisition information: Collection donated by Kenneth McLean in 2012.

Accruals: None

Location: Archive, Shelf 11.C.02

Extent of collection: 2 ft; 2 paige boxes

Custodial history/provenance: Items in the collection were collected by Kenneth McLean over a span of several years. He donated them to the GASF in 2012.

Repository: Library & Archives, Great American Songbook Foundation, Carmel, IN 46032

Processed by: Elisabeth Hedges, February 2024.

Conservation notes: "RCA Victor" 45's placed in protective sleeves.

Separated materials: Some LPs have been removed, catalogued, and put in the LP Collection.

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Restricted materials: None

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ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Abstract of collection: Collection consists of newspaper/magazine articles about the Boswell Sisters, sheet music featuring them, and video and audio recordings. Most clippings are photocopies.

Biography notes: The Boswell Sisters was a close-harmony singing group from New Orleans, consisting of Martha Boswell (1905-1958), Connie Boswell (alternately spelled "Connee," 1907-1976), and Helvetia "Vet" Boswell (1911-1988). They performed as a trio throughout the 1930s, with Connie pursuing a solo career later.

Processing information: Collection is organized into three series: Articles (magazine, newspaper, and journal), Sheet music, and AV Materials. Box 1 consists of papers; Box 2 of AV materials. AV Materials are listed in the finding aid by format (45's, VHS tapes, audiocassettes, digital items).

Additional staff notes: Most of the AV materials are loose in a box and are therefore not given folder numbers; 14 45's were placed in protective sleeves and numbered.

SUBJECTS & SUBJECT HEADINGS

Boswell, Connie, 1907-1976

Boswell Sisters

CONTENTS AND INVENTORY LIST

Contents	Box	Folder
Articles (magazine, newspaper, and journal)		
<i>Downbeat</i> magazine [full issues; includes photocopies of articles] - 1944, 1959	1	1
Reviews of Boswell Sisters acts and albums in <i>The Gramophone</i> [photocopies] - 1931-1939	1	2
<i>Joslin's Jazz Journal</i> [full issues] - 1989, 2001	1	3
<i>The Mississippi Rag</i> newsletter - 1992 July	1	4
<i>Off Beat</i> magazine [full issues and multiple articles] - 2004, 2007	1	5
<i>Popular Songs</i> , vol.1, no.5 [full issue] - 1935 April	1	6
<i>Radio Guide</i> [full issue; includes photocopies of articles] - 1936 February, 1940 January	1	7
<i>Radio Pictorial</i> [printouts of cover and pages] - 1934, 1935	1	8
<i>Tower Radio</i> magazine [full issue; 2 copies] - 1934 September	1	9
<i>Broadcast weekly</i> magazine [full issue] - 1931 July-August	1	10
Printouts from "Bozzies.com" [Boswell Sisters fan site] - 2007	1	11
<i>The second line</i> newsletter from the New Orleans Jazz Club - 1977 Winter	1	12
Boswell Sisters magazine advertisements [photocopies] - 1930s-1950s	1	13
<i>Storyville 71</i> feature on Connie Boswell [original and photocopy] - 1977 June-July	1	14
Articles about the Boswell Sisters [photocopies]: "Revolutionary inventions put 78s back on the turntable" by John Windsor; "WAAB artists at Palace;" "Boswell Sisters" Wikipedia entry; "Boswell Sisters" in Coda Canada's jazz magazine (October 1973); "Historical Tape Recordings: The Boswell Sisters" by Lou Dumont; "Stars of the radio;" "Radio moves to the stage;" Teddy Grace: Once lost, now found" by Derek Jenkins; "Centennial honors Boswell Sisters of N.O." by Molly Reid; "Spirited Boswells sang with style;" Dick Allen obituary - 1922-2007	1	15



Contents	Box	Folder
"Sister act" in <i>Gambit Weekly</i> [2 photocopies] - 2002 December 21	1	16
Articles about Boswell Sisters' influence on the Judds [photocopies] - 1999	1	17
Articles from <i>Memory Lane</i> magazine [photocopies] - 1992, 1996	1	18
Articles regarding Vet Boswell [photocopies] - 1988, 2008	1	19
Articles regarding Martha Boswell [photocopies] - 1954	1	20
Articles regarding Connie Boswell [mostly photocopies; includes copy of letter to Chuck Thompson] - 1937-1977	1	21
<i>400 Songs to remember</i> [full issue] - 1939 February	1	22
"Lost chords: White musicians and their contribution to jazz, 1915-1945" by Richard M. Sudhalter [scholarly article] - 1999	1	23
"White face, Black voice: Race, gender, and region in the music of the Boswell Sisters" by Laurie Stras [scholarly article] - 2007	1	24
Playbill for "The Heebie Jeebies: A musical tribute to the Boswell Sisters" [signed by Vet Boswell] - ca.1981	1	25
Playbill for "Curtain time" [2 copies] - 1943	1	26
Brochures, newsletters from the Boswell Museum of Music - 1990s	1	27
<i>Whatever became of...?</i> By Richard Laparski [paperback book; includes bios of the Boswell Sisters] - 1967	1	28
Publicity still of Bonita Granville and Connie Boswell - 1942	1	29
Postcards featuring Boswell Sisters - 1991, 2006	1	30
Connie Boswell paraphernalia [photocopies and computer printouts] - 2007	1	31
David McCain collection items - 2007	1	32
Boswell Sisters discographies - 1966, 1973, 1974, 1980	1	33
Photos and sheet music covers of Boswell sisters [computer printouts] - ca.1930s	1	34
Display photo of Boswell Sisters [computer printout] - undated	1	35
Sheet music featuring the Boswell Sisters		
Sheet music covers featuring the Boswells [photocopies] - ca.1930s	1	36
"A little less of moonlight (a little more of you);" music: J. Russel Robinson, lyrics: Irving Kahal - 1931	1	37
"At least you could say hello;" music and lyrics: Dick Robertson, Charles J. McCarthy, Sammy Mysels - 1939	1	37
"Between 18th and 19th on Chestnut Street;" music and lyrics: Dick Rogers and Will Osborne - 1939	1	37
"The birthday of a kiss;" music: John Jacob Loeb and Rudy Vallee, lyrics: Paul Francis Webster - 1931	1	37
"Black-eyed Susan Brown;" music: Al Hoffman and Al Goodhart, lyrics: Herb Magidson - 1933	1	37
"Blue Kentucky Moon;" by Walter Donaldson - 1931	1	37
"The clouds will soon roll by;" by Harry Woods and George Brown - 1932	1	37
"Darn that dream;" music: Jimmy Van Heusen, lyrics: Eddie De Lange - 1939	1	37
"A faded summer;" music and lyrics: Phil Baxter - 1931	1	37
"'Fraidy Cat;" music: Jimmie Monaco, lyrics: Herb Magidson and Maurice Sigler - 1934	1	37
"A gay ranchero (Las Alteñitas);" music and Spanish lyrics: J.J. Espinosa, English lyrics: Abe Tuvim and Francia Luban - 1936	1	38
"Gee! But I hate to go home alone;" music: James F. Hanley, lyrics: Joe Goodwin - 1922, 1942	1	38
"Gee! But you're swell;" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Charlie Tobias - 1936	1	38



Contents	Box	Folder
"Have you ever been lonely? (Have you ever been blue);" music: Peter de Rose, lyrics: George Brown [2 copies, one incomplete] - 1933	1	38
"Here lies love;" music: Ralph Rainger, lyrics: Leo Robin [2 copies] - 1932	1	38
"I believe in miracles;" music: Pete Wendling and Geo. W. Meyer, lyrics: Sam M. Lewis - 1934	1	38
"I don't know why (I just do);" music: Fred E. Ahlert, lyrics: Roy Turk - 1931	1	38
"I fall in love with you ev'ry day;" music and lyrics: Sam H. Stept - 1946	1	38
"If I didn't care;" by Joe Young, Jean Schwartz, Milton Ager - 1934	1	38
"If I give my heart to you;" by Jimmie Crane, Al Jacobs, Jimmy Brewster - 1953, 1954	1	38
"(If I had) Rhythm in my nursery rhymes;" music: Jimmie Lunceford and Saul I. Chaplin, lyrics: Sammy Cahn and Don Raye - 1935	1	39
"(I'll let that be) My consolation;" by Carroll Loveday and Nick Kenny - 1931	1	39
"I'm all dressed up with a broken heart;" music and lyrics: Fred Fisher, Stella Unger, Harold Stern - 1931	1	39
"I thank you, Mr. Moon;" by Dave Oppenheim, Dolly Morse, Abel Baer - 1931	1	39
"It's the girl!" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Dave Oppenheim - 1931	1	39
"It's winter again;" music: Al Hoffman and Al Goodheart, lyrics: Arthur Freed - 1932	1	39
"It was so beautiful;" music: Harry Barris, lyrics: Arthur Freed [2 copies] - 1932	1	39
"Kiss the boys goodbye;" music: Victor Schertzinger, lyrics: Frank Loesser - 1941	1	39
"Life is a song (Let's sing it together);" music: Fred E. Ahlert, lyrics: Joe Young - 1935	1	39
"Love goes on just the same;" music and lyrics: Irving Kahal and Abel Baer - 1931	1	39
"Love letters in the sand;" music: J. Fred Coots, lyrics: Nick and Charles Kenny - 1931	1	40
"Love me sooner (rather than later);" music and lyrics: Gene Bone - 1939	1	40
"Lullaby in blue;" music: Allie Wrubel, lyrics: Herb Magidson and Allie Wrubel - 1934	1	40
"Mary (I'm in love with you);" music and lyrics: J. Fred Coots and Ozzie Nelson - 1931	1	40
"Meet me tonight, Dear old pal o'mine;" music and lyrics: Martha M. Boswell - 1931	1	40
"Moonlight mood;" music: Peter De Rose, lyrics: Harold Adamson - 1942	1	40
"My bluebird's back again;" by Cliff Friend - 1931	1	40
"My little nest of heavenly blue (Frasquita Serenade);" music: Franz Lehar, German lyrics: A.M. Willner and H. Reichert, English lyrics: Sigmund Spaeth - 1922, 1923	1	40
"Never took a lesson in my life;" music and lyrics: Jack Lawrence and Diane Foore - 1940	1	40
"The night when love was born;" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Joe Young and Dave Oppenheim - 1932	1	40
"No! No! A thousand times no!!" by Al Sherman, Al Lewis, and Abner Silver - 1934	1	41
"My other one;" music and lyrics: Jack Norberto and Ben Leedy - 1955	1	41
"Nothing is sweeter than you;" music and lyrics: Bob Charles - 1931	1	41
"Now we're on our second honeymoon;" by Kay O'Donnell, Buddy Fields, and Gerald Marks [3 copies] - 1933	1	41
"Nursie! Nursie!" music and lyrics: Art Noel and Don Pelosi - 1939	1	41
"Oh! What a thrill (To hear it from you);" music: Al Hoffman, lyrics: Jack Murray and Barry Trivers - 1931	1	41
"The old spinning wheel;" by Billy Hill - 1933	1	41
"One night in Monte Carlo;" music and lyrics: Abner Silver, Al Sherman, and Al Lewis - 1935	1	41
"On the wrong side of the fence;" music: Allie Wrubel, lyrics: Benée Russell - 1934	1	41
"Our lady of the highway;" music and lyrics: George Goehring - 1954	1	41
"Please;" music: Ralph Rainger, lyrics: Leo Robin - 1932	1	42



Contents	Box	Folder
"The Philadelphia Waltz;" music and lyrics: Maddy Russell and Jack Segal - 1954	1	42
"Red sails in the sunset;" music: Hugh Williams (Hugh Grösz), lyrics: Jimmy Kennedy - 1935	1	42
"Remember me;" music: Richard M. Jones, lyrics: Wally Brainard - 1928	1	42
"The river's takin' care of me;" music: Jesse Greer, lyrics: R. Stanley Adams - 1933	1	42
"Roll on, Mississippi, roll on;" by Eugene West, James McCaffrey, Dave Ringle - 1931	1	42
"Sand in my shoes;" music: Victor Schertzinger, lyrics: Frank Loesser - 1961	1	42
"Simple and sweet;" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Bud Green - 1938	1	42
"Sing a little low-down tune;" by Charles Tobias, Jack Scholl, and Murray Mencher - 1933	1	42
"Solitude;" music: Duke Ellington, lyrics: Eddie De Lange and Irving Mills - 1934	1	42
"Somebody loses - somebody wins;" music: J.C. Johnson, lyrics: George Whiting and Nat Schwartz - 1932	1	43
"Summer Souvenirs;" music: J. Fred Coots, lyrics: Charles Newman - 1938	1	43
"Swing little thingy;" by Bud Green and Sam H. Stept - 1933	1	43
"This time it's love;" music: J. Fred Coots, lyrics: Sam M. Lewis - 1933	1	43
"Three kisses;" music: J.C. Johnson, lyrics: George Whiting and Bob Schafer - 1932	1	43
"Throw another log on the fire;" by Charles Tobias, Jack Scholl and Murray Mencher - 1933	1	43
"Till the shadows retire;" music and lyrics: Bernie Kane - 1932	1	43
"Twenty four hours in Georgia;" by Al J. Neiburg, Marty Symes, and Jerry Levinson - 1934	1	43
"Two in love;" music and lyrics: Meredith Willson - 1941	1	43
"We just couldn't say good-bye;" music and lyrics: Harry Woods - 1932	1	43
"When I grow too old to dream;" music: Sigmund Romberg, lyrics: Oscar Hammerstein II - 1935	1	44
"Why dance?" music: Fred E. Ahlert, lyrics: Roy Turk [2 copies] - 1931	1	44
"You and I;" music and lyrics: Meredith Willson - 1941	1	44
"You and the moon and me;" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Charles Tobias - 1933	1	44
"You'll never get up to heaven that way;" music: Abel Baer, lyrics: Sammy Lerner - 1933	1	44
"You're my only sweetheart;" music: Harold Dellon, lyrics: Cal de Voll [4 versions] - 1931	1	44
AV Materials - 45's		
"RCA Victor: Japanese Sandman / Giannina Mia" - undated	2	1
"RCA Victor: At the jazz band ball / Say it isn't so / Singin' the blues / When the saints go marching in" - undated	2	2
"RCA Victor: When my sugar walks down the street / Japanese sandman / Giannina Mia / I wish I could shimmy like my sister Kate - undated	2	3
"RCA Victor: Make love to me / My honey's loving arms / All of me / Pagan love song" - undated	2	4
"RCA Victor: Begin the beguine / Believe it beloved" - undated	2	5
"RCA Victor: Someone stole my darlin' / I know what it means to be lonesome" - undated	2	6
"RCA Victor: Singin' the blues / It made you happy when you made me cry" - undated	2	7
"RCA Victor: T-E-N-N-E-S-S-E-E / If I give my heart to you" - undated	2	8
"RCA Victor: How important can it be / Fill my heart with happiness" - undated	2	9
"RCA Victor: Learn to pray ev'ry day / Our lady of the highway" - undated	2	10
"RCA Victor: Mind if I tag along / Don't believe everyone's your friend" - undated	2	11
"RCA Victor: No other one / I compare you" - undated	2	12
"RCA Victor: Star Dust / This can't be love" - undated	2	13
"RCA Victor: The Philadelphia Waltz / Call me darling" - undated	2	14



Contents	Box	Folder
"A musical Christmas card" / "Sweet substitute" / "I give in" / "We just couldn't say good-bye" / "Back in the world again" - 1978, 1979	2	
Connee Boswell and the original Memphis Five in hi-fi - 1957	2	
Singing the blues with Connee Boswell - 1953	2	
"You ain't got nothin'" / "I don't mind" - undated	2	
Irving Berlin melodies, featuring Connee Boswell - undated	2	
Bing and Connee: famous vocal duets - 1952	2	
RCA Records: "Japanese sandman" / "Giannina Mia" - undated	2	
Curtain call: Connee Boswell - undated	2	
Decca records: Connee Boswell, vol. 1 - undated	2	
AV Materials - VHS (recordable)		
Kiss the boys goodbye [film] - 1941	2	
Brian Sisters film extracts: Sunday night at the Trocadero, New faces of 1937, Little Miss Broadway, Second Fiddle, Tin Pan Alley - 1937-1940	2	
"Boswell Sisters Material (from David McCain)" - 1932-1951	2	
Sunday Sinners - 1941	2	
Paradise in Harlem - 1940	2	
Senior Prom - 1958	2	
Artists and models - 1937	2	
Sleepy time down south - 1931	2	
Sunday night at the Trocadero - 1937	2	
Murder on Lennox Avenue - 1941	2	
Moulin Rouge - 1934	2	
Syncopation - 1942	2	
The Big Broadcast - 1932	2	
Boswell Sisters: "Heebie Jeebie Blues;" Paul Whiteman Orchestra: "My Ohio Home" - 1928, 1932	2	
Transatlantic Merry-go-round - 1934	2	
Connie Boswell - Julius LaRosa Show, Les Brown's Orchestra; Mamie Smith - Jailhouse Blues - undated	2	
"Rambling Round Radio Row" - 1932, 1934	2	
Connee Boswell; Connee Boswell and the Boswell Sisters [television appearances] - 1948-1963, 1987	2	
Swing parade of 1946 - 1946	2	
AV Materials - Audiocassette tapes		
"Jail cut of Vet Boswell / CBC interview with Laurie Head of the 'Airwaves'" - undated	2	
"Command Performance" / "Mail Call" - 1944	2	
"Good news songs" - undated	2	
"Goodrich Silver Town Show" / Boswell Sisters Silver Masked Tenor - 1936	2	
"Sweet Substitute" in concert - undated	2	
WBUR Boston PBS: Boswell Sisters - 2000	2	
Boswell Sisters/Connee Boswell [to Ken McLean from David McCain] - 1989 April	2	
Assorted Boswell Sisters songs - undated	2	
Boswell Sisters and Bing Crosby / "Life is just a bowl of cherries" with the Mills Brothers and "Basin Street Blues" with Bob White - undated	2	
"Connie Boswell" - 1931-1934	2	



Contents	Box	Folder
"Broadcast" and "Hollywood Rendezvous" - 1932, 1938	2	
"Boswell Sisters" - 1933	2	
"Connee Boswell: The one and only" and "Connee Boswell" / "Selections from Connee Boswell Broadcasts" - 1939-1941	2	
"Boswell Sisters" - undated	2	
"CBC Boswells" - undated	2	
"CBC Boswells" - undated	2	
"Philco Show" - 1939, 1944	2	
Assorted Boswell Sisters songs - 1932	2	
"Boswell Sisters - Richard M. Sudhalter jazz selections" - 1930-1932	2	
"First ladies of radio - the Boswell Sisters - Lew Dumont" - undated	2	
Published Audiocassetts		
"Golden Era Vocalists: Boswell Sisters, vols. 1 and 2" [2 cassettes] - 1925-1932	2	
"Connie Boswell: Boswell's Best" - undated	2	
"Connee Boswell: The one and only" - 1988	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Kraft Music Hall" - 1941 March 6	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: The Camel Caravan" - 1942 October 2	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Mail Call; Screen Guild Theatre" - 1944, 1939	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: The Harry Richman Florida Show; Hollywood is on the air; Chesterfield Supper Club" - 1945	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Command Performance: Mail Call" - 1944	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Hollywood Rendezvous; Guest Star; Tenth Anniversary Salute to Movie Radio Guide" - 1938, 1957	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Lifebuoy Program" - 1938	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Voice of the Army" - 1950 June 14	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Good news of 1940; The Connee Boswell Show" - 1939, 1944	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: The Connee Boswell Show" - undated	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: NBC's 15th anniversary Free for All; Mail Call" - undated	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: The Kraft Music Hall" - 1941 March 20	2	
"Radio Yesteryear: Stagedoor Canteen; Philco Radio Time" - 1942, 1947	2	
AV Materials - Digital		
"Life is a song" Miss Connee Boswell" [DVD] - 2006	2	
Company B Jazz Band [CD - original and copy] - undated	2	