

# William Bergsma papers, 1941-1986

## Overview of the Collection

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Creator</b>                     | Bergsma, William, 1921-1994   |
| <b>Title</b>                       | William Bergsma papers  |
| <b>Dates</b>                       | 1941-1986 (inclusive)<br>1941 1986  |
| <b>Quantity</b>                    | 2.08 cubic feet (3 boxes and 1 folder)  |
| <b>Collection Number</b>           | 1721  |
| <b>Summary</b>                     | Correspondence and music manuscripts of William Bergsma, School of Music faculty, University of Washington  |
| <b>Repository</b>                  | <a href="#">University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections</a><br>Special Collections<br>University of Washington Libraries<br>Box 352900<br>Seattle, WA<br>98195-2900<br>Telephone: 206-543-1929<br>Fax: 206-543-1931<br><a href="mailto:speccoll@uw.edu">speccoll@uw.edu</a> |
| <b>Access Restrictions</b>         | Open to all users.  |
| <b>Additional Reference Guides</b> |   |
| <b>Languages</b>                   | English   |
| <b>Sponsor</b>                     | Funding for encoding this finding aid was partially provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.  |

---

## Biographical Note

William Bergsma was a composer and professor of music at the UW. Bergsma was born in Oakland, California in 1921. He attended Stanford University from 1938 to 1940 and completed his B.A. and M.A. at the Eastman School of Music in 1943. From 1946 to 1963 he served on the faculty of The Juilliard School in a variety of roles, most notably as chair of the composition department. From 1963 to 1971, Bergsma was chair of the School of Music at the University of Washington, where he remained as professor after retiring from administration.

Bergsma composed works for symphony orchestra, opera, chamber ensembles, solo instruments and choral groups. He received numerous honors and awards, including the Guggenheim Fellowship and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation. In 1992, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

## Content Description

Correspondence, 1967-1986, concerning Bergsma's position as director of the School of Music, University of Washington, and music manuscripts, 1941-1977.

# Use of the Collection

## Restrictions on Use

Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Arranged into 3 accessions

Accession No. 1721-001, William Bergsma papers, 1970-1971

Accession No. 1721-002, William Bergsma papers, 1941-1986

Accession No. 1721-003, William Bergsma correspondence, 1967-1986

### Processing Note

Processing levels vary.

---

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Accession No. 1721-001: William Bergsma papers, 1970-1971

.03 cu. ft. (1 folder)

Scope and Content: Correspondence concerning Bergsma's position as director of the School of Music, University of Washington, 1970-1971.

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Acquisition Info: Source: Helen V. Pratt, October 08, 1971.

### Accession No. 1721-002: William Bergsma papers, 1941-1946

1.84 cu. ft. (2 boxes)

Arrangement: Arranged as received

Scope and Content: Correspondence concerning Bergsma's work with the School of Music, University of Washington, 1982, 1986, and music manuscripts, 1941-1977. (Compositions returned to Bergsma by Galaxy Music Company when new copies were printed.)

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Acquisition Info: Source: unknown, 1990

| Container(s) | Description  | Dates     |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| Box          | Accession  |           |
| 1            | 1721-002 Letter of transmittal from Steve Schaffner, Galaxy Music Company  | 1986      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Gold and the Senor Commandant</i> . Ballet. "Siesta," "Parade," "Elegant Dance," "Furious Dance." 16 pp.   | 1941      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Gold and the Senor Commandant</i> . Ballet. "Siesta" and "Happy Dance." 28 pp.   | 1941      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Gold and the Senor Commandant</i> . Ballet. Program.   | 1941      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>A Carol on Twelfth Night</i> . Commissioned by the Louisville Orchestra. Original version. Two copies. 49 pp. each.                                | 1953      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>A Carol on Twelfth Night</i> . Revised version. (revised pages loose in front)   | 1958      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Documentary I: Portrait of a City</i> . Site for Orchestra. (Expansion of 1958 score for a television production) 64 pp.                           | 1958-1963 |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Chameleon Variations</i> . Commissioned by the Portland Junior Symphony. 61 pp.  | 1960      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Serenade, To Await the Moon</i> . Dedicated to Milton Katims. Spiral bound version. 52 pp.   | 1965      |
| 1            | 1721-002 <i>Serenade, To Await the Moon</i> . Dedicated to Milton Katims. Tape bound version, two copies. One with performance markings by Katims. 36pp. each. | 1965      |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Sinister Dance</i> . Score. 10 pp. and parts.  | 1951      |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Praise</i> . Choral work. 6 pp. Holograph.   | 1958      |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Oh, Mother, On This Blessed Day</i> . Published under pseudonym Lawrence Wilbur. Holograph. 5 pp.  | 1959      |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Illegible Canons</i> . For clarinet and percussion. 15 pp.   | 1968      |

| Container(s) | Description  | Dates   |
|--------------|--|---------|
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>The Murder of Comrade Sharik</i> . Opera (1969), after a novel by Mikhail Bulgakov. Earliest extant version. 77 pp.                                  | 1971    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>The Murder of Comrade Sharik</i> . Opera (1969), after a novel by Mikhail Bulgakov. Revision. Extra pp included. 100 pp.                             | 1973    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>The Murder of Comrade Sharik</i> . Opera (1969), after a novel by Mikhail Bulgakov. Revised ending. Photocopied. (pp. 126-148)                       | 1977    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>The Murder of Comrade Sharik</i> . Opera (1969), after a novel by Mikhail Bulgakov. Correspondence and notes re: premiere, Brooklyn College.         | 1986    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Fourth Quartet</i> . Commissioned by the University of Alabama for the Cadet Quartet. Original version (including revised finale).                   | 1970    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Fourth Quartet</i> . Commissioned by the University of Alabama for the Cadet Quartet. Subsequent version (including third movement later discarded). | 1971    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Wishes, Wonders, Portents, Charms</i> . For chorus and instruments. Piano reduction. pp. 1-64  | 1974    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Wishes, Wonders, Portents, Charms</i> . For chorus and instruments. Substitution, pp. 22B-23   | undated |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Blatant Hypotheses</i> . For trombone and percussion. 10 pp.   | 1977    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Sweet Was The Song The Virgin Sung; Tristan Revisited</i> . I & II. Commissioned by the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. 113 pp. (last pp. loose)         | 1977    |
| 2            | 1721-002 Correspondence from John Coney, KCTS-9  | 1982    |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>We Pause Briefly</i>   | undated |
| 2            | 1721-002 <i>Second Symphony: Voyages II</i> . Revisions. pp. 20-37.  | undated |

## Accession No. 1721-003: William Bergsma correspondence, 1967-1986

.21 cubic feet (1 box)

Arrangement: Arranged as received.

William Bergsma papers, 1941-1986

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv39486>

Scope and Content: Correspondence concerning Bergsma's work with the School of Music, University of Washington, 1967-1986

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Acquisition Info: Source: John Gibbs for UW Music Library, 07/18/2005

| Container(s)   | Description  | Dates                  |
|----------------|--|------------------------|
| Box/<br>Folder | Accession  |                        |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 Jack Beeson   | 1981 May - 1986 August |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 Elliot Carter   | 1986 August            |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 George Crumb  | 1986 August            |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 David Diamond   | 1975 March             |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 Alan Hovhaness  | 1976 August            |
| 1/1            | 1721-003 Andrew Imbrie   | 1976 August            |
| 1/2            | 1721-003 Donald Howard Keats   | 1977 April             |
| 1/2            | 1721-003 Kavid Kechley   | 1978 April             |
| 1/2            | 1721-003 Barbara Kolb  | 1980 July - September  |
| 1/2            | 1721-003 Douglas Moore   | 1967 February          |
| 1/3            | 1721-003 Vincent Persichetti   | 1986 August            |
| 1/3            | 1721-003 Roger Reynolds<br><u>Scope and Content:</u> Contains copy of letter from Roger Reynolds to Richard Felciano, Jan. 1976 and others re. "consortium of contemporary music centers in the West." | 1976 February          |
| 1/3            | 1721-003 Loren Rush  | 1972 December          |
| 1/3            | 1721-003 Glenn Stallcop  | 1977 January - 1978    |

| Container(s) | Description   | Dates                    |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1/3          | 1721-003 Robert Suderburg   | 1983 June - August       |
| 1/3          | 1721-003 Robert Ward  | 1978 April, September    |
| 1/3          | 1721-003 Donald Waxman  | 1977 August 3            |
| 1/4          | 1721-003 William Schuman  | 1978 April - 1983 July   |
| 1/5          | 1721-003 Janet Winter<br><u>General Notes:</u> Janet Winter, nee Lewis (librettist)   | 1978 January - 1983 July |
| 1/6          | 1721-003 Acousticians for Meany Hall<br><u>Scope and Content:</u> Paul Hayden Kirk (Kirk, Wallace, McKinley) and Paul Veneklausen (Paul S. Vaneklausen and Associates). | 1974 October - November  |
| 1/7          | 1721-003 Pulitzer Prize Committee   | 1974 April               |
| 1/8          | 1721-003 Henry Brant<br><u>Scope and Content:</u> <i>Grand Universal Circus</i> . Meany Hall Performance, 1974. Correspondence and production notes.                    | 1974                     |

## Names and Subjects

### Personal Names :

Bergsma, William, 1921-1994--Archives

### Other Creators :

#### Corporate Names :

University of Washington. University Archives

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

University Archives/Faculty Papers (University of Washington)

2010 (Last modified: 4/11/2018)



<http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/>

About Creative Commons Licenses in Archives West:

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/cc-zero.shtml>