

Aaron Avshalomov scores

ACA

Special Collections in Performing Arts
University of Maryland Libraries

Processed by: Mario Perez, Josh Bermudez

Date Processed: August 2016

Size: 22.00 Linear Feet

Inclusive Dates: 1933-1956

Bulk Dates: 1935 -1955

Collection No.: 2016-076-AAVSHALOMOV

SCPA shelf location: HH8-2-1 to HH8-3-10

Abstract

Aaron Avshalomov was born in Nikolaievsk, Siberia on October 31, 1894 to Jewish-Russian parents. His father wanted Aaron to study medicine and sent him to Switzerland for that purpose in 1913. Instead, he enrolled in the Zürich Conservatory, where, for a few months, he received his only formal training in music. After the outbreak of World War I, Avshalomov left Europe, returning to Russia and then moving on to China and the United States, where he married his first wife, Esther Magidson, in 1916. The couple immigrated to China the following year, and Aaron stayed in the country even after they divorced and Esther and their son, Jacob, returned to the United States in 1919. Most of the next thirty years of Avshalomov's life was spent in China, where he served as head librarian of the Municipal Library of Shanghai (1928-43), helped form the Chinese Music Study Society, and conducted the Shanghai Municipal Orchestra (1943-6). After living under house arrest during the Japanese occupation of China, Aaron joined his son in the United States in 1947, where he attempted to recreate the success he had found in China. Aaron Avshalomov died in New York City on April 16, 1965. The collection consists of scores of his works and manuscripts.

Important Information for Users of the Collection

Restrictions: There are no restricted files in this collection. Performance editions are available from the American Composers Alliance (www.composers.com).

Preferred Citation: *Aaron Avshalomov scores*, Special Collections in Performing Arts, University of Maryland Libraries.

Publication Rights: Copyright was not transferred to the University of Maryland with the physical gift of the scores. The Avshalomov Family retained all copyright possessed in the Donation. The University of Maryland Libraries is granted permission for the use in scholarly research by the Libraries' patrons under fair use in Section 107 of the U.S. Copyright Act.

Status: This collection is PROCESSED

Historical Note

Aaron Avshalomov was born in Nikolaievsk, Siberia on October 31, 1894 to Jewish-Russian parents. His father wanted Aaron to study medicine and sent him to Switzerland for that purpose in 1913. Instead, he enrolled in the Zürich Conservatory, where, for a few months, he received his only formal training in music. After the outbreak of World War I, Avshalomov left Europe, returning to Russia and then moving on to China and the United States, where he married his first wife, Esther Magidson, in 1916. The couple immigrated to China the following year, and Aaron stayed in the country even after they divorced and Esther and their son, Jacob, returned to the United States in 1919. Most of the next thirty years of Avshalomov's life was spent in China, where he served as head librarian of the Municipal Library of Shanghai (1928-43), helped form the Chinese Music Study Society, and conducted the Shanghai Municipal Orchestra (1943-6). After living under house arrest during the Japanese occupation of China, Aaron joined his son in the United States in 1947, where he attempted to recreate the success he had found in China. Aaron Avshalomov died in New York City on April 16, 1965.

As a child, Avshalomov had first been exposed to traditional Chinese music, particularly Peking opera, in 1907 when his family lived in Khabarovsk, a town near the Russia-China border. After his semi-permanent relocation to China, the dual influence of Chinese and Western musical

cultures became the driving force of his career. His compositions feature the use Western musical instruments to recreate elements of traditional Chinese music and were highly successful with Chinese audiences. These included the First Symphony, the operas *Kuan Yin*, *The Twilight Hour of Yan Kuen Fei*, and *The Great Wall*, and concertos for violin, flute, and piano. The major compositions from his years in the United States are the Second and Third Symphonies and the ballet *Dream of Wei Lin*.

Scope and Contents of Collection

The Aaron Avshalomov collection covers the period from 1933 to 1956; the bulk of the materials date from 1935 to 1955. The collection consists entirely of scores, including published works and manuscripts.

Custodial History and Acquisition Information

Gift of Jacob Avshalomov, son of Aaron Avshalomov, received in three shipments in September and October 2009. The collection was formerly deeded by the Avshalomov Family to the University of Maryland in December 2015.

Arrangement of Collection

This collection is organized into two series.

- Series I: Printed Music by Aaron Avshalomov
- Series II: Aaron Avshalomov Manuscripts

Series Descriptions

Series I: Printed Music by Aaron Avshalomov

Series II: Aaron Avshalomov Manuscripts

Box Inventory

Series 1 – Printed Music by Aaron Avshalomov

Box 1

Folder 1	“Adjanta (Piano Solo Version)” – Avshalomoff, Aaron
Folder 2	“Adjanta (Score)” – Avshalomoff, Aaron (July 1939)
Folder 3	“Adjanta (Chamber Ensemble Parts)” – Avshalomoff, Aaron (5)
Folder 4	“Adjanta (Orchestral Parts)” – Avshalomoff, Aaron (29)
Folder 5	Arrangements for Viola – Avshalomoff, Aaron
Folder 6	“By and By You Will Die” – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Box 2

Folder 1	“The Carefree Tree” – Avshalomoff, Aaron (October 1955)
----------	---

Box 3

Folder 1 "Chess Player (Score, 3 Copies)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron (May 27, 1954)

Folder 2 "Cheng Tin Hwa (Chinese Folk Ballad)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 3 "Chung-Kwei (Orchestral Score)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron (1940)

Folder 4 "Chung-Kwei (Parts)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron (1940)

Folder 5 "Concerto for Flute (Copied Parts)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron (1948)

Box 4

Folder 1 "Concerto for Flute and Orchestra (Original Parts)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 2 "Concerto for Flute and Orchestra (Score)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 3 "Concerto for Flute and Orchestra (Piano Score and Solo Part)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Box 5

Folder 1 "Concerto in G for Piano (Score and Parts)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Box 6

Folder 1 "Concerto in G for Piano (Piano Score)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 2 "Concerto in G for Piano (Solo Part)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 3 "Concerto in G for Piano (Score)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron (1935)

Folder 4 "Concerto in G for Piano (Piano Part, Photocopy)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Folder 5 "Concerto for Flute (Score)" – Avshalomoff, Aaron

Box 7

Folder 1 "Concerto for Violin (Parts)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 2 "Concerto for Violin (Piano Score)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 3 "Concerto for Violin (Solo Part, 2 Copies)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 4 "Concerto for Violin (Score)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 8

Folder 1 "Concerto for Violin (Hard Bound Score)" – Avshalomov, Aaron (1937)

Folder 2 "A Dance with Mirror (from Act II of "The Great Wall")" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 3 "Desolation (Piano Part)" – Avshalomov, Aaron (1942)

Folder 4 "Drowning in Fog (Score)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 5 "Four Biblical Tableaux (Parts)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 9

Folder 1 "The Great Wall (Copied String Parts)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 2 "The Great Wall (Copied Wind Parts)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 10

Folder 1 "The Great Wall (Copied Brass & Percussion Parts)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Folder 2 "The Great Wall (Bound String Parts, 1 of 2)" – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 11	
Folder 1	“The Great Wall (Bound String Parts, 2 of 2)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 12	
Folder 1	“The Great Wall (Bound Wind Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 13	
Folder 1	“The Great Wall (Bound Brass & Percussion Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 14	
Folder 1	“The K’e Still Ripples to Its Banks” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“The K’e Still Ripples (arr. flute, strings, perc., harp, piano)” (score & violin part) – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 3	“The K’e Still Ripples to Its Banks (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1939)
Folder 4	“Kinsei (Oboe Part)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 5	“Kinsei’s Death (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 6	“Kwei Fei’s Lament (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 7	“Lullaby (from opera ‘Kwan Yin’)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 8	“Lullaby (Score & Parts) – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 9	“Marvari Gopi (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 10	“Marvari Gopi (Piano Solo Version)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 11	“Marvari Gopi (Indian Dance)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 12	“Mongolian Warrior (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 15	
Folder 1	“Mudra (Piano Solo Version)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“Mudra (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 3	“Nocturne (for Er-Hu with Orchestra, no solo part)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 4	“Parvati (Indian Dance, score & parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1939)
Folder 5	“Peiping Hutungs (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 6	“Peiping Hutungs (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 7	“Peiping Hutungs (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 8	“#1 – Plucking The Flowers (Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 9	“Preludes No. 3 & 4” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 10	“Prelude No. 5 (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 11	“Prelude No. 6 (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 12	“Queen Esther’s Prayer (Parts, Bass missing) – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 16	
Folder 1	“Sakura (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“Snan Lila (score & parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 3	“Snan Lila (score & parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1939)

Folder 4	“A Song of Lamentation (violin part)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 5	“A Song of Lamentation (for Violin, Viola, & Piano)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1963)
Folder 6	“The Soul of the Ch’In (Violin I Part, original and copy)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 7	“South Indian Temple Dance (Devadasi)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 8	“Spring Dance (arr. Er-Hu and Orchestra)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 9	“Sublimation (3 Scores)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1949)
Folder 10	“Raddha Krishna (Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1939)
Folder 11	“String Quartet (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 12	“Stroll in an Ancient Garden (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 13	“Stroll in an Ancient Garden (for Mixed Chorus)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 17	
Folder 1	“Summit Temple (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“Sword Dance (Parts & Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (1933)
Folder 3	“Sword Dance (Score & Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 4	“Symphony No. 1 (Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 5	“Symphony No. 1 (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 18	
Folder 1	“Symphony No. 2 (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“Three Songs (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 3	“Tsin Wing’s Last Words (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 4	“Tsun Wung’s Last Words (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 5	“Twilight Hour of Yang Kwei Fei (Corrected Sheets)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 6	“Two Chinese Art Songs (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 7	“Unnamed Dance (Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 8	“Usha (Dance) – Indian Dance (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 9	“Usha (for Small Orchestra)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 10	“Weeping Willow (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 11	“War God’s Dance for the 5 Planetary Deities (Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Box 19	
Folder 1	“Yang Kuei Fei (Piano Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 2	“Yang Kuei Fei (Full Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 3	“Yang Kuei Fei (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
Folder 4	“You and I (Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron (December 10, 1956)
Folder 5	“You Will Die (Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron

Series 2 – Aaron Avshalomov Manuscripts

Box 20

- Folder 1 “Adjanta (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 2 “A Stroll in an Ancient Garden (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 3 “Birth of a Flower (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 4 “Bow & Arrow Dance (Parts & Manuscripts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 5 “Bow & Arrow Dance (Parts & Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 6 “Bow & Arrow Dance (Parts & Manuscripts) “ – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 7 “By and By, You Will Die (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 8 “Chess Player (Manuscript Sketches)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 9 “Chinese Children at Play (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 10 “Chinese Fox Trots (Manuscript Scores & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 21

- Folder 1 “Desolation (Manuscript Scores & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 2 “General’s Defeat (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 3 “In A Garden – Gathering Flowers (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 4 “Indian Dance (Manuscript & Scores)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 5 “Indian Spring Dance (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 6 “Kwe Fei’s Song (Manuscript Scores)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 7 “Lantern Dance, Nocturne & Kwei Fei’s Lament (Manuscript & Part)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 8 “Marvari Gopi (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 9 “Paravati (Manuscript)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 10 “Poet’s Fancy (Manuscript)” – Avshalomov, Aaron

Box 22

- Folder 1 “Raddha Krishna (Manuscript)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 2 “Scattering the Flowers (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 3 “Slow Sword Dance/Sword Dance (Manuscript Score & Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 4 “Snan Lila (Manuscript Parts)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 5 “The Temple Bells (Sketches, Manuscript) – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 6 “Tsin Wung’s Last Words (Piano Version Score Manuscript)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 7 “Turandot – Incidental Music (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 8 “Usha (Manuscript Score)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 9 “Yang Kwei Fei – Dramatic Poem (Manuscript Scores)” – Avshalomov, Aaron
- Folder 10 “You and I (Manuscript)” – Avshalomov, Aaron

Subject Headings

- Avshalmov, Aaron, 1894-1965
- Composers--20th century--American
- Composers--20th century--Russian
- Opera--20th century
- Exoticism in music
- Music--Chinese influences

Related Collections

- Jacob Avshalomov scores (his son)
- American Composers Alliance official records (includes files pertaining to both Avshalomovs)