

Special Collections in Performing Arts  
University of Maryland Libraries

## Abstract

**Title:** Gregory Kosteck scores

**Author Creator:** Kosteck, Gregory

**Processed by:** Samantha Flores

**Date Processed:** August 2017

**Size:** Twelve scores (ten compositions)

**Inclusive Dates:** 1951 – 1986

**Bulk Dates:** 1960 – 1975

**Collection No.:** 2018-005-KOSTECK

**SCPA shelf location:** YY7-2-4

**Abstract:** Gregory Kosteck (1937 – 1991) a native of Plainfield, New Jersey, received his Bachelor of Music from the University of Maryland, and Masters of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Michigan where he studied with Leslie Bassett and Ross Lee Finney. He also studied privately with Ton de Leeuw in Amsterdam. Dr. Kosteck's awards include the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, three Horace Ruckham Fellowships, a Fulbright Fellowship, and a Ford Foundation Grant. He taught at Washington and Jefferson College, East Carolina University, Appalachian State University, and the University of Tennessee. Dr. Kosteck's list of compositions includes operas, orchestral works, and chamber music.

## Important Information for Users of the Collection

**Restrictions:** There are no restricted files in this collection.

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

**Publication Rights:** All copyright in these works remain with the composer and his heirs or assigns.

**Status:** This collection is PROCESSED

## Historical Note

Gregory Kosteck was born in 1937 in Plainfield, New Jersey to Ukranian immigrant parents. He attended the University of Maryland for his Bachelor's in Music (1959) before going to the University of Michigan for graduate studies. There, he received his Masters of Music (1961) and Doctor of Musical Aarts (1964), and also met his future wife Nancy Bender Kostek. As a graduate student Kosteck received the Horace

Rackham Fellowship, the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, and a Fulbright Fellowship for post-doctoral study in the Netherlands. In 1964-65 he was awarded a Ford Foundation Resident Artist Fellowship for a residency in the Norwalk, Connecticut school system through the Music Educators National Conference's Contemporary Music Project for Creativity in Music Education, Composers in Public Schools Program.

Kosteck was winner of successive prizes included the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds International Prize (Italy) (1965), Prix Internationale Reine Elizabeth de Belgique (Belgium) (1969), Concours Quatuor au Cordes Prix Internationale Liège (Belgium) (1972), Oscar Espla International Composition Award (Spain) (1976), an ISCM Award (1976), Harvey Gaul Opera Prize (1977), Costa Rica International Festival of Orchestral Music (1978), New York State Arts Council Award (1980), Wienawski International Composers' Competition (Poland) (1981) and an ASCAP Special Award (1982). He also received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1976.

Kosteck's music has been performed by the National Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Chamber & Symphony Orchestras, Polish National Radio Orchestra, Leningrad Philharmonic, Juneau Symphony Orchestra, Belgian National Radio Orchestra, Amadeus String Quartet, Manhattan String Quartet, Concord String Quartet, and Claremont String Quartet, among others. A brief glance at Kosteck's catalogue reveals a large number of compositions. Very few of his works have been recorded. Quite a few were published, of which some are still in print, including the Dutch Fantasy for Cello, Summer Music for Tenor Saxophone, Oboe and Clarinet, Mini-Variations for Tenor Saxophone and Piano, Counterpoint for Percussion Quartet and the Piano Sonata No. 2. Many of his unpublished manuscripts have been located, but the whereabouts of at least thirty-five other scores are still unknown.

In 1977 Dr. Kosteck retired from academia, and spent several years in New York as a free-lance composer and teacher, and moved to Florida in 1987. His compositional pace appears to have slowed in the late 1970s and virtually stopped by the mid-1980s, apart from a handful of pieces dating from 1983-84 and the Violin Concerto No. 2 and Piano Quintet, both dated 1986. Little is known for certain about this period of his life, but it is believed that by 1978 he had already developed the illness that led to his passing on December 27, 1991, at the age of 54.

The source for this collection, Dr. Joel Berman, was a Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the University of Maryland, College Park for over 30 years. He founded the University of Maryland Trio, which gave hundreds of performances from 1964 to 1980, commissioned and premiered new works, received three Creative Performing Arts Awards, and made recordings for Vox and Orion. He also performed with many other artists at the University of Maryland, including members of the Guarneri String Quartet. He was member of the American Camerata for New Music from 1974 to 2000 and was concertmaster and soloist for the Camerata from its inception. He has given solo and chamber music performances at venues including the Library of Congress, Town Hall, the National Gallery of Art, the Kennedy Center, Juilliard School of Music, the Corcoran Gallery, the Phillips Collection, the Smithsonian Institution, the Renwick Gallery, and the National Academy of Sciences, and he has performed a wide range of concerti with many orchestras. As a recording artist, he has appeared on the AmCam, Smithsonian, Orion, Vox, Columbia, and CRI labels. As a member of the Beethoven-to-Bartók String Quartet, Dr. Berman presented numerous performance/lecture series featuring all of the Beethoven string quartets, the Bartók string quartets, and numerous 19th century string quartets, quintets, and sextets. Dr. Berman studied at the Juilliard School of Music, Columbia University, and the University of Michigan.

## Scope and Contents of Collection

This collection consists of ten Greg Kosteck compositions that SCPA's curator found in a "Free" pile outside of UMD's School of Music office. The scores include facsimile editions of Kostek's compositions, as well as published editions. Pieces include dedications to wife, Joel Berman, and friends.

## Custodial History and Acquisition Information

Based on other documents found with the scores, these appear to have belonged to Joel Berman, a former violin professor at the University of Maryland. Many, if not all, appear to have been sent to Berman from Kostek. They were attained by SCPA's curator on 4 August 2017.

## Arrangement of Collection

This collection is organized into one series.

- Series 1: Scores

## Series Description

### Series 1: Scores, 1951-1986

This series includes ten compositions by Kostek. The scores include facsimile editions of Kostek's compositions, as well as published editions.

Title	Date	Instrumentation	Notes
Piano Quintet: <i>To The Memory of Beloved Friend</i>	1951-1986	2Vln, Vla, Vc, Pf	
<i>"The Nightengale and the Moon"</i> for elementary string player and grad-school treble chorus	1970	10Vln-I, 10Vln-II, 8Vlas, 10Vc, Pf, Treble Chorus (at least 30 voices)	Composed for the Greenville, NC string project in the public schools and dedicated to: Rodney Schmidt
Concerto for Cello, Sixteen Solo Strings and Harp	1982	Solo Vc, 8Vln, 3Vla, 3Vc, 2Cb, Hp	Composed in honor of my wife, Virginia, on occasion of our eight Wedding Anniversary (June 28, 1982); Keyboard Reduction Score; <i>"To Joel and Alice with love, Greg and Ginna Kostek"</i>
String Quartet no. 4	1971	2Vn, Vla, Vc	Dedicated to the Stanley Quartet
String Quartet no. 5	1974	2Vln, Vla, Vc	Two copies. Commissioned by and composed especially for the Manhattan String Quartet.
Sonata for Violin and Piano	1964	Vln, Pf	Two copies. Dedicated to Joel Berman.

String Trio	1965	Vln, Vla, VC	Composed and dedicated to the University of Connecticut Resident String Trio
"Textures" for Men's Voices	1970	vv	Commissioned by and dedicated to the East Carolina University Men's Glee Club (Brett Kosteck, director)
Violin Concerto	1975	Vln, Pf	"To Ginnor"
Dutch Phantasy for Unaccompanied Cello	1963	Vc	Dedicated to the United States Education Foundation in the Netherlands

## Related Material

For other related archival and manuscript collections, please see:

Contemporary Music Project records, 1959-1973, Special Collections in Performing Arts,  
<http://hdl.handle.net/1903.1/3023>.