

University of Toronto Music Library



Theodore Thomas collection
CA OTUFM 09

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Theodore Thomas

1935-1905

Thomas, Theodore (1835-1905), formed his own orchestra in 1862 and gave concerts in many American cities, always including some unfamiliar work. He conducted the New York Philharmonic 1877–1891, and was the first conductor of the Chicago Symphony 1891–1905.

Ezra Schabas

1900-1971

Prof. Ezra Schabas was born in New York and received his Diploma in Clarinet (1943) and Bachelor of Science (1948) from the Juillard School. In 1949, he received his Master of Arts from Columbia University. He also studied at the Conservatoire de Nancy, and the Fontainebleau School for the Arts in France between 1945 and 1950. After several appointments at American universities (1948-1952), he joined the staff of the Royal Conservatory of Music as Director of Concerts and Publicity where he arranged concerts for leading young artists across Canada. During the 1950s he was active as a clarinetist and conductor and managed music at the Stratford Festival (1958 and 1961). In 1960 he joined the staff of the Faculty of Music as Special Lecturer, becoming Associate Professor in 1961 and Professor in 1968. From 1978 to 1983, he was Principal of the Royal Conservatory of Music. Prof. Schabas retired as Professor Emeritus in 1985.

Theodore Thomas collection

Date range: [ca. 1970-1991]

Extent: 60 cm of textual records and other materials (5 boxes)

Collection contains correspondence, copies of sources, notes, illustrations, photographs, microfilms, and other working papers for Ezra Schabas's book Theodore Thomas : America's conductor and builder of orchestras, 1835-1905 (University of Indiana Press, 1989). The collection also contains articles and lecture notes for presentations written by Schabas about Thomas.

Series A: Chronological research files

Dates: [before 1989]

Extent: 26 cm of textual records

Series consists of chronological research files. Some of the files include tables of contents, which index the notes, clippings, and copies of material relating to Theodore Thomas's career included in the file.

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
1	Research notes : 1835-1865	[before 1989]	Box 1
2	Research notes : 1866-1868	[before 1989]	Box 1
3	Research notes : 1869-1871	[before 1989]	Box 1
4	Research notes : 1872-1874	[before 1989]	Box 1
5	Research notes : 1875-1876	[before 1989]	Box 1
6	Research notes : 1877-1878	[before 1989]	Box 1
7	Research notes : 1879-1880	[before 1989]	Box 1
8	Research notes : 1881-1882	[before 1989]	Box 1
9	Research notes : 1883-1884	[before 1989]	Box 2
10	Research notes : 1885-1886	[before 1989]	Box 2
11	Research notes : 1887-1888	[before 1989]	Box 2
12	Research notes : 1889-1891	[before 1989]	Box 2
13	Research notes : 1892	[before 1989]	Box 2
14	Research notes : 1893	[before 1989]	Box 2
15	Research notes : 1894	[before 1989]	Box 2
16	Research notes : 1895	[before 1989]	Box 2
17	Research notes : 1896	[before 1989]	Box 2

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
18	Research notes : 1897	[before 1989]	Box 2
19	Research notes : 1898	[before 1989]	Box 2
20	Research notes : 1899	[before 1989]	Box 2
21	Research notes : 1900	[before 1989]	Box 2
22	Research notes : 1901	[before 1989]	Box 2
23	Research notes : 1902	[before 1989]	Box 2
24	Research notes : 1903	[before 1989]	Box 2
25	Research notes : 1904	[before 1989]	Box 2

Series B: Research files by topic or library

Dates: [before 1989]

Extent: 13 cm of textual records

Series contains miscellaneous research files created and gathered by Ezra Schabas in the production of his biography of Theodore Thomas. The series also includes copies of three articles written by Schabas on Thomas, prior to the publication of the biography.

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
26	German letters : Felsengarten collection	[before 1989]	Box 3
27	Correspondence regarding World's Columbian Exposition	[before 1989]	Box 3
28	Letters in Newberry catalogue and translations	[before 1989]	Box 3
29	Photographs of Theodore Thomas	[before 1989]	Box 3
30	Transparencies of photographs and prints	[before 1989]	Box 3
31	Draft of endnotes	[before 1989]	Box 3
32	Notes from readings : A to P	[before 1989]	Box 3

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
33	Notes from readings : Q to Z	[before 1989]	Box 3
34	Whistler excerpts	[before 1989]	Box 3
35	Theodore Thomas annotations on scores	[before 1989]	Box 4
65	Theodore Thomas : American conductor	1973	Box 5
66	Theodore Thomas : Chicago's first conductor	1988	Box 5
67	Theodore Thomas and the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition	1982	Box 5
68	Theodore Thomas	1989	Box 5

Series C: Correspondence regarding participation and promotion of biography

Dates: [before 1989]

Extent: 13 cm of textual records

Series contains correspondence dealing with the preparation and promotion of the Thomas biography, including correspondence with those who assisted Ezra Schabas in the research, writing, and publication process, and on other related matters.

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
36	Mary Adams, publicity director, University of Illinois Press	[before 1989]	Box 4
37	*American Studies* journal	[before 1989]	Box 4
38	Theodore Thomas in Canada	[before 1989]	Box 4
39	Canada Council and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council	[before 1989]	Box 4
40	Theodore Thomas in Chicago : miscellaneous correspondence	[before 1989]	Box 4
41	Chicago Historical Society	[before 1989]	Box 4

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
42	Chicago Symphony	1974-1990	Box 4
43	Cincinnati	[before 1989]	Box 4
44	Columbia University Library	[before 1989]	Box 4
45	Conductors' Guild	[before 1991]	Box 4
46	Fay family : documentation of their origins and background	[before 1989]	Box 4
47	Thomas family	[before 1989]	Box 4
48	Lee Freeman	[before 1989]	Box 4
49	Fundraising : correspondence with foundations	[before 1989]	Box 4
50	Isabella S. Gardner Museum	[before 1989]	Box 4
51	Phillip Hart : Thomas scholar	[before 1989]	Box 4
52	H. Wiley Hitchcock	[before 1989]	Box 4
53	Joe Horowitz	[before 1989]	Box 4
54	Library of Congress	[before 1989]	Box 4
55	Ann McKinley : Thomas scholar	[before 1989]	Box 4
56	Miscellaneous correspondence	[before 1989]	Box 4
57	Newberry Library	[before 1989]	Box 4
58	New York Philharmonic Society	[before 1989]	Box 4
59	New York Public Library	[before 1989]	Box 4
60	Publisher's correspondence	[before 1989]	Box 4
61	T.C. Russell : Thomas scholar	[before 1989]	Box 5

Identifier	Title	Date	Location
62	Norman Schweikert : CSO and orchestra scholar	[before 1989]	Box 5
63	Valerie Solti	[before 1989]	Box 5
64	Louis Sudler	[before 1989]	Box 5

Series D: Microfilms

Date: [before 1989]

Extent: 20 microfilm reels

Series consists of microfilm copies of scrapbooks, correspondence, and programs relating to Theodore Thomas's career, which Ezra Schabas used for the biography *Theodore Thomas : America's conductor and builder of orchestras, 1835-1905*.

Identifier	Title	Extent	Date	Location
1	Theodore Thomas's complete concert programs from the early 1850s until 1903	10 reels	[before 1989]	Box 5
2	Chicago Symphony Scrapbooks : 1894-1907	2 reels	[before 1989]	Box 5
3	Theodore Thomas press book and World's Columbian Exposition material	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5
4	A complete set of Newberry letters	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5
5	Miscellaneous letters, Felsengarten material, photo library	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5
6	Jeanette Thurber's scrapbooks : 1886-1888	2 reels	[before 1989]	Box 5
7	Theodore Thomas correspondence regarding withdrawal from Cincinnati College of Music	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5

Identifier	Title	Extent	Date	Location
8	Official report of the Bureau of Music : World's Columbian Exposition 1893	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5
9	Fred H. Gleason scrapbooks and press book for the Chicago Symphony	1 reel	[before 1989]	Box 5
