Guides to Special Collections
in the Music Division of the Library of Congress

HERBERT L. KIRK
COLLECTION

Finding aid URL: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu2005.wp.0016


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Introduction

The Herbert L. Kirk Collection consists mostly of material relating to his biography of Pablo Casals, *Casals* [Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1974]. In his will Kirk directed "that the research files, documentation, photographs, and archives built up during the writing of my biography of Pablo Casals go the Music Division of the Library of Congress." At his death, his wishes were made known to the division which agreed to accept this material. In addition, certain non-Casals items were included, possibly inadvertently. The collection was received in 1995.

Certain restrictions as to the use or copying of the materials in this collection may apply. Consult a Reference Librarian in the Music Division for further permission information.

Processed by Stefan Patejak, Processing Technician.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 19
Approximate number of items: 1500
Number of containers: 46
Biographical Note

Herbert L. Kirk was a professional writer and editor when he first met Pablo Casals in 1960. In his own words, "my first reaction was veneration." They became close friends and in 1966 Casals invited Kirk to write an authorized biography. Kirk was given extensive access to Casals and his records. The book was finished in 1973 within hours of Casals' death. In his will Kirk left his research material and certain related items to the Library of Congress.

Herbert L. Kirk was born in Orlando, Florida, on July 26, 1926. He studied at Wake Forest College, Columbia University, and New York University. He pursued a career in publishing and held executive positions at Prentice-Hall, Ronald Press, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Macmillan, and Hill & Wang. He headed H. L. Kirk Associates, a small editorial consulting firm, and served as an advisory editor for McGraw-Hill.

Although Mr. Kirk never studied the cello, he was an accomplished amateur pianist and very knowledgeable about classical music. He first met Pablo Casals in 1960. He came to know Casals well during the time that the cellist was associated with the Marlboro Festival in Vermont. Kirk had a summer house in nearby Jacksonville. They became close friends and in 1966 Casals invited Kirk to write an authorized biography. Kirk was given extensive access to Casals and his records. The book was finished in 1973, within hours of Casals' death. It was his only notable published work.

Kirk died on October 31, 1994. In his will Kirk left his research material and certain related items to the Library of Congress.
**Scope and Content Note**

Herbert L. Kirk is best known in the field of musicology as the author of *Casals* [Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1974], the authorized biography of Pablo Casals. The bulk of the material in the Kirk collection concerns this book, either various drafts of the work or material gathered in researching the subject.

The correspondence is divided into Casals correspondence and Kirk correspondence. Kirk and Casals were closely associated for 13 years and during this time they became close friends. The correspondence between them reflects this. The remainder of the Casals correspondence consists mostly of photocopies of letters to and from Sir Donald Tovey and others. The remaining Kirk correspondence is, in large part, letters to and from his editor, his agent, and with several people involved in making documentaries on Pablo Casals. There is also a small amount of unidentified correspondence, mostly poor quality photocopies.

The extensive collection of photographs includes pictures of Casals over the course of his life (as well as of his relatives, associates, houses, awards, pets, and so on). Many of the photos of Casals in his later life were evidently taken by Kirk. There are also pictures of Kirk, some with Casals, and Kirk's relatives. It has not been possible to identify all of the people in the photographs. In addition there is a complete set of illustrations for the book.

There is a considerable quantity of material gathered by Kirk in the course of his research. These include programs of Casals' performances, a small selection of Casals' business and legal papers, etc. When the collection was received there were a number of files containing research material of various types. These files were kept intact under the category "Research Material." There are extensive notes that Kirk took in the course of his research. There are also newspaper clippings, magazine articles, and books about Casals and related subjects.

Much of the collection consists of the various drafts of the book's text and of front and back matter. There are differing versions of the manuscript, both in typed and photocopied form. There are also galleys, proofs, corrections, and other material.

There are three posters, realia (two medals and a pipe), and miscellaneous items.

A group 100 of audio tapes and 1 videotape of concerts, documentaries, and interviews have been transferred to MBRS.
Description of Series

Correspondence (3 boxes).
1-3 The correspondence is divided into a "Casals" section and a "Kirk" section. The Casals section includes correspondence between Kirk and Casals over their long association. It also contains letters that Kirk gathered from various sources for his research. Most of these are photocopies. The Kirk correspondence is mostly business correspondence, concerning the biography or various other projects about Pablo Casals. There is also a selection of acknowledgments from persons who received presentation copies of the book. Included are letters from a number of notable figures.

Photographs (11 boxes).
4-11 The large collection of photographs is mostly material that Kirk gathered for his research. It includes pictures of Casals throughout his life as well as related subjects. Many of the pictures of Casals in his later life were evidently taken by Kirk and show an informal side of Casals not evident in the earlier photographs. There are also pictures of other people, either with Casals or alone. These include obscure as well as important persons, ranging from Elizabeth, Queen of the Belgians, to Ravi Shankar.

Programs (3 boxes).
12-13 The programs cover a selection of performances by Casals throughout his lengthy career. These cover a period from 1891 through 1976. Most are photocopies, but there are some originals.

Pablo Casals Papers (1 box).
14 The Casals papers are a miscellaneous group of material concerning Pablo Casals. There is a small selection of legal and business papers, mostly photocopies. There are transcripts of interviews that Kirk had with Casals. There are copies of lessons Casals gave. There are chronologies of Casals’ career, photocopies of some of his musical compositions, scripts for documentaries, materials relating to his relationship with the United Nations, and other material.

Casals Material (20 boxes).
15-34 Book material consists of various textual material for the book. There are typed manuscripts of the book's text as well as annotated photocopies. There are galleys, proofs, and corrections. There is also material relating to the front matter, back matter, and the dust jacket.

Research Material (3 boxes)
35-37 Research material is information that Kirk gathered to write the book. Kirk organized this material by theme, and that organization has been maintained. Included are correspondence and clippings as well as maps, brochures, booklets, and other printed matter.

Research Notes (2 boxes)
37-38 Research notes are notes that Kirk wrote down in the course of his research. Included is a section of index cards.
Clippings (1 box)
These are newspaper clippings that Kirk gathered on Casals and related subjects. They cover a period from 1890 through 1976. The rarer ones have been photocopied.

Magazines and Magazine Articles (1 box)
These are magazines and articles that Kirk gathered in the course of his research for the book.

Realia (1 box)
This consists of two souvenir medals from Casals Festivals and a pipe that Casals gave to Kirk.

Scrapbook (1 box)
This is a selection of reviews of the book, Casals, that were collected in a scrapbook.

Books (28 volumes)
This is a group of books about Pablo Casals that Kirk collected in the course of his research. It included a number of rare items not otherwise available in the Library of Congress. These have been added to the general collection or, in the case of duplicates, disposed of. There are also a number of volumes presented to Kirk and inscribed by their authors. These have been retained, along with Kirk’s annotated working copy of Casals.

Posters.
There are three posters for Casals performances.

Kirk Business Papers (1 box).
These business papers include a small selection of material relating to the writing of the book and other activities.

Miscellaneous (1 folder)
This is mostly material that is unrelated to Casals.

Audio and Video Tapes.
This a group of tapes that Kirk made in the course of his research. They include Casals’ performances and interviews. The titles have been transcribed from the cassettes or containers.
### Container List

**PAPERS OF HERBERT L. KIRK: CORRESPONDENCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1          | Casals, Pablo and Marta  
              Herbert L. Kirk  
              Donald Tovey (photocopies)  
              others (mostly photocopies) |
| 2          | Kirk, Herbert, L,  
              BBC and related material  
              Brandt & Brandt  
              Friends of Puerto Rico  
              Holt, Rinehart and Winston  
              Eugene and Marta Istomin and related material  
              Robert Snyder  
              Others: A-E  
              Others: F-Z |
| 3          | Acknowledgments to Kirk  
              Other correspondents |

### PHOTOGRAPHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casals, Pablo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4            | Alone  
              With Marta Casals  
              Other family members |
| 5            | At cello alone  
              At cello with Marta Casals  
              At cello with others  
              At piano  
              Conducting |
| 6            | With notables  
              With others |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casals, Marta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 7            | Artwork  
              Cello  
              Documents  
              Exteriors  
              Interiors  
              People  
              Composers and musicians  
              Royalty  
              Others  
              Miscellaneous subjects  
              Slides of Casals  
              Slides of Kirk and of miscellaneous subjects |

| 8-10 | Casals (book) illustrations  
        and related material |
| 11   | Contact sheets |
| 44   | Oversized |
| 45,46| Negatives [not to be served] |
PHOTOGRAPHS

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PROGRAMS

12,13  1891-1976

PAPERS OF HERBERT L. KIRK: PABLO CASALS' PAPERS

14  Casals' business and legal papers
    Interviews with Casals
    Casals' lessons
    Chronologies
    Music
    Scripts
    United Nations- printed material
    Other Casals material

CASALS (BOOK) MATERIAL

15-19  Typed text manuscripts and fragments
20-27  Photocopied text manuscripts and fragments
28,29  Galleys
30-32  Proofs
33     Acknowledgements
       Appendix 1 - discography
       Appendix 2 - honors and awards
       Bibliography
       Captions
       Corrections
34     Footnotes
       Index
       Jacket
       Outline
       Preface
       Table of contents

RESEARCH MATERIAL

35-37

RESEARCH NOTES

37-38
CLIPPINGS

Box

39

1890-1976, N. D.

MAGAZINES AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES

40

REALIA

41

SCRAPBOOK

42

POSTERS

map
case

PAPERS OF HERBERT L. KIRK: BOOKS (THOSE ON SHELF IN BOLD)

Conte, Arthur. La légende de Pablo Casals. Perpignan, Éditiones proa, 1950; inscribed by author.
Llonqueras, Joan, Joan Ramon, Maria Carratalà. Pau Casals. Barcelona: Libreira verdaguer, 1927.
PAPERS OF HERBERT L. KIRK: BOOKS (THOSE ON SHELF IN BOLD)

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<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

KIRK BUSINESS PAPERS

43

MISCELLANEOUS

43

AUDIO AND VIDEO TAPES

transferred
to MBRS