

# Baseball operas and marching bands

The Collection of US 20th-Century Music  
at the Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin

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Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin (ZLB) =  
Central and State library Berlin: [www.zlb.de](http://www.zlb.de)

Largest public library in Germany

Holdings of 3,4 million items, 3,3 million lendings (2014)

Berlin State Library: Legal repository for all printed publications, sound recordings and DVDs of Berlin

Founded in 1995 out of the merger of the Berliner Stadtbibliothek in the eastern part and the Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek in the western part of Berlin

# Formation of the ZLB 1995-1998:

The merger of the two libraries was organized by subjects:

## Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek:

humanities section, fiction, fine arts, film, music, childrens library

## Berliner Stadtbibliothek:

natural sciences, medicine, economics, Senatsbibliothek, Berlin-Studien and historical collections

Until today several plans to consolidate the library at one location failed ...

# ZLB Music division

The music collection of the Berliner Stadtbibliothek moved from east to west – to Berlin-Kreuzberg, to be merged with the music collection of the Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek at this site – now one of the biggest public music libraries in Germany

- :: 95,000 volumes of printed music
- :: 73,000 Vinyls
- :: 53,000 Compact discs, ... music-dvds
- :: 39,000 books on music
- :: historical collections of 78s, wax cylinders, sheet music
- :: 81 music journals (subscriptions)

## Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek = American Memorial Library

- :: Opened 1954 in a new building
- :: Co-financed by a donation from the United States
- :: Important contribution to reeducation in Germany
- :: In 1954 the most modern public library in Europe
- :: New for german library patrons: free access to the shelves, free access to information, large holdings of non-fiction
- :: Very popular and successful library > soon too small for all visitors
- :: Plans for an extension in the 1980s failed



# Collection of US 20th century music – Development 1968-1982

- :: 12.06.1968 Ceremonial act with US-Ambassador Brewster Morris:
- :: Donation from the United States Information Agency – 2.587 musical scores from US-composers
- :: To Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek because of the relevance of it's music department
- :: Further gifts of printed music and vinyls from several US-Institutions until 1982
- :: Intention: to make modern music from the US more known in Germany

# Provenance and size of the collection

- :: Materials from Interalliierte Musik-Leihbibliothek (Interallied Music Lending Library) founded 1946 in Berlin and continued 1948 as „Internationale Musikbibliothek“ (with russian and east-european materials only)
- :: Materials from various American information facilities in Germany, for ex. Amerika-Haus Berlin
- :: Complimentary copies from the music publishers Peters, New York from 1970-1982
- :: Reconstruction of provenance is possible due to several stamps
- :: 16,303 volumes of printed music and 1,700 vinyl records



# Content of the Collection (1)

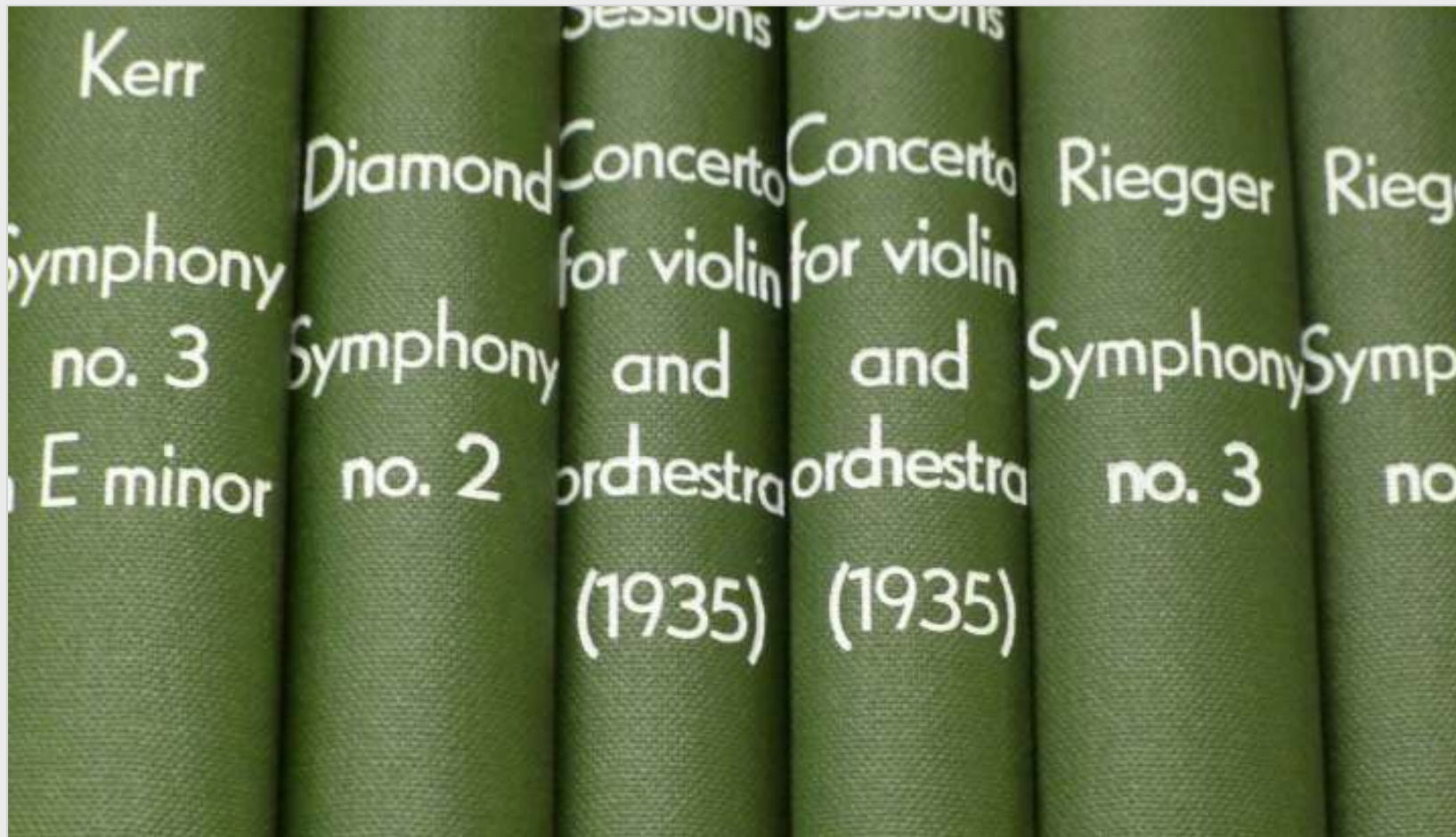
- :: All genres of american music from the origins in the 18th century until the 1970s
- :: Focus on classical music between 1900 and 1950
- :: Sheet music section contains mostly printed music, some handwritten copies
- :: Vocal music: Art songs, Folk songs, Choir music, Spirituals, Operas, Musicals
- :: Instrumental music: Chamber music, Orchestral music, Electronical music, Concerts and Band music
- :: Formats: Very often conductor's scores and performance material / orchestral parts

## Content of the Collection (2)

- :: More than 400 different composers
- :: for ex. Barber, Bernstein, Cage, Carter, Copland, Cowell, Crumb, Gershwin, Ives, Nancarrow, Schuller, Sessions, Wuorinen and a lot of less known names
- :: Female composers: Amy Beach, Ursula Mamlok, Ruth Schonthal
- :: Exile composers from Germany and Austria: Schönberg, Toch, Weill, Wolpe (but not Korngold and Eisler)

# Cataloging of the Collection (1)

- :: Shelfmark-system based on the system of the Interalliierte Musikleihbibliothek
- :: ordered by genres L = Lied, NSP = Negro Spiritual, Op = Opera, BM = Band music etc.
- :: Original Shelfmarks have not been changed and were implemented in the ZLB-System and Catalog-Software





# Cataloging of the collection (2)

- :: Only around 400 titles in the online catalog  
[www.voebb.de](http://www.voebb.de)
- :: „Cataloging on demand“ – no priority at the moment
- :: Image-Catalog of the card catalogs  
<http://ipac.zlb.de/search.php?CatalogName=&CatalogCategory=musik>

USA-Musikalien - Alphabetischer Katalog

Neue Suche    Übersichtsliste    IPAC Startseite

Der Index enthält nur die Einträge jeder 50. Karte! Wählen Sie bitte den Eintrag aus, der Ihrem Suchbegriff alphabetisch am nächsten ist, und blättern Sie dann in die 1, 5, 20 oder 100 vorwärts oder rückwärts.

Navigation: <<-100 <<-20 <<-5 <-1    Drucken    +1 +5 +20 +>>100

No/ USA - Op. 10

Schuman, William

The Mighty Casey (A Baseball Opera)  
2 Ex.

New York: G. Schirmer

Aufsatzpunkt: "Schuman, William"

# Access to the collection

- :: All materials in the stacks
- :: Vinyls only for listening in the reading room
- :: Sheet music mostly for borrowing





# Who is interested in the collection?

## :: Musicians

- :: Axel Bauni and his class from the Universität der Künste Berlin (songs from Gian Carlo Menotti, Theodore Chanler, Ned Rorem, Virgil Thompson)
- :: Sonar Quartett (Roger Sessions)

## :: Broadcasting

- :: RIAS radio program of Minstrel songs from Stephen Foster

## :: Musicologists

- :: Hermann Danuser: „Amerikanische Musik seit Charles Ives“, Laaber 1987
- :: Wolfgang Rathert „Charles Ives“, Darmstadt 1989
- :: Elmar Juchem, Kurt Weill Foundation, preparing the volume „Lady in the dark“ for the Kurt Weill Edition

# Bibliographical Information

## Sean Nowak:

Die USA-Sammlung der Musikabteilung der Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Interalliierten Musik-Leihbibliothek. Master Thesis at the Humboldt University Berlin 2006. With english abstract and free online:

<http://www.ib.hu-berlin.de/~kumlau/handreichungen/h191/>

## Susanne Hein:

Von Baseball-Opern und Marching-Bands – die USA-Sammlung der Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin

In: Musiksammlungen in den Regionalbibliotheken Deutschlands, Österreichs und der Schweiz. Frankfurt: Klostermann, 2015.

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OP 10  
**THE MIGHTY CASEY**



LIBRETTO BY  
**JEREMY GURY**

MUSIC BY  
**WILLIAM SCHUMAN**

G. SCHIRMER

NEW YORK

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[www.zlb.de/fachinformation/spezialbereiche/musikbibliothek.html](http://www.zlb.de/fachinformation/spezialbereiche/musikbibliothek.html)