

A nation in concert: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio Program Archives as a narrative of local music history

---

**Presenters:**

Houman Behzadi, Head Librarian,  
Marvin Duchow Music Library

Wednesday, August 2, 2023, 9:00 – 10:30

International Association of Music Libraries,  
Archives and Documentation Centres Congress  
Cambridge, UK, July 30 – August 4, 2023



**Houman Behzadi** (McGill University, Montreal)

A nation in concert: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio Program Archives as a narrative of local music history

Good morning and thank you for being here! As the title of my presentation suggests, I'll discuss how a national radio music broadcast archive can offer valuable insights into local music history. The impetus for my work on this topic is an archival collection of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Montreal branch, of which we have been custodians since early 2022. This has been my first time working with a radio music archive, so besides learning about the content of the collection, I've been thinking and reading about the overall value of radio music collections, both for general inquiry and specific research projects.

(Abstract: In early 2022, the Marvin Duchow Music Library of McGill University received the archives of several CBC Montreal Radio Music programs produced chiefly by Radio Host and Producer Kelly Rice. Some of the collection's most frequently represented programs are 'Music from Montreal', 'Quebec in Concert', and 'In Performance', all drawing from musical events in Montreal and surrounding areas,

ranging from the early 1990s through 2012. Together, the different programs are comprised of approximately 700 individual broadcasts, each manifested by a folder of textual materials (including background research, concert programmes, production sheets, correspondence, etc.), and in most cases by a sound recording of the broadcast (mainly CDs, but also cassette tapes and 1/4-inch reel to reel tape). Rice and the other producers featured local festivals (e.g., Festival Bach Montréal and Montreal International Jazz Festival), local concert series (e.g., McGill University's concert series, Ladies' Morning Music Club, and Lakeshore Chamber Music Society), notable Quebecois and Canadian ensembles (e.g., I Musici de Montréal, Adaskin trio, St. Lawrence String Quartet, and Canadian Chamber Choir), and prominent Canadian soloists including Karina Gauvin, Matt Haimovitz, Angela Hewitt, Marie-Nicole Lemieux, and Anton Kuerti. Martha Argerich, Ivry Gitlis, Till Fellner, and Wiener Klaviertrio are among the international figures represented in the collection. But how could the archive serve future researchers? Besides the recordings of the performances themselves, what can be gleaned from the study of two decades of radio programming activity?

In this presentation, I will discuss how this cultural heritage collection provides a unique narrative in conjunction with the Quebec musical scene at large, and how it offers a snapshot of many music organizations and concert series active in Montreal and other Quebec locations. Select source materials within the collection also document a chapter of the Schulich School of Music's artistic history, for example, a significant number of the broadcasts were recorded in the School's concert halls and feature many former and current faculty members. Furthermore, a review of the fonds reveals McGill faculty members' collaborations amongst each other as well as with non-McGill performing artists. Lastly, I will showcase how the associated radio producers invited the Canadian audiences to experience an important aspect of Quebec's musical life through the curated broadcast series.)



## Acknowledgements

---

- Melissa Pipe, Senior Documentation Technician, Marvin Duchow Music Library
- Anna Dysert, Associate Librarian, Collection Services
- Manuel Lopez Tovar, Graduate Student Assistant, Marvin Duchow Music Library
- Sofie Tsatas, Senior Reference Assistance and Cataloguing Editor, Marvin Duchow Music Library

First though, I'd like to mention that this presentation has benefited from the work and expertise of a number of colleagues at the McGill University Library. I'd like to thank Melissa Pipe, Anna Dysert, Manuel Lopez Tovar, and Sofie Tsatas for their contributions towards the description of the CBC Montreal Radio Music Broadcasts Archive.

# Outline

---

- Context
- Uses of radio broadcast archives in research and interdisciplinary studies
- A unique narrative
- Descriptive scheme and content of the Archive
- Next steps
- Questions and comments

To go over the outline of my presentation,

- I'll begin by giving the context around the transfer of the Archive to the Marvin Duchow Music Library.
- I'll then discuss the research potential and interdisciplinarity of radio music broadcast archives.
- Following that, I'll go over the collection's unique and multi-layered narrative, and will highlight its references to an important subculture in Montreal.
- Next, I'll talk about our descriptive work, and will provide an overview of the prevalent document types in the Archive.
- Lastly, I'll mention the next steps of the work on the Archive, and in the end, there will be a few minutes for any questions and comments.



## Context

---



CBC Music is an FM radio network operating under the larger Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Launched in 1946, it was formerly known as CBC Radio 2, CBC Stereo, and CBC FM. For its first six or so decades, the Radio 2 programming focused mainly on classical music, opera, jazz, and theatre. Canada's more recent history though has been one of an increasingly multicultural nation, which is why in 2007, Radio 2 announced the move towards more diverse programming despite major opposition from classical music communities, and even a few politicians. Classical music programming was then reduced from 12 to 5 hours daily in favour of additional jazz, world, and popular music programming.

Technological advances over the last two decades have also changed the circumstances at the CBC headquarters. Where in the past producers worked mainly from on-site studios, many are now carrying their duties from home.

In 2016, CBC/Radio-Canada sold its Montreal headquarters and announced plans to move into a new facility that would be constructed in its eastern parking lot.

References:

- <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/cbc-has-sold-its-montreal-headquarters-1.3174442>
- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. (2023). In *Wikipedia*.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Canadian\\_Broadcasting\\_Corporation&oldid=1151795099](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Canadian_Broadcasting_Corporation&oldid=1151795099)



Their new building, smaller in size, was ready in 2021. It was in November of that year, and only a few days from the full evacuation of the old building, that Kelly Rice, both former McGill Music Development Officer and former Producer and Radio Host at CBC Montreal contacted me to discuss the faith of the archive of CBC Montreal Radio Music Broadcasts. Kelly was hoping that that the Marvin Duchow Music Library would be interested in the Archive given its strong ties to the McGill faculty and performance venues.

Sources:

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1886431811555>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/maison-radio-canada-cbc-montreal-new-building-1.3865642>



## Visit to CBC Montreal

Noting the urgency of this decision, I went with Kelly to the nearly-vacant CBC Montreal department in order to see and evaluate the offering. As shown on this slide, the collection was relatively modest in size, comprised of 14 banker's boxes of textual, and of roughly nine boxes of audiovisual material.

While randomly examining several folders, it became evident that I had come across a collection of local source materials, offering insights into a subculture in Quebec and beyond. Given the archive's manageable size, inclusion of audio components, representation of our local and institutional history, and its potential for teaching and research at the Schulich School of Music, I deemed it a valuable addition to the Music Library's Archives. The collection was transferred to us in two shipments in December 2021 and February of 2022; work on the textual materials began almost a year later in early 2023, and we've just finished the Archive's description at the broadcast level. More on description later in my presentation ...

## Uses of broadcast archives for research and interdisciplinary studies

---

I'd like to spend a few minutes discussing the value of broadcast archives for research and scholarship. I'll also discuss a few potential uses of broadcast material for teaching, specifically at the Schulich School of Music.

*“When the purpose of the research is history, the researcher is challenged to amass a body of evidence sufficient to support the facts and the researcher’s historical interpretation of events. In the case of critical historiographies, the broadcast scholar’s investigative efforts may warrant what could be a particularly novel or heretofore discounted point of view. These tasks become all the more daunting when one recognizes that there is considerable scholarly skepticism against using broadcast materials as the basis for strong historical arguments.” (pp. 493-94)*

Source: Godfrey, D. G. (2002). Broadcast Archives for Historical Research: Revisiting the Historical Method. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 46(3), 493–503. [https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603_10)

In his paper titled Broadcast Archives for Historical Research, Donald G. Godfrey examines the challenges associated with broadcast archives as a vehicle for fact-based historical investigation. Godfrey says QUOTE “When the purpose of the research is history, the researcher is challenged to amass a body of evidence sufficient to support the facts and the researcher’s historical interpretation of events. In the case of critical historiographies, the broadcast scholar’s investigative efforts may warrant what could be a particularly novel or heretofore discounted point of view. These tasks become all the more daunting when one recognizes that there is considerable scholarly skepticism against using broadcast materials as the basis for strong historical arguments.” AND QUOTE (pp. 493-94)

Source: Godfrey, D. G. (2002). Broadcast Archives for Historical Research: Revisiting the Historical Method. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 46(3), 493–503. [https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603_10)

# Challenges

---



Dubious historical  
information



Validity of broadcasts  
as primary sources



Primary purpose of  
broadcasting?

Godfrey further identifies a number of issues that have been traditionally associated with broadcast archives including:

1. Presence of dubious historical information resulted by dramatizing the events, or by including anecdotal information that lack depth or factual reference;
2. Skepticism around the validity of broadcasts as primary sources for historical research; and
3. Skepticism around value of broadcast sources for historical research given the primary purpose of broadcasting is **not** history. In fact, the presentation of history could be deemed dull when the primary goal is to attract a larger audience. Hence, similar to entertainment media, broadcasts have the potential to blur the demarcation between fact-based and commercially-driven narratives.

What Godfrey mentions is particularly true when it comes to news or other sociopolitical content where the researcher must be hyper-aware of context and vigilant to cross-check the information gleaned from the archive by using alternative sources or methods.

But the author also adds that traditional historians might have prematurely dismissed

the whole genre and, the [quote and quote] "historical intrigue" that can stem from the study of broadcast archives. He further argues that these historians have shied away from conducting research on broadcast archives as the investigative work requires an understanding of the technological and creative processes used to curate the broadcast content.

Source: Ibid.



## Opportunities

- Interplay of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources
- Context matters: Technological and creative processes
- Distinguishing the original evidence from the “constructed” narrative
- Cross-referencing: Use of other evidence to validate the broadcast information

Working with the CBC Montreal collection, I can see the historical intrigue that Godfrey suggests to be particularly relevant in radio music archives, especially those that contain both broadcast recordings and broadcast support documents. In these collections, one could expect to find the co-existence and interplay of primary, secondary, and tertiary source materials. Besides the recordings, the broadcast materials can provide invaluable first-hand evidence of curatorial decisions made by producers and performers, all of which could for example be of interest to researchers working on topics associated with performance practice or socio-cultural studies. In the case of the CBC Montreal Archive, the co-existence of technical support materials can provide additional insights into the production processes, something that could serve the teaching needs of our Sound Recording faculty.

# Interdisciplinarity

---

Music

Local history

Institutional history

Media, broadcasting, and journalism

Cultural studies



Beyond music, the radio music broadcast archives could be used for writing local and institutional histories, as well as for research in disciplines such as media, broadcasting, journalism, and cultural studies.

## A unique narrative

---

As I was thinking about the historical values of the archive, I eventually realized that the collection presents a unique narrative through the lens of CBC Montreal's radio music programming. The study of the collection reveals the intersection of musicians, producers, concert venues, events, and the situations surrounding the broadcasts that brought performances from Quebec to a wider Canadian audience. In other words, it can be a gateway, a reference tools, and a snapshot of 30 years of classical music performance activity in Montreal. There are surely some overlaps with other CBC or individual musician archives, but the collection brings forward a unique narrative that, in my view, cannot be replicated otherwise. As for the research challenges identified by Godfrey, I argue that within the contained environment of the archive, the broadcast supporting material can in many cases help to distinguish facts from the "constructed" narrative or the intended dramatization of events. And of course, cross-referencing by examining the evidence in other sources, e.g., physical archives at other institutions, newspaper databases, and websites can provide further evidence to support of the factual data and information represented in the collection.

## Preserving radio music broadcast archives

---



Reflecting about historical values also had me wonder what would have happened to this unique narrative had we not accepted the collection before the CBC's move to their new building. For one, it was not clear to me whether the collection would have been archived. Furthermore, my inquiries so far suggest that the archives of the Toronto and Montreal headquarters have been traditionally separate, and that one shouldn't expect to find much of the CBC Montreal materials in Toronto, vice versa.

I also wondered whether music librarians and archivists elsewhere are actively collecting and preserving radio music broadcast collections. My review of the literature revealed that concerns around the preservation of radio broadcast archives have grown over the last two decades. In 2000, an act of the U.S. Congress led to the creation of the National Recording Preservation Board whose mandate included the preservation of radio content. The American Archive of Public Broadcasting, in collaboration with the Library of Congress, has also preserved thousands of hours of public radio programming from across the United States. In 2020, a full issue of the *Journal of Archival Organization* was devoted to the state of radio preservation, highlighting a slew of challenges and opportunities associated with the long-term preservation of this supposedly ephemeral medium. It goes without saying that the challenges are much more pronounced in smaller institutions, e.g., small to mid-size

music libraries and archives.

Source for the last paragraph: David Seubert (2020) Preserving Radio Broadcasts: Thoughts on Future Directions, *Journal of Archival Organization*, 17:1-2, 13-18, DOI: [10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998](https://doi.org/10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998)

## Overall Challenges with radio broadcast archives

- Collection appraisal
- Collection dispersion
- Lack of staffing and resources
- Complex rights issues and digitization challenges
- Format obsolescence and media degradations

In his article titled “Preserving Radio Broadcasts: Thoughts on Future Directions”, David Seubert at the University of California, Santa Barbara mentions several challenges with the management and preservation of radio broadcast archives. These include:

- The difficulty to assess the uniqueness and therefore the value of the archive. Seubert mentions that the lack of agreed-upon practices to describe these collections makes it very hard to determine their value, hence the priority to acquire and/or process them.
- He further points to the lack of a centralized repository resulting in difficulties to identify the provenance and scope of the existing/complementary archives.
- Radio broadcast collections can be overwhelmingly large, requiring additional staffing and resources for small to mid-size libraries.
- Navigation of rights issues is also a very complex task given just how many people are involved in the creation of radio broadcasts. The rights ambiguity could result in the library’s reluctance to digitize and make the broadcast materials freely accessible to the public.
- Lastly, format obsolescence and media degradations could require urgent action from the libraries, requiring libraries to revisit their priorities. This can of course

prove impossible and could result in the library's refusal of the collection altogether.

Source: David Seubert (2020) Preserving Radio Broadcasts: Thoughts on Future Directions, *Journal of Archival Organization*, 17:1-2, 13-18, DOI: [10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998](https://doi.org/10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998)

## Representation, late 1970s – early 2010s

---

- Radio programs
- Producers
- Events: Festivals, competitions, and concert series
- Performing forces
  - McGill faculty
  - Canadian and International musicians
  - Ensembles
- Quebec performance venues



I'll now turn my attention to the CBC Montreal archive to share more about its content and the work we've so far accomplished.

The CBC Montreal fonds contains nearly 1,000 broadcasts ranging from the late 1970s to the early 2010s. The Archive represent radio music programs, producers working for CBC Montreal, event types including festivals, competitions, and concert series, performing forces ranging from McGill faculty to Canadian and International musicians and ensembles, and performance venues.



## Richard Coulter Collection

Richard Coulter is a former Canadian CBC Radio programming executive, writer, announcer and music producer. His distinguished career at the CBC spanned thirty-four years. Several of his radio productions have won awards, including a number from the Canadian Music Council and a Gabriel Award from the Catholic Academy of Communication Professionals.

The *Richard Coulter Collection* consists of the radio scripts, production information and publicity connected with programs and program series commissioned, developed, and broadcast on CBC Radio in Canada in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. The Collection also contains audio excerpts of programs produced featuring prominent North Americans Glenn Gould and John Cage.



 [Finding Aid to the Richard Coulter Collection](#)

The collection is also complementary to the Richard Coulter Collection of the Marvin Duchow Music Library in that it includes materials of similar nature, adding three decades of CBC radio music programming content to the archives.

Source: <https://www.mcgill.ca/library/find/subjects/music/special/richard-coulter>

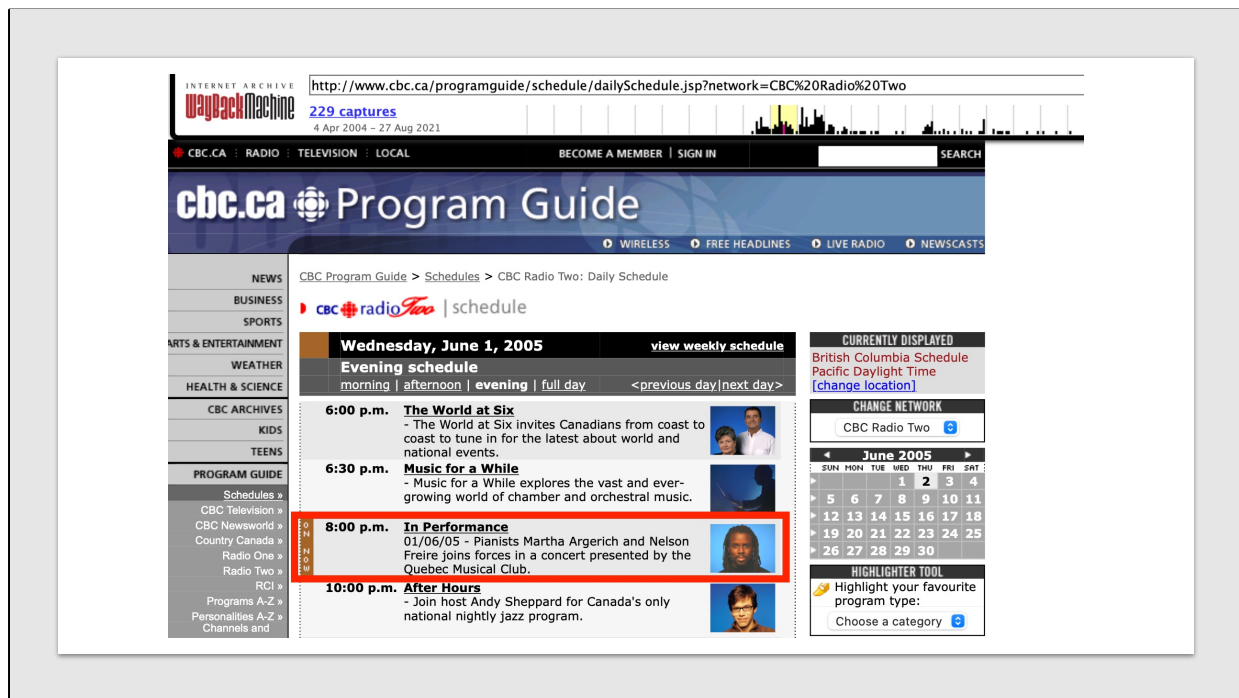
## Other Archives

---

- Radio-Canada/CBC Radio
- Library and Archives Canada
- Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec
- Concordia University
- Université de Montréal
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- University of Toronto
- York University
- University of Calgary



In addition to the archives held at the CBC, the extent of which is not currently made available to the public, some documents relating to CBC music radio broadcasts can be found throughout the country in various archival collections and fonds **including but not limited to** Library and Archives Canada, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Concordia University, Université de Montréal, and Université du Québec à Montréal, University of Toronto, York University, University of Calgary. Although these institutions and archives contain items relating to CBC music broadcasts, the items are largely peppered throughout the various archival holdings, usually as supporting material in relation to the main entry or entity of the fonds or collection. The CBC Montreal collection will therefore be a complementary addition for research and scholarship around CBC's radio programming, and topics related to the Canadian musical landscape at large.



The Internet Archive Wayback Machine is an important tool for access to the CBC/Radio-Canada programming information that is not readily available on other websites. While the Wayback Machines searching capabilities are limited, navigation of the radio programming from within the archived sites is easier once a web capture is selected. The example above shows how I was able to find the entry for the broadcast of a Quebec Musical Club concert featuring Martha Argerich and Nelson Freire.

## Radio Programs

---



Music from Montreal  
Quebec in Concert  
The Arts Tonight  
Two New Hours  
Arts National  
Canada Live  
Choral Concert

In Concert  
In Performance  
Music Around Us  
Radio Concert Hall  
Radio Noon  
Take Five

The broadcasts were disseminated regionally and nationally, bringing performances from Quebec to a wider Canadian audience. Programs like Music from Montreal (latterly known as Quebec in Concert) offered a particular focus on Quebec musicians and ensembles, whereas others were broader in scope and captured the Quebec performances of Canadian and international artists. Overall, the Archive represents 32 programs, the most prominent of which are mentioned on this slide.

## Festivals, competitions, and concert series

---



- Ladies' Morning Musical Club
- Lakeshore Chamber Music Society
- Festival Bach Montréal
- Festival Montréal Baroque
- Festival International de Jazz de Montréal
- Festival Montréal en Lumière
- Concours musical international de Montréal

Broadcasts were from one-off events, or as part of **recurring** festivals and series, providing additional insights into the landscape of Quebec's musical scene. Founded in 1892 and active to this day, the Ladies' Morning Musical Club is the longest standing chamber music series represented here. Another local series represented is the Lakeshore Chamber Music Society, which was founded in 1959. Other prominent festivals and events represented include the Festival Bach Montréal, Festival Montréal Baroque, Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, Festival

Montréal en Lumière, and the Concours musical international de Montréal.

Sources:

<https://www.lmmc.ca/en/about>

<https://www.lakeshorechambermusic.org/>

## McGill Concert Series

---



McGill Guest Series  
McGill Faculty Series  
live@CIRMMT  
CBC/McGill Youth Choir Gala  
CBC/McGill Concert Series  
CBC/McGill Radio Concerts

Highlighting McGill's cultural impact and institutional history, the fonds documents events and concert series such as the McGill Guest Series, McGill Faculty Series, and live@CIRMMT or the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Music Media and Technology. In addition, the collection demonstrates the strong ties of CBC Montreal and McGill University during the collection's coverage years. Indeed, the CBC and McGill joined efforts in curating and broadcasting many performances such as the CBC/McGill Youth Choir Gala, the CBC/McGill Concert Series, and CBC/McGill Radio Concerts. These performances were often held in the Schulich School of Music's Pollack and Redpath halls.



## McGill Faculty Representation

---

Dale Bartlett  
Rémi Bolduc  
Matt Haimovitz  
Kyoko Hashimoto  
Hank Knox  
Dominique Labelle  
Michael McMahon  
Nathaniel Watson  
Luba Zuk

The contributions of current and former McGill faculty and alumni are well-documented throughout the collection. This slide provides a representative sample of these noted musicians.



# Ensembles

## Local

McGill Jazz Orchestra  
McGill Symphony Orchestra  
Arion  
I Musici de Montréal  
Les Violons du Roy

## Canadian

Adaskin trio  
Canadian Chamber Choir  
St. Lawrence String Quartet

## International

LA Philharmonic Orchestra  
Wiener Klaviertrio

The McGill ensembles featured include the McGill jazz and symphony orchestras. But McGillians are also found in non-McGill ensembles such as Arion, I Musici de Montréal, and Les Violons du Roy.

Other ensembles featured include the Adaskin Trio, the Canadian Chamber Choir, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, as well as international ensembles such as the LA Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Wiener Klaviertrio.

# Canadian and International Musicians

---

Marie-Nicole Lemieux

Karina Gauvin

Angela Hewitt

Anton Kuerti

Elly Ameling

Martha Argerich

Gidon Kremer

Ivry Gitlis

Till Fellner



An impressive array of Canadian and international musicians are also represented. Examples are Marie-Nicole Lemieux, Karina Gauvin, Angela Hewitt, Anton Kuerti, Elly Ameling, Martha Argerich, Gidon Kremer, Ivry Gitlis, and Till Fellner.

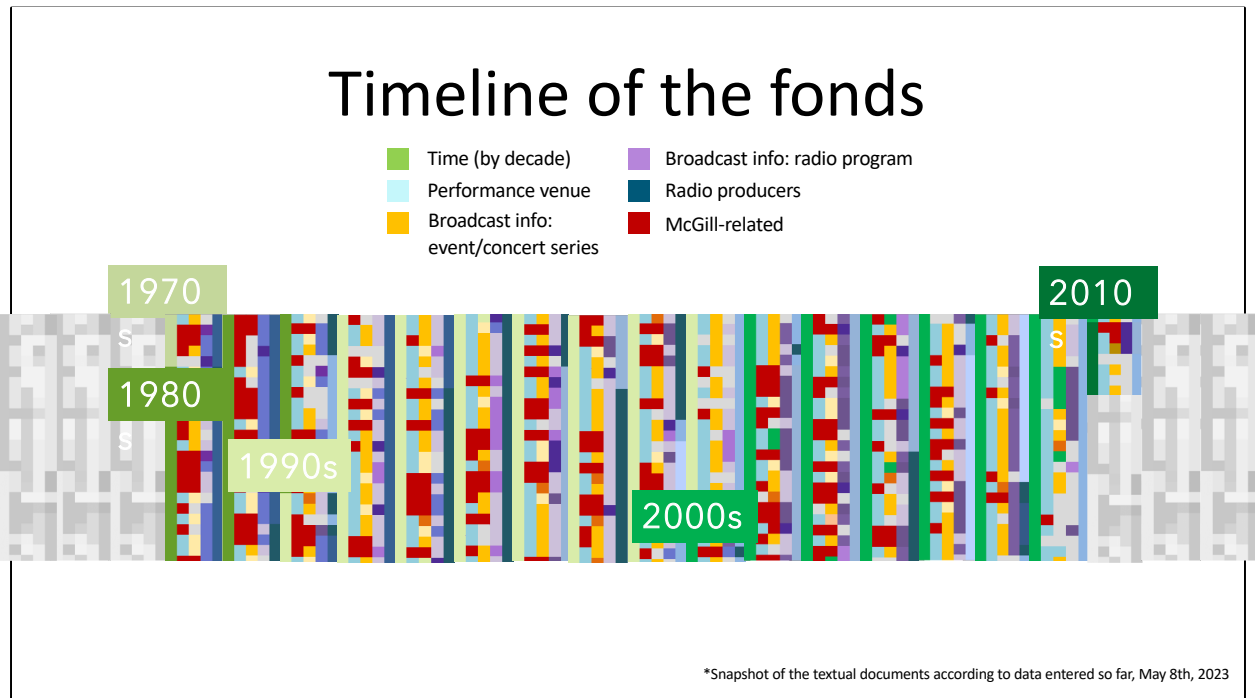
# Producers

---

Frances Wainwright  
Kelly Rice  
Robert Rowat



And of course, the broadcasts were made possible through the work of the producers who either selected or curated the programs. The fonds documents the work, contributions, and collaborations of many CBC producers, the most widely represented amongst whom are Frances Wainwright, Kelly Rice, and Robert Rowat.



Using the data we have gathered through our descriptive work, we coloured the collection's inventory sheet as cursory attempt to show the interplay of the people, events, and situations the collection represents.

Each data element received a visually prominent colour, and the variances of that element over time received different shades of that colour. For instance, decades are represented by different shades of green, radio programs by different shades of purple, and radio producers by different shades of blue. To illustrate the involvement of McGill faculty and alumni, only one shade of red was used consistently across the timeline, showing just how much the collection represent our institutional history. To us, the result resembles a rug, woven by the threads that together represent the fabric of CBC Montreal radio music programming throughout these years.

## Organizational scheme and content of the archive

---



The physical organization of the archive divides into two series: the textual materials, and the audio recordings. The textual materials are comprised of folders labeled with the artist or ensemble's name, or, occasionally, an event. Each folder contains documents pertaining to at least 1 concert or broadcast. Upon ingest by the CBC employees, the folders were arranged alphabetically according to the main entry indicated on the label of the folder.

The audio recordings have so far been identified to contain rehearsals, concerts, and the broadcasts themselves. These materials have been physically arranged by format (CDs and reel-to-reels), then by date of performance and/or broadcast.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Transcribe folder label	*Main entry*	Level of description	Extent and medium	Overall folder date(s)	eventDate (performance)	eventDate (broadcast)	Ensemble(s)/artist(s)
2	Abegg Trio, LMMC, 16 March 2003, Pollack Hall	Abegg Trio	File	1 cm of textual records	16 March 2003			Abegg Trio
3	March 19, 1995, Ladies' Morning Musical Club, Academy of St. Martins in the Fields Sextet	Martins in the Fields Sextet	File	5 cm of textual records	19 March 1995			Academy of St. Martins in the Fields Sextet
4	Adaskin Trio with Jamie Parker, 6 May 1999, 6 March 2000, 7 May 1996, 25 July 1997	Adaskin Trio	File	1.5 cm of textual records	1995-2000			Adaskin Trio
5	*	Adaskin Trio	Item			20 August 1995	7 May 1996	Adaskin Trio
6	*	Adaskin Trio	Item			25 July 1997		Adaskin Trio
7	*	Adaskin Trio	Item			6 May 1999	18 July 1999	Adaskin Trio
8	*	Adaskin Trio	Item			6 March 2000	2 April 2000	Adaskin Trio
9	December 14, 1992, Robert Aitkin, Aurele Nicolet	Aitkin, Robert	File	5 cm of textual records	14 December 1992	14 December 1992		Robert Aitkin Aurele Nicolet
10	Marie Claire Alain, broad 9 April 1995, St. Andrew's DD, 19 OCT 1994	Alain, Marie-Claire	File	5 cm of textual records	1994-1995	19 October 1994	9 April 1995	Marie-Claire Alain
11	Alcan Quartet	Alcan Quartet	File	1 cm of textual records	1991-2003			Alcan Quartet
12	*	Alcan Quartet	Item			20 September 2002	13 October 2002 4 November 2002	Alcan Quartet
13	*	Alcan Quartet	Item			6 February 1997		Alcan Quartet
14	*	Alcan Quartet	Item			6 March 1991	26 May 1991 19 June 1991	Alcan Quartet
15	*	Alcan Quartet	Item			29 May 2003	12 January 2004	Alcan Quartet Liu Fang Jean-Guy Boivert
16	*	Alcan Quartet	Item			31 March 1995	20 August 1995	Alcan Quartet
17	*	Alcan Quartet	Item				17 January 1997 24 January 1997	Alcan Quartet
18	Viola Congress June 2007	Viola Congress	File	5 cm of textual records	2006-2007	10 June 2006		Alcan Quartet
19	July 24, 1994, FESTIVAL ALEXANDRIA, Joachim Quartet	Joachim Quartet	File	5 cm of textual records	1993-1995	24 July 1994	5 February 1995	Joachim Quartet
20	23 July 1995, Festival ALEXANDRIA Allegra, March 30, 2000, Redpath Hall, May 7, 1998, Jan 18,	Festival Alexandria	File	5 cm of textual records	1995	23 July 1995	6 August 1995	Denis Bluteau Robert Crowley Theodore Baskin Whitney Crockett Jean Gaudreault Lauretta Altman

< > ≡ CDs, DATs and reel-to-reel Textual Records Controlled vocabulary Additional notes & instructions Sheet1 +

We have recently finished describing the textual material and are now in the final stages of completing the description of the audio recordings. Our metadata schema follows the Canadian archival descriptive standard RAD or Rules for Archival Description. The data captured is fairly granular in that it documents -- at the broadcast level -- the dates, performing forces, producers, concert venues, and the supporting production documents.

	A	B	C
2	<b>Scope and content/overview</b>	<b>Radio Program Title</b>	<b>Events/concert series</b>
	Use singular or plural according to folder contents	Use exact naming convention	Use exact naming convention where available, transcribe when name unavailable
3			
4	Cue sheet	Canada Live	CBC/McGill Youth Choir Gala
5	Manuscript cue sheet	In Performance	Choral Concert
6	Correspondence	Music Around Us	Concours musical international de Montréal
7	Concert program	Music from Montreal	Festival Bach Montréal
8	Concert program with annotations	Quebec in Concert	Festival d'automne Orgue et Couleurs
9	Concert programs (some annotated as cue sheet)	Take Five	Festival de musique de chambre de Montréal
10	Concert program annotated as cue sheet	Choral Concert	Festival de musique de Lachine
11	Clipping	Arts National	Festival d'orgue Montréal
12	Release form	Radio Concert Hall	Festival International de Jazz de Montréal
13	Studio requisition	In Concert	Festival Montréal Baroque
14	Communiqué (with works)	Radio Noon	Festival Montréal/Nouvelles Musiques
15	Press release	Two New Hours	Ladies' Morning Musical Club
16	Budget memo	Radio-Concert à 20 heures	Montreal Recorder Festival
17	Radio script	The Arts Tonight	MusiMars
18	Producer notes	Saturday Afternoon at the Opera	CBC/McGill Concert Series
19	Contract	L'Opéra du Samedi	
20	Ensemble biography	Symphony Hall	Début - Young Concert Artist Series
21	Artist biography	Les Soirées CBC Radio Two	The Lakeshore Chamber Music Society
22	CD booklet		McGill Guest Series
23	Festival program	Radio-Concert	En Concert
24	Memo	OnStage	

In considering the breadth and depth of the data elements, and to facilitate future inquiries, we put together a controlled vocabulary sheet from the get-go to make sure that document types, radio programs, events, and venues are described consistently across the fonds. The next four slides provide an overview of the document types found in the collection.

# Background research

- Correspondences
- Clippings
- Ensemble biographies
- Artist biographies or press kits
- Photographs
- Article/Chapter scans
- CVs
- Artist website printouts
- Scores
- Interviews

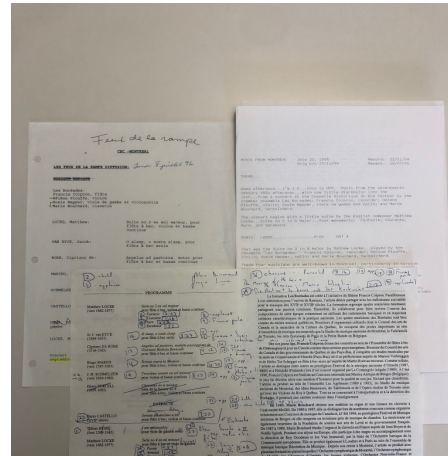


The background research conducted by the producers is documented through correspondences, clippings, artists biographies or press kits, CVs, and interviews. At times, the scores of one of more of the pieces performed is also present.



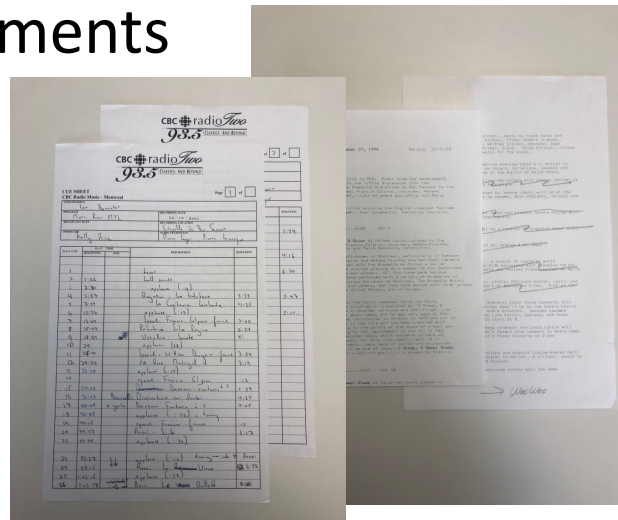
## Evidence of events/broadcasts

- Concert programs
- Festival programs
- Press releases
- Program notes
- Audio recordings (reel-to-reel, DAT, CD)
- CD booklets
- Guest lists
- Performance scripts
- Track notes



Concert and festival programs, press releases, annotated program notes, audio recordings, guest lists, and track notes provide evidence of the performance and/or the broadcast.

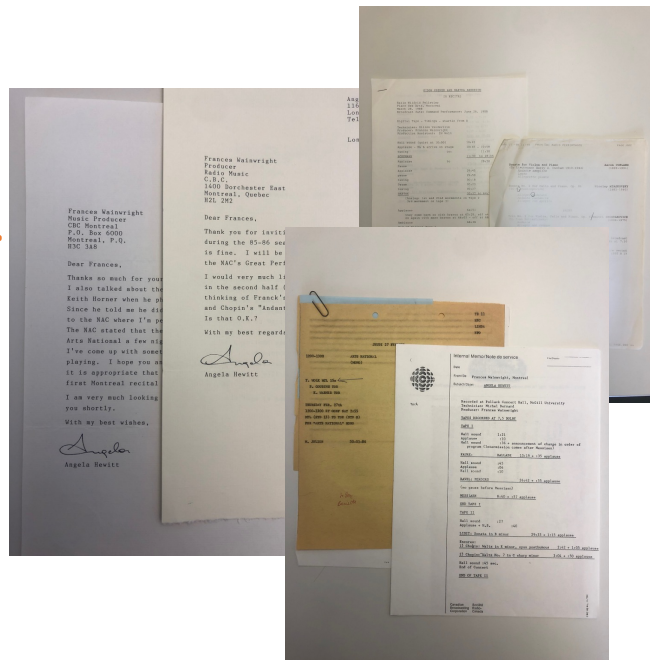
- Cue sheets
- Radio scripts
- Producer notes
- Stage plans
- Production notes



The production documents include cue sheets, radio scripts, producer notes, stage plans, and production notes.

# Organizational documents

- Release forms
- Studio requisition forms
- Communiqué (with works)
- Budget memos
- Contracts
- Memos
- Meeting minutes
- Records of earnings



Lastly, the fonds contains many organizational documents such as broadcast release forms, studio requisition forms, budget memos, contracts, and records of earnings. The examples shown on this page include two letters from Pianist Angela Hewitt to Radio Producer Frances Wainwright.







## Examples from the fonds

---

The following 4 examples from the fonds further illustrate the collection's content as well as the interchange of musicians, producers, events, and performance venues:

# Elly Ameling

## Contents of fonds: 1980-1995

-  Elly Ameling ; Dalton Baldwin
-  Contains program notes annotated as cue sheet, photo of the soloist, CD mastering cue sheet, memo, press release, radio script, and clippings.
-  Music from Montreal
-  Pollack Hall



The program notes, cue sheet, and radio script in Elly Ameling's folder documents the Music from Montreal broadcast of her 1980 performance at the Schulich School of Music's Pollack Hall.

# Luba Zuk and Ireneus Zuk

## Contents of fonds: 1980-1989



Luba Zuk ; Ireneus Zuk ; David Nelson ; Jan Simons ; Arte Cantabile Quartet ; Carol Millar ; Nancy DeLong ; Edmund Brownless ; Richard Hargue



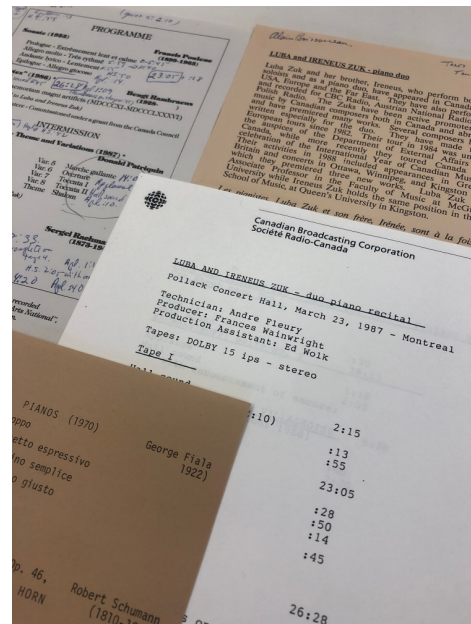
Contains concert programs (some annotated as cue sheet), release form, cue sheet



Music from Montreal  
Arts National  
Two New Hours



Pollack Hall





The Luba and Ireneus Zuk Piano Duo folder captures several of their collaborative performances from 1980-89. These performances were broadcasts via three different radio programs namely Music from Montreal, Arts National, and Two New Hours.

# Arion Baroque Orchestra

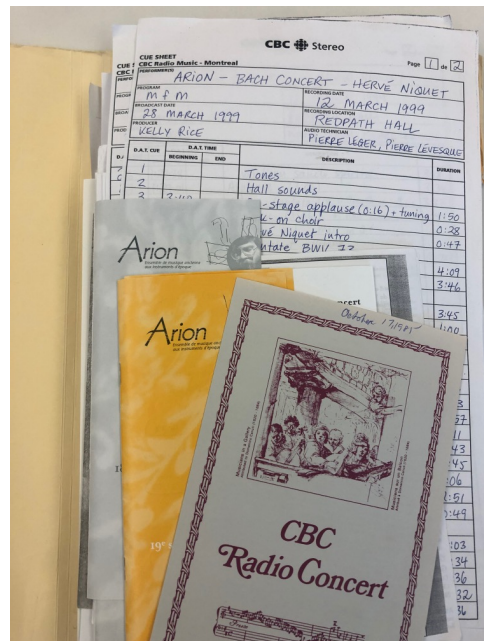
## Contents of fonds: 1985-2006

 Ensemble Arion +  
 Nathalie Paulin ; Matthew White ; Terence Mierau ; Normand Richard ;  
 Nathaniel Watson ; Hervé Niquet ; Francis Colpron ; Odette Beaupré ;  
 Stéphanie Gauthier ; Christine Moran ; Marion Verbrüggen ; Valerie  
 Kinslow ; Marc Destrubé ; Danièle Forget ; Michael Ducharme ; Michael  
 Léonard ; Brigitte Lefebvre ; Christine Moran ; Louise Trudel ; Allan  
 Lafôrest ; Hélène Plouffe ; Olivier Brault ; Susie Napper ; Ann Monoyios  
 ; Anner Bylsma ; Élisabeth Comtois ; Jaap Ter Linden ; Laura Pudwell ;  
 Frédéric Antoun ; Philippe Gagné ; Shannon Mercer ; Joshua Hopkins ;  
 Bernard Labadie ; Le Chœur du Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal  
 ; Les Boreades.

 Contains program notes, concert programs (some annotated as  
 cue sheet), production notes, cue sheets, radio scripts, clippings,  
 biographies, correspondences, and press releases

 The Arts Tonight  
 Music from Montreal  
 Quebec in Concert  
 In Performance

 Pollack Hall  
 Redpath Hall  
 Église St-John's Lutheran  
 Théâtre Paul-Desmarais



Canadians heard the Arion Baroque Orchestra many times from 1985-2006; The Arion folder is a great example of collaborations between McGill and non-McGill musicians broadcast from both on and off-campus concert venues.

# Martha Argerich and Gidon Kremer

## Contents of fonds: 1988



Martha Argerich, Gidon Kremer



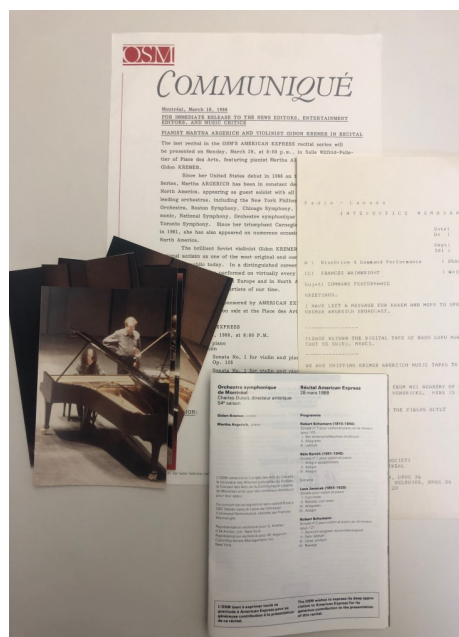
Contains photographs, clippings, memos, concert program, press release, cue sheet



Command Performance



Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts



Last but certainly not least, the collection includes the iconic Gidon Kremer-Martha Argerich duo's 1988 performance from Montreal's Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier broadcast as part of the Command Performance radio program.





## Next steps

---

- Rehousing of the collection
- Launch of open access searchable finding aid on AtoM
- Research Ethics Board approval
- Interview with most frequently-represented producers
- Publication of a research paper

As for our next steps, we'll be rehousing the collection for long-term preservation, and should be able to launch the open access searchable finding aid in the coming months.

I also plan to apply to McGill's Research Ethics Board to conduct interviews with the most frequently represented producers. Through these interviews I'd like to learn more about them, their work and decision-making processes at CBC Montreal, and their relationship with McGill.

Lastly, I hope to publish the results of my investigations to further promote the potential of this and other radio music broadcast collections in capturing a unique narrative of local music histories.

## References

About. (n.d.). Ladies' Morning Music Club Concerts. Retrieved July 28, 2023, from <https://www.lmmc.ca/en/about>

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. (2023). In Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Canadian Broadcasting Corporation&oldid=1151795099](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Canadian_Broadcasting_Corporation&oldid=1151795099)

CBC.ca—Program Guide—Daily Schedule. (n.d.). Retrieved July 28, 2023, from <https://web.archive.org/web/20050602044107/http://www.cbc.ca/programguide/schedule/dailySchedule.jsp?network=CBC%20Radio%20Two>

CBC English Radio Programming through the years | History of Canadian Broadcasting. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://broadcasting-history.com/cbc-english-radio-programming-through-years> (consulted - not directly used in this presentation)

CBC has sold its Montreal headquarters. (n.d.). Retrieved July 28, 2023, from <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/cbc-has-sold-its-montreal-headquarters-1.3174442>

## References (cont'd)

CBC Montreal begins move into new Maison Radio-Canada. (2021, April 18).

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1886431811555>

David Seubert (2020) Preserving Radio Broadcasts: Thoughts on Future Directions, *Journal of Archival Organization*, 17:1-2, 13-18, DOI: [10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998](https://doi.org/10.1080/15332748.2020.1769998)

Godfrey, D. G. (2002). Broadcast Archives for Historical Research: Revisiting the Historical Method. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 46(3), 493–503. [https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4603_10)

Here's what the new Maison de Radio-Canada will look like. (2016, November 24). Retrieved July 28, 2023, from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/maison-radio-canada-cbc-montreal-new-building-1.3865642>

Lakeshore Chamber Music Society. (n.d.). Retrieved July 28, 2023, from

<https://www.lakeshorechambermusic.org/>

Richard Coulter Collection. (n.d.). McGill Library. Retrieved July 28, 2023, from

<https://www.mcgill.ca/library/find/subjects/music/special/richard-coulter>

Thank you!

