



Providing Open Access to Photoplay Music: The Mirskey Collection Digitization Project

Jim Cassaro
Finney Music Library
University of Pittsburgh
IAML, Cambridge U.K.
3 August 2023

Introduction

- Mishkin Collection



Adeline Vosari



Nicola Zerola

Details

Title

Mirskey Collection.

Creator

[Mirskey, Nek.](#)

Contributor

[Alliance College.](#)

Language

No linguistic content

Date

1900 - 1987

Type

Collection

Description

652 linear ft. (24 shelves).

Organized into 13 series: 1. Marches and other pieces in two (two-steps). 2. Waltzes. 3. Overtures. 4. Suites. 5. Compilations of songs. 6. Selections from musicals. 7. Selections from operas. 8. Fox trots. 9. Silent film music. 10. Not for dance orchestra (for piano, violin, cello, etc.). 11. Music depicting moods or scenes. 12. Violin part only. 13. Miscellany; Chronological by call number.

Notes

Located in closed reserve. Access by appointment only.

Some information on performing rights is available upon request.

Polish National Alliance; Gift; 1991.

History Note

No information has been found on Nek Mirskey and his Polonia orchestra, or his donation of the music to the Alliance College.

Local Note

PNA.

Summary

This collection contains printed music, manuscripts, publications catalogs and promotional flyers, and other ephemera documenting Nek Mirskeys dance band, Polonia, in the first half of the twentieth century . The bulk of the collection comprises printed dance band music used for performance of the Polonia Orchestra. The titles for the scores are in a variety of languages, though primarily English. The other printed music consists of solo piano, or solo string instrument, primarily violin; scale and technical exercise method books are also included. Publications catalogs and promotional flyers are interfiled with the sheet music. Handwritten manuscript scores and parts, some parts being mounted on the back of other printed music, letterhead, or plain cardboard. Within the manuscript collection is a folder labeled "Gail Savery" which contains publications catalogs, sacred music pamphlets, chant notation, a recital program, and a class schedule. Some of the manuscripts are contained in two conductors stand folders and one drum and timpani stand folder.

Subject

[Mirskey, Nek](#)

[Alliance College](#)

[Polonia \(Musical group\)](#)

[Salon orchestra music](#)

[Conductors \(Music\)](#)

Related titles

Units : [1620 overture](#)

Units : [A cannibal carnival : danse barbarique](#)

Units : [A darkey's dreamland : American fantasia](#)

Units : [A drowsy afternoon : from Creole sketches](#)

Units : [A Halloween episode : descriptive ; misterioso](#)

Units : [A love-song : song without words](#)

Units : [A lover in Damascus](#)

Units : [A mermaid honeymoon : for concert](#)

Units : [A musical essay : prelude](#)

Units : [A musical thought : reverie](#)

Units : [A night in Seville : Spanish rhapsody](#)

Units : [A night in Spain](#)

Units : [A song of love ; The old mill](#)

Units : [Adagio cantabile : from the B minor sonata](#)

Units : [Adagio lamentoso : fourth movement \(finale\), symphony in B minor, Pathetique ; no. 6, op. 74](#)

Units : [Adagio pathétique : op. 128, No.3](#)

Units : [After glow : reverie-serenade](#)

Units : [After sundown](#)

Units : [Agitato \(B\) : for scenes of a restless or excitable character](#)

Units : [Agitato : heavy, for general use](#)

SHOW ALL

Identifier

OCLC : (OCoLC)ocn137260661

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Source

Library Catalog

Silent Film Sound & Music Archive (<https://www.sfsma.org/>)



1. AT SCREENING Ghost Scene (Broy)

2. (Title) IT LOOKS LIKE LADY RAFFLES Unfinished Symphony

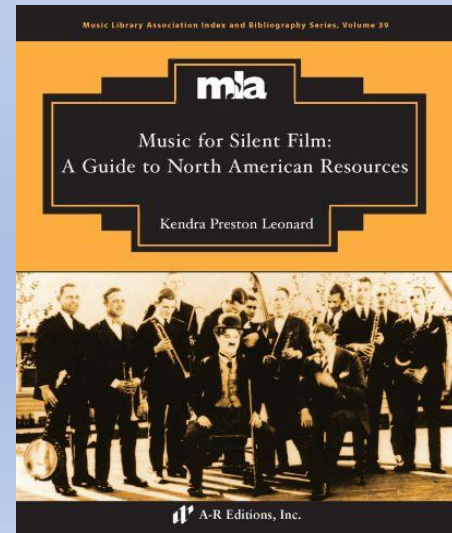
3. (Action) PHYLLIS ENTERS BUTLER'S PANTRY RAFFLES THEME:

4. (Title) NOBODY KNEW WHERE Enticing Beauty (De)

5. (Title) WARREN BLAKE KNEW Happy Jacqueline (Ma)



Kendra Preston Leonard



The Mirskey Collection

The "Hawkes' Photo Play Series."
Nº 10. **Agitato.**
(For riots, fights and escapes.)
FREDERIC NOYES.

1st Violin.

Allegro agitato.
mf

① *cres* *cen* *do*

② *ff* *mf* *cres* *cen* *do*

③ *ff*

④

⑤ *div.*

⑥ *Vin. & Colla.*

⑦ *2nd Bassa* *Loco*

For Fine only
ff

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HAWKES & SON, Denman Street, Piccadilly Circus, LONDON, W.1.
PARIS, 16 Rue Sualnier, 19c.

5979. *Printed in England*

The "Hawkes' Photo Play Series"
Nº 18. **Mysterioso.**
(Burglary-, Death-, Funeral Procession Scenes.)
HERBERT E. HAINES.

1st Violin.

Andantino.
pizz.
p

Oboe. *arco*

Oboe. *pizz.*

arco

pizz.

div. *arco*

Oboe Solo *ritard.*

Last time.

2nd Viol. *Repeat ad lib.*

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PARIS, 16 Rue Sualnier, 19c.
Printed at Hawkes & Son's Factory, London, N. England.

6006

Storage





Cast up by the sea.

JOHN
BARRYMORE

IN

"The Lotus Eater"

From Albert Payson Terhune's
story of the same title

Personally Directed by

Marshall Neilan



A FIRST NATIONAL
ATTRACTION

The Great Moment Co. Inc. Adm. 1921



*Gloria Swanson's
first starring
vehicle. Written
especially for
her by the world
famed author
of "Three Weeks"*

JESSE L. LASKY
PRESENTS

Gloria
Swanson
ELINOR GLYN'S
"The Great Moment"

SCENARIO BY MONTE KATTERJOHN
DIRECTED BY SAM WOOD

It's a Paramount Picture



© FAMOUS PLAYERS - LASKY CORP. 1921

Use in Performance

0. 4.5 from *Wedding March*
no ref.

2

Wedding March.
from *Midsummernights Dream*.
F. Mendelssohn.
arr. by Alfred Roth.

1st Violin.

Allegro vivace.

1571.

Small Orch. & Piano 35¢ Full Orch. & Piano 45¢
Ensemble parts 15¢ Po. acc. 25¢

1940-39

Copyright MCMXII by Carl Fischer, New York.

1st Violin.

3

1940-39

1.15 as Marched

145

FAST

Laddie Boy
March

Matthew Ray
arr. by M. L. Lake

1st Violin

Small Orch. & Pa. 55¢ Full Orch. & Pa. 85¢
Piano acc. 15¢ Full Band 50¢

S 2356

TRIO

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International Copyright Secured

D.S. al Fine

Nek Mirskey



Bronisław Mirski



Genevieve Wilson

Theaters



Knickerbocker Theater in 1917



Metropolitan Theater (Washington DC)

Disaster

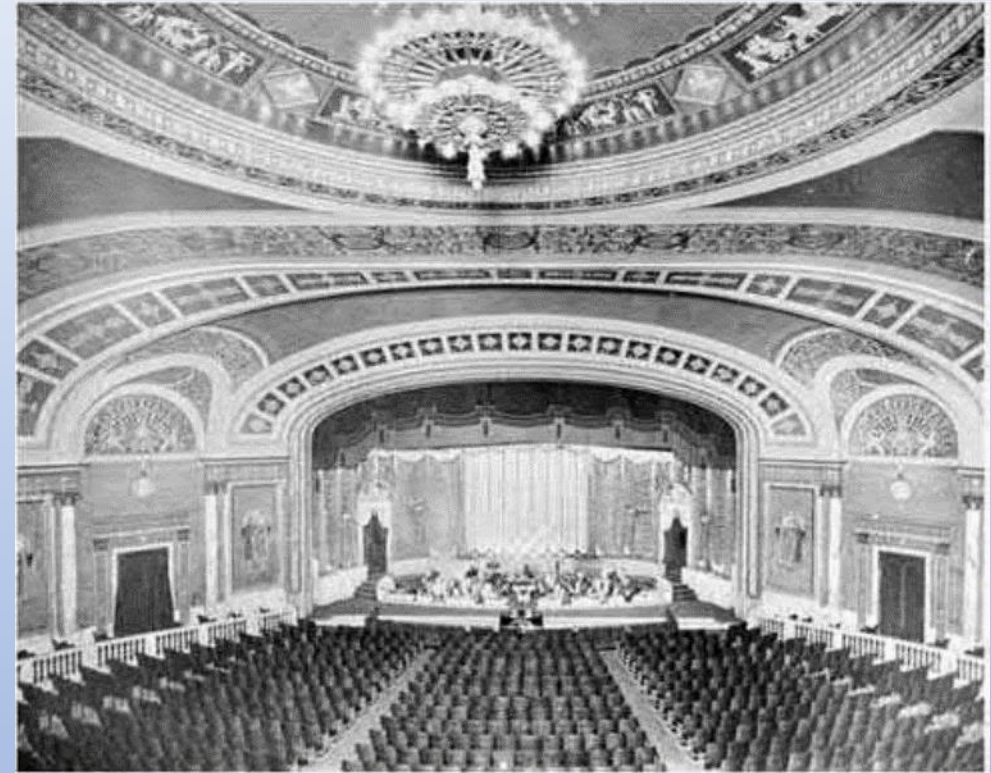


Collapse of the Knickerbocker Theater, January 1922

Other Theaters



Fenway Theater (Boston, MA)

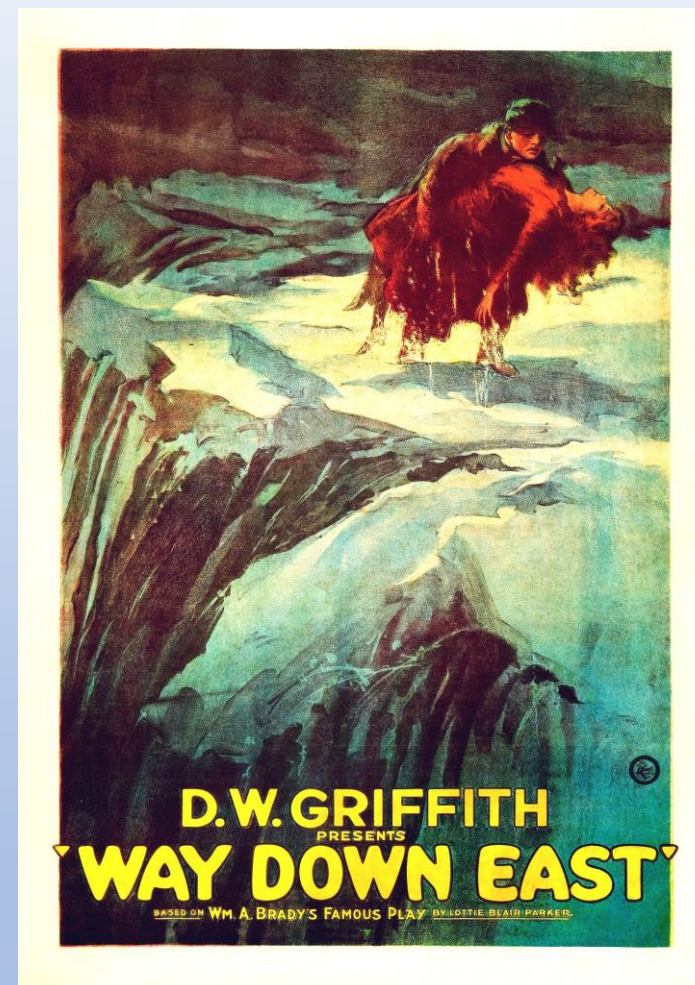
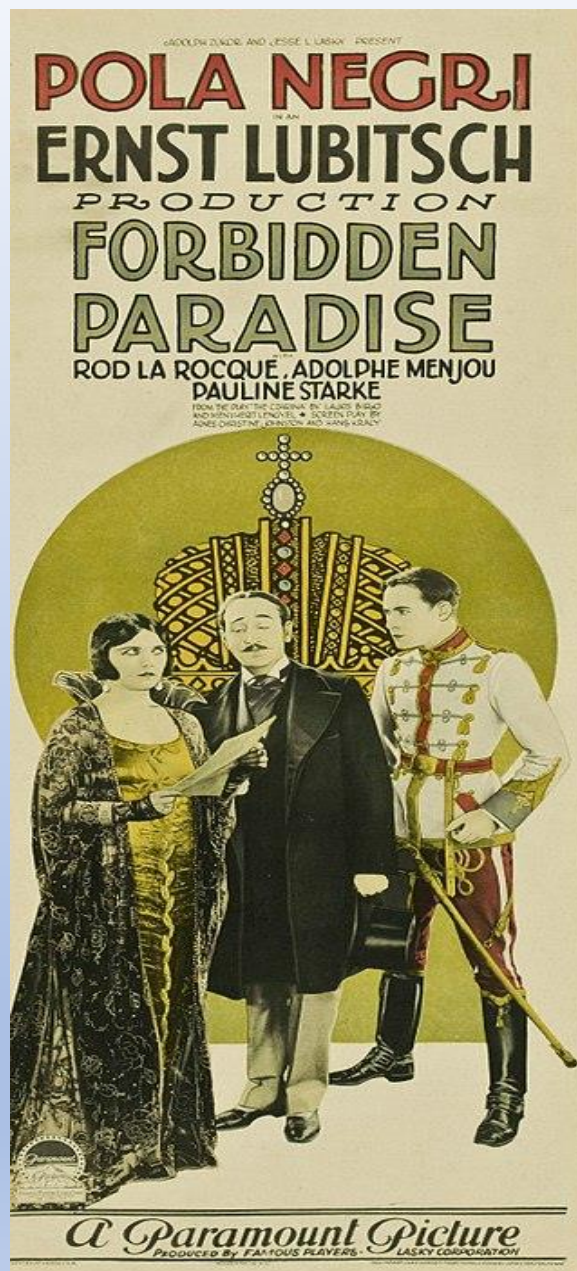
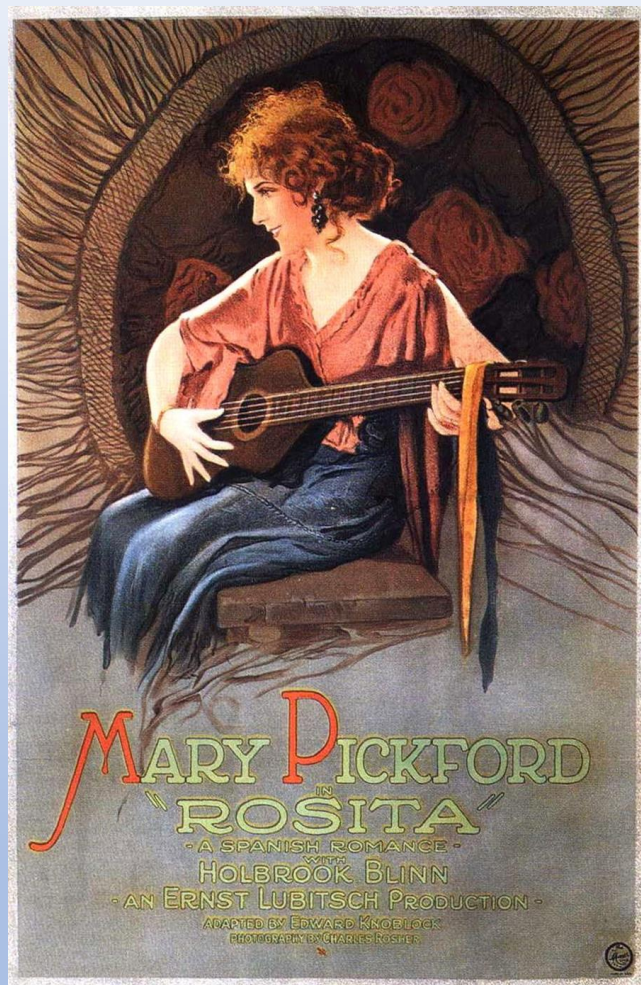


Palace Theater (Dallas, TX)

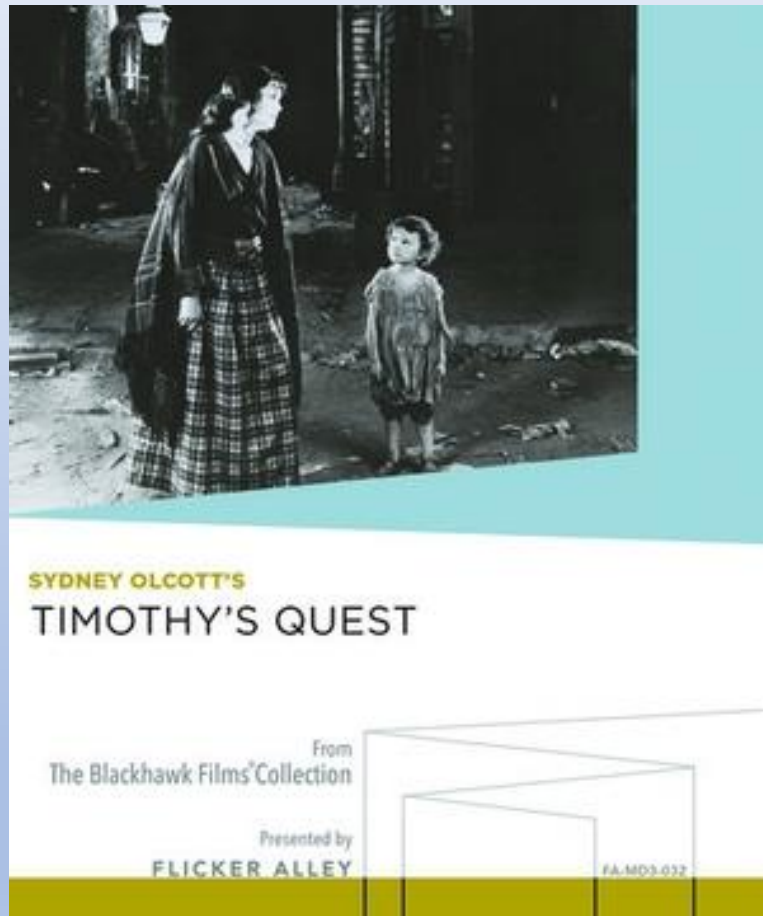
Conclusion



Online at: <https://digital.library.pitt.edu/collections/mirsky-collection-of-salon-orchestra-and-silent-film-music>



Sidney Olcott, *Timothy's Quest* (1922)



Downloaded from Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/163317812>

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Thank You!

Questions?