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# Finding Aid for the John Myhill Collection of Manuscript Scores and Papers, circa 1967-1984

**Mus. Arc. 83**

**State University of New York at Buffalo. Music Library**

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Finding aid prepared by John Bewley.  
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## Collection Overview

Title: John Myhill Collection of Manuscript Scores and Papers, circa 1967-1984  
Collection Number: Mus. Arc. 83  
Creator: Myhill, John, 1923-1987  
Extent: 1 box (8 folders)  
Language of Material: Texts in English.  
Repository: State University of New York at Buffalo. Music Library  
Abstract: The collection contains scores of five compositions by John Myhill in varied states of completion and a folder of sketches and musical analyses. The collection also contains a folder of prose writings and a single piece of correspondence to Myhill.

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

[Specified item], John Myhill Collection of Manuscript Scores and Papers, circa 1967-1984, Music Library, The State University of New York at Buffalo.

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Joan Calkin, 1998.

### Terms of Access

Materials can be examined by qualified researchers in the Music Library during hours of operation during which Music Librarians are present. In order to insure access, researchers are advised to contact the Music Library in advance of visits.

### Copyright

Copyright for the materials in the collection does not reside with the Music Library. Therefore, patrons wishing to publish any item, or part of an item from this collection for any purpose, are responsible for securing requisite permissions.

### Processing Information

Processed by John Bewley.

### Accruals and Additions

No further accruals are expected to this collection.

## Biographical Note

John Myhill was born 11 August 1923 in Birmingham, England. He earned a B.A. in 1944 at Cambridge University and a Ph.D. at Harvard University in 1949. He served as a professor of mathematics at the University at Buffalo 1966-1987 and had previously taught at other institutions, including Vassar, Yale University, Temple University, University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, and University of Illinois. Prof. Myhill also had an avid interest in music theory and composition throughout his life. He died 15 February 1987.

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## Scope and Content Note

The collection contains scores of five compositions by John Myhill in varied states of completion and a folder of sketches and musical analyses. The collection also contains a folder of prose writings and a single piece of correspondence to Myhill.

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## Arrangement

The collection is chiefly arranged alphabetically by title.

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## Container List

Box	Item	Contents
1	01	Anniversary music (Variazioni e tema) , undated 1 holograph score (5 pages)  For piano.  Photo reproduction.
1	02	Authentic genuine Rumanian vampyre trap , undated 1 folder (8 leaves)  Instrumentation not specified but includes cello and piano.  "For David Rosenboom, whether he likes it or not"--Caption.  Pencil holograph.  Appears to be incomplete and includes sketches.
1	03	Dialectic , circa 1979 1 holograph score (17 pages) and typescript performance instructions (7 pages)  For solo percussion.  Photo reproduction.  The work was also titled Astarte on other copies.
1	04	Fourteen songs about money. Songs 1-3 , undated 1 holograph score (26 pages)  For voice and piano.  Includes a transposed version and full photocopy.

Title from next item.

I need your capital -- I had a little money -- I went the other side of India.

1            05            Harmonic scheme of Fourteen songs about money  
, undated  
1 holograph score (29 pages)  
  
For voice and piano.

I need your capital -- I had a little money -- I went the other side of India -- Fifteen months  
after I was at Bombay.

1            06            Great Russian train mystery  
, undated  
1 folder (5 leaves)  
  
Incomplete work and sketches.

1            07            Manuscript music sketches and analyses, undated  
8 sheets of music

1            08            Manuscript prose notes, undated  
11 leaves and 1 postcard

Postcard from soprano Isabelle Ganz to Myhill, May 10, 1984.

The prose notes concern text stresses, including phrases from The Odyssey in translations  
by Alexander Pope and George Chapman. Other keywords include "measured  
computation rules" and "ordinal recursion".

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## Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog:

## Subjects

Music--Manuscripts  
Myhill, John, 1923-1987--Manuscripts

## Genres

Manuscripts  
Scores

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