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A Guide to the
ALBERT KAVANAH COLLECTION, 1932–1980
Fisk University Archives

Processed by Uzoma O. Miller, Archival Assistant
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

As of February 2006, Albert Kavanah has not been identified. It is unclear how the collection was attained.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Albert Kavanah Collection contains two boxes, and consists of eight series. This collection includes **Clippings, Invitations, Post Cards, Programs, Promotional, Publications, Requests/ Solicitation** and **Miscellaneous** items regarding activity within the artistic world, primarily in Cleveland, Ohio and New York, New York. Artists such as Marian Anderson, Katherine Dunham, Natalie Leota Henderson, Caterina Jarboro, Howard Roberts, and Fred Thomas; organizations such as the National Association of Negro Musicians; legendary concert halls like Carnegie Hall and Radio City Music Hall; production companies like Karamu House and copies of such publications as *Playbill* and *Organ Institute Quarterly* all make the Albert Kavanah Collection extremely valuable to researchers interested in musical performances and dramatic interpretations in Cleveland and New York from the 1930s to 1980.

Series I: Clippings

The **Clippings** series consists of Cleveland newspaper coverage of popular culture happenings, criticisms and commentary in non-consecutive years, 1963—1980.

Series II: Invitations

The **Invitations** series holds personal and organizational requests of time to attend a recital or professional meeting.

Series III: Post Cards

The **Post Cards** series consists of two cards: one of the Robinson Family, a 1970s Public Broadcasting television series with a young and aspiring Howard Rollins; and the other of New York City's Temple Emanu-el [sic], founded in 1845.

Series IV: Programs

The **Programs** series represents the largest portion of the collection and consists of five subseries: **civic organization annuals; convocations; music; obsequies; and testimonials**. The **civic organization annuals** and **convocations** subseries are arranged alphabetically by organization or institution name. The **music** subseries is organized alphabetically by name of the venue holding the respective event. The **obsequies** subseries contains programs of Rev. Alfred Isaac and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s memorial services in Atlanta, Georgia on April 9, 1968. The **testimonials** subseries is arranged alphabetically by institution or individual who is being recognized and/or honored.

Series V: Promotional

The **Promotional** series contains brochures and flyers designed to promote an entertainer's art, production company's services or organization's programming initiatives. They are arranged alphabetically.

Series VI: Publications

The **Publications** series is arranged alphabetically and holds copies of *American Guild of Organists Quarterly*; *Fine Arts; New*; *Organ Institute Quarterly*, *The Open Door*; *The Playbill*; *The Worker Musician*; and *This is Opera*. The years 1932—1978 are covered in non consecutive years.

Series VII: Requests/ Solicitation

The **Requests/ Solicitation** series consist of donation requests from the United Negro College Fund/ Inter-Alumni Council and the Women's Civic League respectively.

Series VIII: Miscellaneous

The **Miscellaneous** series contains the last two remaining documents that did not fall within one of the previous series. A copy of Giuseppe Verdi's musical score, "Libretto," composed in 1792, is held with the original Italian, French and German lyrics and English translations. An unidentified choir photograph appears in this series as well.

BOX LIST

Box Folder

Series I: Clippings

1	1	1963, 1965, 1968, 1969
	2	1971
	3	1972
	4	1975
	5	1976
	6	1977
	7	1978
	8	1980
	9	n.d.

Series II: Invitations

	10	Joint Conventions, 1952
	11	Recital for Walker, Bryant Coleridge, 1945
	12	United Negro College Fund Convocation Committee, 1956
	13	United Negro College Fund Inter-Alumni Council, 1956
	14	Women's Civic League, 1974

Series III: Postcards

	15	Temple Emanu-el [sic]; The Robinson Family, n.d.
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Series IV: Programs

Civic Organization Annuals Subseries

	16	Iota Phi Lambda, 1973
	17	Phillis Wheatley Association, 1975

Convocation Subseries

	18	Central State University, 1970
	19	Ferris State College, 1965
	20	United Negro College Fund, 1956

Music Subseries

	21	Academy of Music, 1955, 1977
	22	Antioch Baptist Church, 1944, 1961
	23	Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory, 1956
	24	Blanch R. Halle Theatre, 1967
	25	Carnegie Hall, 1951, 1957, 1959

26 Cathedral of Saint John the Devine, n.d.
 27 Central Presbyterian Church, n.d.
 28 Cleveland Music Hall, 1950
 29 Cleveland Play House, 1964
 30 College Auditorium, 1955
 31 Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, 1948—1949
 32 Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, 1952
 33 Finney Memorial Chapel, 1956
 34 First Methodist Church, 1946, 1955
 35 Fisk Union Church, 1961
 36 Hanna Theatre, 1945, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1979
 37 Harlem Boy's Club, 1948
 38 Hotel Statler Ballroom, 1951
 39 Irvine Auditorium, 1952
 40 John Simpson Junior High School, 1955
 41 Karamu House, 1953; 1964—1966; 1967—1968; 1972;
 1973; 1976; 1980; n.d.
 42 Kimball Hall, 1944
 43 Lane Metropolitan C.M.E. Church, 1972
 44 Masonic Auditorium, 1966
 45 Metropolitan Community Church, 1963
 46 Mother A.M.E. Zion Church, 1949
 47 Mount Calvary Methodist Church, 1957
 48 Mount Calvary Methodist Church, n.d.
 49 Mount Sinai Baptist Church
 50 Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1959
 51 Mount Zion Congregational Church, 1956
 52 Mount Zion Congregational Church, 1963
 53 Mount Zion Congregational Church, 1975
 54 Music Hall, 1955—1956
 55 New York Times Hall, 1958
 56 Old Stone Church, 1955—1956
 57 Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, 1966
 58 Opera House, 1967
 59 Park Synagogue, 1967
 60 Phillis Wheatley Association, 1963
 61 Public Auditorium, 1942, 1947, 1955, 1956, 1967
 62 Radio City Music Hall, 1955
 63 Riverside Church, 1956

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1 Samuel J. Green Junior High School, 1954
 2 Saint Johns A.M.E. Church, n.d.
 3 Saint Mark Methodist Church, 1963
 4 Saint Marks Presbyterian Church, 1955
 5 Saint Paul's Chapel, 1956
 6 Saint Timothy Missionary Baptist Church, 1964

- 7 Salem Methodist Church, 1949
8 Severance Hall, 1949
9 Severance Hall, 1950—1951
10 Severance Hall, 1955—1956
11 Severance Hall, 1965—1966
12 Severance Hall, 1968
13 South Shore United Methodist Church, 1976
14 The Town Hall, 1948, 1951, 1952
15 Warner Concert Hall, 1946
16 Wendell Phillips High School, 1948
17 Werner Methodist Church, 1954
18 WHK Auditorium, 1970
19 Unidentified, 1956
20 Unidentified, n.d.
Obsequies Subseries
- 21 Ebenezer Baptist Church, 1968; Union Baptist Church,
n.d.
Testimonials Subseries
- 22 Bell, Myrtle J., 1966
23 Burke, Lillian W., 1978
24 Ellison, Nolen M., 1974
25 Freedom Fund Dinner, 1965
26 Hunter, Jane Edna, 1978
27 Stokes, Louis, 1969
28 Thomas, Roxie Alvilda, 1977
29 Wiggins, Pauline A., 1958
- Series V: Promotional**
- 30 Dunham, Katherine, n.d.
31 Hines, Theodore, 1952
32 Mozart's Sandrina, n.d.
33 National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.,
1955—1956, 1976, n.d.
34 National Opera Ebony, 1976
35 Talladega College, n.d.
36 Titus, Maxine, n.d.
- Series VI: Publications**
- 37 *American Guild of Organists Quarterly*, 1956—1958
38 *Fine Arts*, 1973
39 *New*, 1971
40 *Organ Institute Quarterly*, 1952, 1956, 1957
41 *The Open Door*, 1953, 1978
42 *The Playbill*, 1944, 1947, 1965, 1969, 1972, 1978

43 *The Worker Musician*, 1932

44 *This is Opera*, n.d.

Series VII: Requests/ Solicitation

45 United Negro College Fund/ Inter- Alumni Council, n.d.

46 Women's Civic League, n.d.

Series VIII: Miscellaneous

47 Lyrics to "Libretto," by Giuseppe Verdi, n.d.

48 Unidentified Choir Photograph signed by Hampton Barker,
Sr., n.d.