

Christopher A. Reynolds Collection of Women's Song, 1850-1950

This collection is housed in Shields Library, Special Collections, at the University of California, Davis.

It contains 1358 song publications mostly published between 1850 and 1950. A few songs are from before 1850 and a few from after 1950. The collection is primarily made up of songs, but there are also many works for solo piano as well as anthems and part songs. In addition there are books written by the women song composers and four letters by Mrs. H. H. A. Beach to James Francis Cooke.

The best represented composers in the collection are: Carrie Jacobs Bond (with 60 songs), Teresa del Riego (34), Amy Woodforde-Finden (29), Elinor Remick Warren (28), Clare Kummer (27), Liza Lehmann (27), Maude Valerie White (25), Guy d'Hardelot (24), Emma Louis Ashford (24), Jessie L. Gaynor (22), Caro Roma (22), and Anita Owen (20).

This collection includes fifty songs that were owned by Eleanor Lee Kingman, the grandmother of Christopher Reynolds. A native Californian, she was born in Pomona in 1893 and died there in 1990, having lived much of her adult life in Palos Verdes Estates. Before she married Alan Kingman in 1923 she had studied voice in Los Angeles, San Diego, and then in New York City with Frank La Forge. There she lived as the companion of the Californian pianist and composer, Elinor Remick Warren. Returning to California, she taught voice at Pomona College and then for a year at the University of Oregon in Eugene, OR. The songs that she owned she signed in a variety of ways, including E. A. Lee, Eleanor Allen Lee, Eleanor Lee Kingman. Additionally, the collection also includes songs that were owned by her husband Alan Kingman (7), his sister, Edith Kingman (5), and her aunt Elizabeth Lee (1).

Eleanor Lee Kingman also owned many songs by her friend Elinor Remick Warren, including four autograph manuscript copies. There are also two songs in the hand of Amy Worth, one of her own songs and one by Elinor Remick Warren.

Many songs in the collection were signed by the women who composed them. These include Florence Newell Barbour, Grace E. Bush, Florence Edna Chipman, Harriet Adams Conrad, Louise Crawford, Caroline Adelaide Dance, Katherine A. Glen, Helene Hipkins, Corinne Moore Lawson, Estelle Gray Lhevinne, and Elinor Remick Warren.

There are also songs by a few men who published songs under women's names, including Dorothy Lee, Lillian Ray, and Constance V. White.

For a database that lists well over 10,000 song publications by women, see the website Women Song Composers, 1890-1930 at

http://music24.ucdavis.edu/Women_Songs_Home.html