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Guide to the Leon Lewis Papers 1939-1988



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.LEWISL
Title	Lewis, Leon. Papers
Date	1939-1998
Size	1 linear feet (1 box)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract	Leon Lewis, jazz enthusiast and advertiser. The Leon Lewis Papers contains articles, correspondence, handwritten music, record catalogs and discographies, publications, and restaurant ephemera.

Acknowledgments

The Leon Lewis Papers was processed and preserved as part of the "Uncovering New Chicago Archives Project," funded with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Lewis, Leon. Papers, [Box#, Folder#], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Leon Lewis was born and raised in Hyde Park on Chicago's South Side. He attended the University of Chicago and graduated in 1928. A pioneer in the advertising industry, Leon Lewis was an advertising executive for 50 years. Lewis represented the French Company, Selmer Musical Instruments and he worked with Benny Goodman and Andres Segovia. Through his work with Selmer, Lewis met Louis Armstrong, one of his favorite musicians.

Surrounded by the jazz music of Chicago's South Side, Lewis became quite a jazz enthusiast. In high school, he formed his own jazz band, which included a young Gene Krupa. Later in life, Lewis composed a map of Chicago's earliest jazz venues: "Jazz Map of the South Side: 1915-1930." The map is a compilation of original jazz venues, locations, musicians, and bands

Lewis died in 2003 at the age of 95.

Scope Note

The Leon Lewis Papers contains articles, correspondence, handwritten music, record catalogs and discographies, publications, and restaurant ephemera. The articles feature composer and arranger Eddie Fritz as does the handwritten music. The correspondence is between Leon Lewis and Harold Flasker. The publication is of Leonard Feather's *Jazz*.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html>

Chicago Jazz Archive

Subject Headings

- Lewis, Leon
- Jazz
- Jazz -- Illinois -- Chicago
- University of Chicago. Chicago Jazz Archive

INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder 1

Composer, Eddie Fritz, 1944-1984

Box 1

Folder 2

Correspondence, 1939-1985

Box 1

Folder 3

Catalog, Carl Gurley Co., 1988

Box 1

Folder 4

Catalog, Jazz Records A-Z, 1963

Box 1

Folder 5

Discography, Coleman Hawkins, 1945-1957

Box 1

Folder 6

Publication, *Jazz*, circa 1950s

Box 1

Folder 7

Tuesday's Menu, undated