

**University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Archives and Special Collections**

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Eisteddfod International Folk Festival

Records, 1970-1996

Manuscript Collection - MC 2
Guide and collection inventory

Extent: 12 linear feet (16 manuscript boxes, 9 audiocassette boxes and one record carton)

Historical note:

Records indicate that the first eisteddfod was held in 1176 at Cardigan Castle in West Wales where poets and musicians competitively performed for the royalty (eisteddfod is a Welsh word meaning a gathering of bards and minstrels). In 1858, the first public, national eisteddfod was held in Wales at Llangollen. There were very few, if any, eisteddfod festivals during World War I and II; in 1947, however, in an attempt to break down cultural and political barriers, the first International Musical Festival was held. The festival took place in Llandollen where people of many cultural backgrounds (Czechoslovakian, Hungarian, and Yugoslavian to name a few) came together to enjoy one another's cultural and musical traditions, and to perform as well.

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth professor and artist Howard Glasser made several trips to Scotland in the early 1960s. The rich, traditional music of the Scottish people so inspired Glasser that he began to form ceilidhs at the Carnegie-Mellon University where he had been instructing (ceilidh is a Scots-Gaelic word for a gathering of friends). Glasser moved his ceilidhs to the University of Rhode Island in Kingston and then to the Southeastern Massachusetts University (SMU; now University of Massachusetts Dartmouth). The ceilidhs at SMU met on Friday nights attracting traditional musicians from Boston and Providence to informally perform in front of small audiences. In 1971, Glasser founded the first Eisteddfod Festival at SMU. International traditional musicians were now drawn to SMU's campus for the festive event.

Though the eisteddfodae are more formal and larger scaled than the ceilidhs, the two events co-existed through the 1970s (the ceilidhs were held on a weekly or monthly basis whereas the eisteddfodae were held for three consecutive days in the early fall). The ceilidhs on campus ceased in 1980, but the annual Eisteddfod festival was held annually in October through 1996. In 1996, the UMD Eisteddfod celebrated its 25th anniversary, however, in May of 1997 campus administration decided to withdraw funding for the annual event. There was no festival held between 1997 and 2000.

Funding for the UMD Eisteddfod festival was provided by the Allocations Committee, the New England Foundation for the Arts, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and annual student fees. Organization of the festival is provided by the Eisteddfod Executive Committee. The committee is comprised of professors of traditional music, performers and artists of traditional music, traditional storytellers, broadcasters of folk-radio, and others who may have a great interest in the annual UMD Eisteddfod Festivals.

Source: various Eisteddfod programs, 1971-1996

Scope and Contents note:

The collection is divided into 4 series. Series I, festival records, includes press releases, budget estimates, and memoranda from the Eisteddfod Executive Committee (EEC), festival programs, brochures, and biographies of the many Eisteddfod performers. This series also contains the yearly publications of the *Ceilidh Columns* (compiled by EEC members and Eisteddfod performers), Eisteddfod editions of *The Torch* and *The Observer* (two UMD newspapers), photographs of Eisteddfod performers, music reviews from various newspapers and magazines, and student reviews. Series II are files kept by CVPA which pertain to artists and performers of the Eisteddfod Festival. Series III are audiocassette recordings of performances, and Series IV are commercial recordings featuring participating artists.

Acquisition: The bulk of the collection was received in November 1996 (Accession # 97-10 and 97-11). Files kept by CVPA were later acquired in November 1998 (Accession # 99-4).

Access: unrestricted

Language: Material predominantly in English

Copyright: recordings may be restricted for some uses; other items are property of UMD; requests for permission to publish from this collection should be addressed to the University Archivist.

Repository: University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Claire T. Carney Library Archives and Special Collections, Howard T. Glasser Archives of Folk Music and Letter Arts, 285 Old Westport Road, N. Dartmouth, MA 02747. Telephone: 508-999-8686.

Processing note: the collection is an aggregate of items transferred from 4 sources - the Office of the Dean of Visual and Performing Arts, the Office of News and Public Information, the University Library's Audio-Visual department, recordings from the collection of Howard T. Glasser, and selected files already deposited in the Archives and Special Collections. Processing and finding aid completed February 1997 by Julie Fernandes '99 (later edited in November 1998 and 2010).

Citation: University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Eisteddfod Festival Records, Archives and Special Collections University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Library, North Dartmouth, MA.

Inventory

Series I: Eisteddfod Executive Committee Records

| Box # | Folder # | Description |
|--------------|-----------------|--|
| 1 | 1 | SMU/UMD ceilidhs, 1970-1980 |
| | 2 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1977, 1978, 1980) |
| | 3 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1981, 1986, 1987) |
| | 4 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1988) |
| | 5 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1989) |
| | 6 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1990) |
| | 7 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1991) |
| | 8 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1992) |
| 2 | 9 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1993) |

| Box # | Folder # | Description |
|--------------|-----------------|---|
| 2 | 10 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1993) |
| | 11 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (1994-1996) |
| | 12 | The Eisteddfod Executive Committee: correspondence, budget estimates, performer confirmations (n.d.) |
| | 13 | Programs (1973, 1985, 1987, 1988) |
| | 14 | Public announcements and brochures (1973-1995) |

Subseries A: Eisteddfod Executive Committee Records (Maeve Hickok files)

| Box # | Folder# | Description |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| 2a | A1 | Special annual publication on the festival (1977) |
| | A2 | Resume from Allan Jones, essay titled "Nyckleharpa" by Matt Fichtenbaum (1979) |
| | A3 | Fragmented publication with an interview with Howard Glasser, form for performers (1980) |
| | A4 | Information about Traditional Arts, Ceilidh Columns #10 (1981) |
| | A5 | Campus Map, Standard Times articles about Michael Holmes (1984) |
| | A6 | Festival Program (1985) |
| | A7 | Sample form for Arts Extension Service from UMass Amherst, info on Eisteddfod (1986) |
| | A8 | Letter from Jody Heck, information on Eisteddfod 1987, Letters to Ellen Fleysler, Willard Scott, Jean Judge, Brad Hathaway, Mike Cochran, Jeff McLaughlin, Greg Stone, Pat Hundley, John Brazil, and the University Community (1987) |
| | A9 | Folk Arts Network pamphlet, articles from The Providence Journal, The Boston Globe, program guide out of 'GBH, program book from Eisteddfod '88, list of gallery openings at SMU (1988) |

| | | |
|------|-----|--|
| | A10 | Notes from a meeting, short biographies of performers, list of people, bio of The Beans, performer bios (1989) |
| | A11 | Letters, meeting notes, copy of the Boston Globe, SMU Internal Review and Transmittal Form, Standard Times article about Native Americans, performer bios, copied articles, Eisteddfod schedules, flyers, (1989) |
| June | A12 | Memorandums, list of expenses and revenues from Eisteddfod '90, 1990 copy of The Folk Letter, letters, list of performers, addendum, Eisteddfod annual publication, lists of addresses, New Bedford Soundings, Sparky Rucker flyer (1990) |
| | A13 | Memorandums, flyers, interviews, published newspaper interviews, annual festival publication, article from Trends, list of expenses and revenues, letters (1991) |
| | A14 | Photographs of performers (1991) |
| | A15 | Eisteddfod Award, Champlain Valley Festival letter, memorandums, budget list, New England Folk Almanac, Standard Times article, copy of "The Lost Spindle" program, addresses, annual festival publication, thumbnail layout of Eisteddfod program, list of performers, schedule, "Only Yesterday?" program (1992) |
| | A16 | Boston Globe article, event form, budget list, memo, letters, address, list of ideas, email, list of comments, newspaper articles, New England Folk Almanac pamphlet, Old Songs Festival of Traditional Music & Dance flyer, performer bios, New England Folk Almanac, Boston Sunday Globe articles on alpacas, list of performers and addresses, Live Oak and Company reviews, (1993) |
| 2b | A17 | Newspaper articles, memorandums, book gala opening invitation, Smithsonian Institution Festival of American Folklife committee meeting notes, flyers, flyer info, performer bios, New England Folk Almanacs, A Prospectus, special annual publication, letters, Local Cultural Council Grant Application, Internal Review & Transmittal Form, maps, surveys (1994) |
| | A18 | Photographs of performers and of performances past. (1994) |
| | A19 | Flyer/pamphlet, Cape Verdean Culture at the 1995 Festival of American Folklore, article from the Smithsonian Talk Story, meeting notes, memos, list of confirmed performers, a to-do list, project summary proposal, and Jeff Davis's resume. (1995) |
| | A20 | Original articles that the 1994 articles were copied from. |
| | A21 | Articles |
| | A22 | Survey Forms |
| | A23 | Memos and articles |
| | A24 | Articles, Eisteddfod logo, Music Tree pamphlet, Eisteddfod mail invitation, list of addresses, program listing, maps, meeting notes, a prospectus, to-do lists, list of ideas, synopsis of Eisteddfod questionnaire, list of Eisteddfod promoters, university classroom workshop requests, memos, list of performer's pay, map of the Champlain Valley Summer |

Festival program book, ticket order form, notes, performer bios and resumes, schedules, sample press releases, articles,

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Subseries B: Printed matter

Map case

| <u>Drawer #</u> | <u>Folder #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | 15 | Posters, brochures, programs (1974-1975, 1977, 1980-1984, 1986, 1989-1991, 1994-1996) and original screenprint of logo by Howard Glasser, 1994 |

Subseries C: Performer Records

| <u>Box #</u> | <u>Folder #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| 2 | 16 | Performer/artist biographies (A-G) |
| | 17 | Performer/artist biographies (H-L) |
| 3 | 18 | Performer/artist biographies (M-W) |
| | 19 | Performer/artist biographies (various groupings) |
| | 20, 21 | Special annual publication on the festival (1977-1982) |
| 3, 4 | 22-24 | Special annual publication on the festival (1990-1996) |
| 4 | 25 | Special annual publication on the festival (incomplete copies) |
| | 26 | Eisteddfod editions of <i>The Torch</i> and <i>The Observer</i> (1989-1994) |
| | 27 | Performer photographs (A-P) |
| | 28 | Performer photographs (P-W) |
| | 29 | Performer photographs (unidentified) |
| 5 | 30 | Music reviews-newspaper/magazine |
| | 31 | Student reviews of performers Ed Miller and Debbie McClatchy |

Series II: Artist and performer files kept by CVPA

see Appendix A

Box # **Description**

| | |
|----|--|
| 6 | Ad Vielle que pourra—Bruneau, Philippe and Dorothy Hogan |
| 7 | Bubbleric—Eritage |
| 8 | Fado—Goulder, Dave |
| 9 | Grady, Mance—Jackson, John |
| 10 | Johnathan, Michael—MacKenzie, Talitha and Anne Goodwin |
| 11 | Mackintosh, Iain—Peck, Bob |
| 12 | Peirce, Maggie—Sarginska, Tatiana |
| 13 | Savoy, Mark and Ann—Taino |
| 14 | Thorpe, Dwayne—Miscellaneous artists |

Series III: Audiocassette recordings of performances

| <u>Box #</u> | <u>Tape #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 15 | 1 | 1973 performances |
| | 2-22 | 1989 performances |
| | 23-29 | 1990 performances |
| | 30-35 | 1991 performances |
| 16 | 36-42 | 1991 performances |

| Box # | Tape # | Description |
|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 16 | 43-62 | 1992 performances |
| | 63-71 | 1993 performances |
| 17 | 72-81 | 1993 performances |
| | 82,83 | 1994 performances |
| | 84-105 | 1995 performances |
| | 106,107 | 1996 performances |
| 18 | 108-128 | 1996 performances |
| | 129-143 | performances , n.d. |
| 19 | 144-154 | performances, n.d. |

Series IV: Commercial recordings featuring participating performers
see Appendix B

| Box # | Description |
|--------------|--|
| 20-23 | Includes audiocassettes, compact discs, vinyl disks and videotapes |

Artifacts:

24 8 oversized banners (some gray, some orange)

| <u>Appendices</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------------------|---|
| A | Listing of artists and performers (Series II) |
| B | Listing of audio recordings (Series IV) |