
Processed by Tony Gardner
Finding Guide by Tony Gardner

7 boxes, 2 OV boxes, 1 photograph album, 7 cd’s, 2 resolutions, a commendation and 1 poster in map case

Call No. ML419.G53 P44 1920

History
Peggy Gilbert (1905-2007) was a musician (she played the saxophone) and band leader. From the 1930s through the 1996 she led several all-girl orchestras and bands. An advocate for women musicians, she arranged for their bookings and contracts. She was an active member in Local 47 of the Musician’s Union.

After playing with an all girl band Boots and her Buddies in the 1930s, Gilbert formed her own band in 1933 which played in Honolulu. She changed the name of her bands frequently. They played in Hollywood films and in clubs such as the Cocoanut Grove, Garden of Allah, and in 1937 Hollywood’s Second "Swing Concert" at The Palomar in Los Angeles. Her band played on radio and toured with the USO during the 1940s. After a long stint working at Local 47 and performing occasionally, in 1970, at the age of 69, she formed a new band, the Dixie Belles. She stopped performing in 1996 and died at the age of 102 in 2007.

Provenance
Jeannie Pool, Peggy Gilbert’s biographer, donated the collection to the Oviatt Library’s Special Collections in 2008.

Scope and Contents
The collection contains the personal music scores, scrapbooks, and photographs of Peggy Gilbert with a few items from her youth. The audio materials in the collection include an interview with Peggy Gilbert and a program on the BBC about her in 2007.
Organization

The scrapbooks were received in 3-ring binders with the contents inserted in plastic sleeves apparently replacing the original scrapbooks which were not seen. All materials were transferred into archival manuscript boxes. Loose photographs, photographs and other printed materials in a 3-ring binder, and a small album of retirement photographs were transferred into polypropylene enclosures and housed in an archival three ring binder.

References


Box Listing


Scrapbook. 1920-1939.
01. Boots and her Buddies, 1931. (broadshe).
02. Correspondence.
04. Local 47, 1930s.
05. Manila Hotel.
06. Melody Girls, 1927.
08. *Newslette* (Fresno, CA), Dec. 1, 1928.
09. Peggy Gilberts’ parents. Photographs (copies).

Scrapbook. 1940-1949.
14. Local 47. 1942.
17. Venues.
18. Venues. Garden of Allah (Seal Beach).

Scrapbook. 1950-1974
21. Local 47. 1967
Scrapbook . 1975-1980
22. Correspondence.
23. Local 47.
24. New clippings.
27. Tuning in on femme musicians.

01. Awards.
02. Correspondence.
03. Correspondence. 1981.
04. Correspondence. 1982.
05. Local 47.
06. News clippings.
07. Photographs.
08. Television script (Golden Girls).
09. Tuning in on femme musicians.

13. Congress of Strings.
14. Correspondence.
15. Directories.
17. News clippings.
18. Tuning in on femme musicians.

01. Correspondence.
02. Directories.
03. Exhibitions.
04. Music scores.
05. New clippings.
07. Press releases.
08. Venues. Dixie Belles.

10. Awards and honors.
11. Awards and honors. Local 47.
12. Awards and honors. Sigma Alpha Iota.
13. Congress of Strings.
14. Correspondence.
15. Directories.
17. News clippings.
20. Television script (Golden Girls).

22. Awards, honors.
24. Birthday. 100th.
25. Birthday. 101st.
27. Correspondence.
29. Dixie Belles stationary.
30. Films. Peggy Gilbert and Her All Girl Band.
31. Local 47.
32. News clippings.
33. Obituaries.
34. Press releases.
36. You Bet Your Life (television show).

**Box 4. Music and Notes. (AS/RS 30700110946893)**

01. Dixie Belle (score. parts).
02. Don’t be a Fool (score).
03. Don’t Wear Your Heart on Your Sleeve (score).
04. Gettin’ Even (score).
05. I Found My Love in the Yellow Pages (score).
06. I’ll See You Again (score).
07. If You Don’t Think I’m Leaving (score).
08. Is There Room in Your Heart for Me (score).
09. Molasses, Molasses (score).
10. Mr. Chick Tapp. Copyright registration.
11. Mr. Chick Tapp. Drawings by Peggy Gilbert.
15. Mr. Chick Tapp. Music score: The Belles are on their Way [lyrics on separate sheets].
17. Mr. Chick Tapp. Music scores: Chick Tap, Kitten without Mittens, I See Pink People.
18. Mr. Chick Tapp. Prologue.
19. Mr. Chick Tapp. Script.
20. Mr. Chick Tapp. Story outline.
22. My Lonely Heart (2 scores, signed). Correspondence with composer Bob Nichols.
23. Natalie (score. parts).
25. Rodeo Cowboy (score).
26. Sacramento Jubilee (score).
27. Sex or Sax. My Book Notes [Reminiscences of Peggy Gilbert].
28. Sidesteppin’ (score).
30. You Can’t See Me in My Jammies (score).
31. You Just Drive Me Screwy (score).

Box 5-6. Plaques and other Awards. (AS/RS 30700110946901) (AS/RS 30700110946919)

Box 7. Card files and Compact Disks. (AS/RS 30700110946927)

01. Tune-Dex cards
02. Care file for Pioneer Musicians of Los Angeles luncheon and concert, 1986.
03. Peggy Gilbert interview by Sherrie Tucker. Studio City, California September 22-23, 1998. 6 compact disks

OV Box 2. Plaques and other Awards. (AS/RS 30700110946943)

Photograph album. (Stacks with photographs)
01. Peggy Gilbert and Her Dixie Belles.
02. Dixie Belles. Snapshots of venues.
03. Retirement Party, January 1970 (?)..

Map Case
MC-01. County of Los Angeles Commendation.
MC-04. Film poster. Peggy Gilbert and her all Girl Band.