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2020

### Guide to the Zenobia Powell Perry Collection

Columbia College Chicago

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# Columbia

COLLEGE CHICAGO

## CENTER FOR BLACK MUSIC RESEARCH COLLECTION

### The Zenobia Powell Perry Collection, 1954-2011

#### EXTENT

8 flat boxes, 11 linear feet

#### COLLECTION SUMMARY

Zenobia Powell Perry (1908-2004) was a professor, pianist, and composer whose compositions have been performed by the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, the Detroit Symphony, and the West Virginia University Band and Symphony. The Zenobia Powell Perry papers span from 1954-2001 and are comprised entirely of Perry's scores and music manuscripts.

#### PROCESSING INFORMATION

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project." By T.J. Szafranski and Dominique Fuqua, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Zenobia Powell Perry (1908-2004) was a professor, pianist, and composer whose compositions have been performed by the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, the Detroit Symphony, and the West Virginia University Band and Symphony. Perry was born on October 3, 1908 in Boley, Oklahoma. In 1931, Perry went to Rochester, New York to study music under R. Nathaniel Dett. After graduating from Tuskegee Institute in 1938, Perry spent additional time studying composition with Darius Milhaud, Allan Willman, and Charles Jones at the University of Wyoming, earning her Master of Music in composition in 1954. Perry began teaching music in 1947 at Arkansas Agricultural Mechanical and Normal College (now called University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff), where she served until 1955. From 1955-1982, she was a faculty member and composer-in-residence at Central State University, in Wilberforce, Ohio. In 1987, Perry's opera, *Tawawa House*, premiered at Central State University.

[Pool, Jeannie Gayle. *American Composer Zenobia Powell Perry: Race and Gender in the 20th Century*. Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2009.

#### SCOPE & CONTENT/COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Zenobia Powell Perry papers span from 1954-2011 and are comprised entirely of Perry's unpublished scores. The collection of scores includes *Tawawa House*, Perry's opera based on the history of Wilberforce, Ohio, which premiered in 1987. The papers are arranged into one series, "Compositions." The collection is arranged alphabetically.

Each folder includes a title page prepared by Perry's biographer, Jeannie Gayle Pool, which may include some additional description of the composition. Titles that are followed by a "See" note, or by "Score Not Found," contain only a title page prepared by Poole; they do not contain scores. Box 1 contains a CD-R with scans of many of the compositions.

### **ARRANGEMENT**

The collection contains one series: Compositions, arranged in alphabetical order at the folder level.

### **RELATED MATERIALS**

Jeannie Gayle Pool Collection on Zenobia Powell Perry, Center for Black Music Research, Columbia College Chicago.

The manuscript scores held in this collection have been digitized by Jeanne Gayle Pool and are available in the archives.

### **ACQUISITION SOURCE**

Donated by Jeanne Gayle Pool to the CBMR in 2011.

### **SUBJECT HEADINGS**

Perry, Zenobia Powell  
African-American composers  
African-American women composers  
Tawawa House  
Music

### **ACCESS STATEMENT**

Materials designated as restricted materials are housed in specially marked folders, otherwise the collection is open and available for research use.

### **RIGHTS STATEMENT**

United States copyright laws apply to the materials in this collection. Contact the archives with your request so that the rights holders can be contacted.

### **PREFERRED CITATION**

The Zenobia Powell Perry Collection, Center for Black Music Research Collection, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

**Zenobia Powell Perry Container List**  
**Series I: Compositions**

Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	N/A	CD-R with scans of compositions	2011
	1	Aftermath – <i>See Narrative</i>	Undated
	2	Ah Got a Home in a Dat Rock, for soprano and piano	1969
	3	Alleluia	Undated
	4	Angels Done Bowed Down, O de Angels Done Bowed Down	Undated
	5	Arkansia, suite for violin and piano	1955
	6	The Arkansas Traveller (sic)	Undated
	7	At Tea, Suite – <i>See Suite for Women’s Voices</i>	Undated
	8	Atmosphere Cycle – <i>See Threnody</i>	Undated
	9	Benediction for violin and piano – <i>See Threnody</i>	Undated
	10	A Bit of Fun – <i>See Arkansia</i>	Undated
	11	Blaize – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	Undated
	12	Cantata – <i>See Sing Unto The Lord a New Song</i>	Undated
	13	Certainly Lord, for tenor and piano	1974
	14	Childhood Capers – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	Undated
	15	Chit-Chat – <i>See Conversations for two flutes and piano</i>	Undated
	16	Choral Suite No. 1, for tape sounds, percussion, piano, 16 voice choir	1963
	17	Choral Suite for Women’s Voices – <i>See Suite for Women’s Voices</i>	Undated
	18	Christmas Is More – <i>See Notes of Christmas</i>	Undated
	19	Clean Tale, A – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
	20	Conversations, for two flutes and piano	1975
	21	The Cottage, for soprano and piano	1964
	22	Couldn’t Hear Nobody Pray, for baritone and piano	1978
	23	Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar, for voice and piano	1977-1983
	24	[The] Day of Resurrection!	Undated
	25	Done Made My Vow to the Lord, for SATB	1974
	26	Dreams – <i>See Three Sketches</i>	Undated
	27	Drizzle – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
2	28	Echoes of the Journey, for soprano and chamber orchestra	1990
	29	Echoes of the Journey for soprano and chamber orchestra (parts)	1990
	30	Elegy for Brass Quintet, for trumpet, 2 horns in F, trombone, and tuba/euphonium	1980, rev. 1989

	31	Episcopal Eucharistic Lectionary Propers, Palm Sunday 1970 by the Children's Choir	1970
	32	Episodes I and II, for horn and piano	1983
	33	Excursions, for piano trio	1989
	34	Fantasy, for violin and piano	1968; revised 1972
	35	Fantasy Rondo, for solo piano	1962-63
	36	Festival Prelude, for organ	1975
	37	Five-Fold Amen	1961
	38	Flight – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1970
	39	Folk Song – <i>See Arkansia</i>	Undated
	40	For Bahai Chorus	2000
3	41	Four Mynyms for Three Players, for flute, oboe, and piano	1963; revised 1968 and 1979
	42	Fulfillment, for baritone [voice] and piano	1967
	43	Gifts for four-part women's voices	1993
	44	Gloria in Excelsis, for soprano and piano	1967
	45	Go Tell It on the Mountain	1974
	46	Gossip – <i>See Conversation for two flutes and piano</i>	Undated
	47	Great Gittin' Up Mornin' – <i>See Tawawa House</i>	Undated
	48	Hallelujah, for unison children's chorus and SS chorus	1972
	49	Hallelujah, for brass octet	1984
	50	Hallelujah to the Lamb	1969; revised 1982
	51	Heritage and Life: A Cycle of Songs, for soprano and piano	Undated
	52	[The] Hidden Words of Baha'u'llah, for soprano, flute, and piano	1977
	53	Homage to William Levi Dawson on his 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1990
	54	How Charming is the Place, for soprano and organ or piano	1994
	55	Humoreske – <i>See Three Sketches</i>	Undated
	56	Hymn of Praise	1986
	57	In the Great Gittin' Up Mornin' – <i>See Tawawa House</i>	Undated
	58	Introduction, Prelude and Danse for band	1968
	59	It's Me O Lord, Standing in the Need of Prayer, for baritone and piano	1974
	60	Jazzy (Jazz) Trifle – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1986
	61	Journey – <i>See Echoes from the Journey</i>	Undated
	62	Jovial – <i>See Four Mynyms for Three Players</i>	Undated
	63	Jubilant – <i>See Four Mynyms for Three Players</i>	Undated
	64	Just Folks	1956, 1957

	65	Kid Stuff – <i>See Three Songs for Christmas</i>	Undated
	66	Kum Ba Yah	1975
4	67	Kum Ba Yah, for children's chorus and conga drum	Undated
	68	Lamb of God, for SSA	1958
	69	Landlord's Ballad – <i>See Ballad for Piano After Ballad of the Landlord</i>	Undated
	70	Landscape – <i>See Arkansia</i>	Undated
	71	Latino Rhythms, for two trumpets and piano	1959
	72	Let Thy Merciful Ears, O Lord	Undated
	73	Life	Undated
	74	Lift Every Voice and Sing (arrangement)	1975
	75	Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending	1969
	76	Londonderry Air, for violin and piano	2001
	77	Love Came Down at Christmas, for unison children's chorus and strings	1972
	78	The Love of God	1991
	79	Make a Joyful Noise (Psalm 98: 4-6) from Great Gittin' Up Mornin'	Undated
	80	March (Three Notes)	Undated
	81	Mary Had a Baby – <i>See Three Songs for Christmas</i>	Undated
	82	Mass in F# Minor, for soprano and bass soli, SATB, and piano or organ	1968
	83	Meadow Fresh	Undated
	84	Melancholy – <i>See Four Mynyms for Three Players</i>	Undated
	85	A Mighty Fortress is Our God	1975
	86	Moods, for mixed quartet of voices, marimba, and conga drum	1974
	87	Music for SATB and piano	Undated
	88	Music from Ohio – <i>See Notes of Christmas</i>	1993
	89	Narrative, for flute, narrator/soprano, two percussionists, and piano	1975
5	90	Ninefold Amen	Undated
	91	Notes for Christmas, for SATB and piano	1991
	92	Nova Songs, electronic music on tape	Undated
	93	O de Angels Done Bowed Down, for mezzo-soprano and piano	1973
	94	O Lord, Make Thy Beauty, for SATB a cappella	1991
	95	O the Angels Done Bowed – <i>See O de Angels Done Bowed Down</i>	Undated
	96	Of Life and Love – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems by Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
	97	O Peter, Go Ring Dem Bells, for SATB and piano	Undated
	98	O Whisper, O My Soul – <i>See Tawawa House</i>	Undated
	99	On a Clean Book – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
	100	Orrin and Echo – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1970

	101	O' Tannenbaum	Undated
	102	Pastels for orchestra	1986
	103	Pavanne for piano – <i>See Reflections for Piano</i>	1975
	104	Pensive – <i>See Four Mynyms for Three Players</i>	Undated
	105	Philosophy, for flute, cello and voice	1984
	106	Piano Potpourri	1990
	107	Piano Sonata No.3	1959-60
	108	Piano Sonatina – <i>See Sonatina for Piano</i>	1962
	109	Precious Lord, for SATB and piano	1976
	110	Prelude, for horn and piano – <i>See Episodes I and II</i>	Undated
6	111	Prelude and Aria for Clarinet – <i>See Sonata for Clarinet and Piano</i>	Undated
	112	Prelude for organ	1973
	113	Prism for organ	1975
	114	Program Symphony	1954
	115	Promenade – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1988
	116	Quiet of Christmas – <i>See Notes of Christmas</i>	Undated
	117	Redemption, for SATB	1963
	118	Reflections for piano	Undated
	119	Rhapsody for piano – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	Undated
	120	The Resurrection (Jonathan Brooks), for unison soprano and alto, organ or piano	Undated
	121	Rhyme for saxophone and piano, for alto saxophone and piano	1968; revised 1977
	122	Ride, Ride, Ride King Jesus, for SATB a cappella	1974
	123	Round and Round – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1977
	124	Salon du Capriccii, for piano	1972
	125	Sanctus and Agnus Dei – <i>See Episcopal Eucharistic Lectionary Propers Palm Sunday</i>	Undated
	126	Ships That Pass in the Night, for instrumental ensemble and narrator	1988
7	127	Sing Unto the Lord a New Song, a cantata for soprano, mezzo-soprano, baritone, narrator, SATB, flute, timpani, harp, and organ	1976
	128	Sinner Man So Hard, Believe! for soprano and piano	1967; revised 1969
	129	Soliloquy – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1979
	130	Sonata for clarinet and piano	1963
	131	Sonata for violin and piano – <i>Score Not Found</i>	Undated
	132	Sonata for Piano Forte	1960
	133	Sonata No. 3	1959-1960
	134	Sonatina for piano	1962
	135	Sonatine for piano	1963
	136	Songs for Nobody – <i>Score Not Found</i>	1961
	137	Sound Patterns, for narrator and clarinet	1978

	138	Spring Song – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
	139	Standing in the Need of Prayer for baritone and piano – <i>See Its Me O Lord Standing in the Need of Prayer</i>	1976
	140	Still, Still	1972
	141	String Quartet No. 1	1956
	142	Suite for Piano	1963
	143	String Quartet No. 2 – <i>See Three Designs for Four Strings</i>	1964
	144	Suite for Women’s Voices, for SSAA and piano	1963; revised 1984
	145	Sunset – <i>See Cycle of Songs on Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar</i>	Undated
	146	Symphonic Poem, for orchestra – <i>See Ships that Pass in the Night</i>	1954
8	147	Tawawa House, opera in two acts for SSSAATTBB	1985
	148	Teeta – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1988
Poster file	149	Tempo for wind ensemble and soprano	1993
8	150	There’s a Lit’l Wheel A-Turnin’	1976
	151	Three Designs for Four Strings (String Quartet No. 2)	1964
	152	Three Expressions for Piano – <i>Score Not Found</i>	1973-1974
	153	Three Sketches, for piano	1960
	154	Three Songs for Christmas, for soprano and piano – <i>See “Kidstuff” in the Heritage and Life Song Cycle – See also “Mary had a Baby” – See “Fulfillment” for baritone and piano</i>	1989
	155	Three Spirituals	Undated
	156	Threnody Song Cycle	1969-1972
	157	Ties – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	Undated
	158	Times Five – <i>See Suite for Piano</i>	Undated
	159	Times Seven – <i>See Piano Potpourri</i>	1985
	160	To a Dark Girl for voice and piano, on poetry by Gwendolyn Bennet; also a version based on poetry of Langston Hughes “Song for a Dark Girl”	1971
	161	Toast – <i>See Three Songs for Baritone and Piano</i>	Undated
	162	Tornado – <i>See Narrative</i>	Undated
	163	Tranquility and Commotion, for orchestra	1982
	164	Twelve Days of Christmas	Undated
	165	Two Letters for clarinet, violoncello and piano	1975
	166	Untitled Work, for piano, xylophone, wood blocks	1984
	167	Up Over My Head – <i>See Tawawa House – See Three Spirituals</i>	Undated
	168	Variations for Piano – <i>Score Not Found</i>	1961



169	Venita	1971
170	Vignette No. 1 and No. 2 – <i>See Potpourri</i>	1990
171	You Hear the Constant Drumming – <i>Score Not Found</i>	Undated
172	Whisper my Soul – <i>See Three Songs for Baritone and Piano</i>	Undated