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Guide to the Charles 'Chuck' Suber Collection

Charles Suber

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CENTER FOR BLACK MUSIC RESEARCH COLLECTION

The Charles 'Chuck' Suber Collection

EXTENT 1 box, 0.37 cubic feet

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Charles 'Chuck' Suber was an educator, publisher, and author dedicated to jazz education, and who served as publisher for *Down Beat* magazine, and other Maher Publications. He taught at Columbia College Chicago and co-founded the AEMMP Record Company at the college. He served as publisher of *Down Beat* and wrote its column "The First Chorus" from 1968 to 1982.

PROCESSING INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Charles Harry Suber (1920 – 2015) was born September 12, 1920, in Brooklyn, New York, into a family of professional musicians, members of the AFM Local 802, NYC. Educated in New York City schools, he attended night school at Brooklyn College, New York, and University of Virginia – Charlottesville studying Educational Psychology, earned a Bachelor of Education from Louisiana State University and performed graduate work at Louisiana State University Baton Rouge and Columbia University, New York City, studying world history, diplomatic history, and the Russian language. During World War II, he served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve as apprentice seaman and chief quartermaster, landing ships and sea-going tugs in Pacific campaigns.

After the war, Suber worked at General Artists Corporation international talent agency in its Chicago, Illinois branch, and settled in the Chicago area teaching, publishing, and organizing many music educational courses, music business curricula, and music festivals. In 1972, he served as executive director of Save Our Music Education (SOME) committee of the American Music Conference which successfully restored \$32 million to the music and arts budget in Chicago Public Schools.

In 1952, he authored the *American Music-for-Export Buyers Guide, Music Handbook*, and Music Workshop Publications. He co-edited with composer David Baker *Jazz Styles* & Analysis series of annotated solos. From 1968 to 1976, he authored the *Down Beat* column "First Chorus" and served as publisher of *Down Beat* magazine, and other Maher Publications from 1968 until 1982. In 1960, he married Jacqueline Richardson.

In 1980, he formed the Charles Suber & Associates, Inc. focused on association management, marketing, education, and publishing and published three books *Dictionary for Artists & Performers & Managers, Quotations for Artists & Performers & Managers, and Guide to Music & Entertainment Industry Schools and Careers.*

He taught at Columbia College Chicago from 1978 until 1996 and developed the "Music Business" curricula and co-founded the AEMMP Record Company at the college, and was awarded Outstanding Teach of Columbia College in 1991, then serving as artist-in-residence from 1991 until 1996 when he moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he and his wife had lived since 1991. Chuck Suber died in New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 29, 2015.

SCOPE & CONTENT/COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The collection contains the "First Chorus" columns he wrote from 1968 to 1982 and whose index, in part, serves as the inventory listing, as well as other clipped articles, a draft of his piece "How To Organize A School Jazz Festival Clinic", his 1996 resume, and notes related to his oral history narration with interviewer Richard Wang in the Center for Black Music Research on January 21, 1996.

ARRANGEMENT

The "First Chorus" columns are arranged chronologically by date and retain the arrangement of the author, though removed from the 3-ring binder in which they were kept.. The manuscript notes and other writings are arranged chronologically and the paper collection ends with his notes on the oral history interview conducted by Richard Wang.

SEPARATED MATERIALS

The three books authored by Chuck Suber & Associates: Dictionary for Artists & Performers & Managers, Quotations for Artists & Performers & Managers, and Guide to Music & Entertainment Industry Schools and Careers are housed in archival collection.

RELATED MATERIALS

CBMR

The Martin Williams Collection
The Paul Eduard Miller Collection

ACQUISITION SOURCE Received from Chuck Suber in 1997.

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Jazz, Jazz history, music education, Chicago,

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.

PREFERRED CITATION

The Charles 'Chuck' Suber Collection, Center for Black Music Research Collection, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

CHARLES 'CHUCK' SUBER COLLECTION INVENTORY

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Richard Wang in the Center for Black Music Research		
Oral history interview: Chuck Suber interviewed by	Jan. 21, 1996	Available for
Richard Wang at the Center for Black Music Research,		onsite research
21 January 1996. Length: 3 hours 36 minutes.		

3 7-inch tape reels. Use copy available.		
Topics discussed include:		
Vaudeville, 52 nd Street, Apollo Theater, Savoy Ballroom, Porgy and Bess, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Nat King Cole, Sarah Vaughan, Cab Calloway, Dusty Fletcher, Louis Jordan, Mahalia Jackson, Lena McLin, Oscar Peterson, Black Musicians Union, Eddie Smith, Ravinia Blues Fest, Nina Simone, David Baker, Miles Daiv, Jimi Hendricks, Dizzy Gillespie, Ron Carter, Billy Taylor, Oliver Nelson, Bill Basie, Donald Byrd, Phil Moore, Yusef Lateef, Cannonball Adderley, Alvin Batiste, Bunky Green, Chicago Vocational High School, Benny Carter, James Moody, George Benson, Earl Hines, Thad Jones, Teddy Wilson Art Ensemble of Chicago, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Jazz in the Rose Garden, Operation Breadbasket, Thomas A. Dorsey, Dianne Reeves, and Dexter Gordon.		
BOOKS		
Dictionary for Artists & Performers & Managers	2005	Archives
Quotations for Artists & Performers & Managers	2002	Archives
Guide to Music & Entertainment Industry Schools and Careers	1984	Archives