

Columbia College Chicago

Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago

CBMR Collection Guides / Finding Aids

Center for Black Music Research

2022

Richard 'Dick' Wang Collection

Columbia College Chicago

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cmbr_guides



Part of the [History Commons](#), and the [Music Commons](#)



CENTER FOR BLACK MUSIC RESEARCH COLLECTION

The Richard Wang Collection

EXTENT

1 box, 0.23 cubic feet

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Richard Wang was a musician, historian, and educator specializing in jazz. The collection consists of a series of arrangements by Mary Lou Williams and an interview he conducted with Charles Suber.

PROCESSING INFORMATION

The collection was processed by Amy Sherwood, and a finding aid created, in 2022.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Richard 'Dick' Wang [1928-2016] was raised on the South Side of Chicago, where he began his musical career as a trumpeter. After a time in the armed forces, he returned to the area to attend the Chicago Musical College (part of the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University) where he completed an MA in music theory.

In 1973, he began his 29-year career at the University of Illinois Chicago where he taught jazz, orchestration, and music literature and analysis and directed the UIC Jazz Ensemble. He also taught at Wilson Junior College (now Kennedy-King College), the Chicago Teacher's College (now Chicago State University), and the University of Chicago.

He co-founded and Jazz Institute of Chicago, he assisted in the development of the University of Chicago's Jazz Archive, he was the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Illinois Arts Council, and he wrote articles for the *Black Music Research Journal*, *Musical Quarterly*, *Jazz Educators Journal*, and *Down Beat*.

SCOPE & CONTENT/COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The materials consist of Wang's collection of printed arrangements by Mary Lou Williams (1920-1981). Williams was a jazz pianist and prolific arranger and composer. She worked and played with Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman and served as a friend and mentor to numerous jazz greats, including Thelonious Monk, Charlie Parker, and Dizzy Gillespie.

ARRANGEMENT

The files, nine arrangements by Mary Lou Williams, are filed in alphabetical order.

RELATED MATERIALS

CBMR

[Charles 'Chuck' Suber](#) was interviewed by Richard Wang at the Center for Black Music Research, 21 January 1996. 3 7-inch tape reels. 3 hours 36 minutes total.

[Melba Liston Collection](#): Contains arrangements by Liston for Mary Lou Williams.

ACQUISITION SOURCE

Bequest of Richard Wang received 2011.

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 Richard Wang Collection, Center for Black Music Research Collection, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

RICHARD WANG COLLECTION INVENTORY:

BOX 1: MARY LOU WILLIAMS ARRANGEMENTS	
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>Big Jim Blues</i>. 1939. <i>Essential Jazz Editions Set #3</i>. Warner Bros. Publications, 2001.</p> <p>Score and parts.</p> <p>Printed music.</p>	Box 01/Folder 01
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, arranger. <i>Blue Skies</i>. 1944.</p> <p>Parts only: Alto 1 & 2, Tenor/Clarinet, Tenor 2, Bari Sax; Trumpets 1-4, Trombone 1-3; Piano/Bass/Guitar; Drums.</p> <p>Photocopy of printed music.</p>	Box 01/Folder 02
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, arranger. <i>Gjon Mili's Jam Session</i>. [no date].</p> <p>Score, 5 pp (partial). Reduced score, 4 pp (partial).</p> <p>Parts, partial: Trumpet, Tenor, Clarinet, Trombone, Bass, Drums.</p> <p>Photocopy of manuscript.</p>	Box 01/Folder 03
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>Little Joe from Chicago</i>. [no date].</p> <p>Part: Reed 1 only.</p> <p>Photocopy of printed music.</p>	Box 01/Folder 04
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>New Musical Express</i>. 1953. <i>Essentially Ellington library series</i>. Belwin Jazz, 2009.</p> <p>Score and parts.</p> <p>Printed music.</p>	Box 01/Folder 05
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>(In the Land of) Oo-Bla-Dee</i>. 1945.</p> <p>Parts: Vocal, piano.</p> <p>Photocopy of printed music.</p>	Box 01/Folder 06

<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>Roll 'Em</i>. 1937. <i>Essentially Ellington library series</i>. Belwin Jazz, 2009.</p> <p>Score and parts.</p> <p>Printed music.</p>	<p>Box 01/Folder 07</p>
<p>Carmichael, Hoagy, composer. Parish, Mitchell, lyrics. Williams, Mary Lou, arranger. <i>Stardust</i>. 1928. Cecilia Music, 1997.</p> <p>Parts: Solo trumpet; Alto sax 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Baritone sax; Trumpet 1-3, Trombone 1-3; Piano, Bass, Drums.</p> <p>Photocopy of two different manuscript copies.</p>	<p>Box 01/Folder 08</p>
<p>Williams, Mary Lou, composer and arranger. <i>Walkin' and Talkin'</i>. 1936. <i>Essentially Ellington library series</i>. Belwin Jazz, 2009.</p> <p>Score and parts.</p> <p>Printed music.</p>	<p>Box 01/Folder 09</p>
<p>Oral history interview of Chuck Suber interviewed by Richard Wang at the Center for Black Music Research, 21 January 1996. Length: 3 hours 36 minutes. Jan. 21, 1996, 3 7-inch tape reels. Use copies available.</p> <p>Topics discussed include: Vaudeville, 52nd 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.</p>	<p>Available for onsite research</p>