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<tr>
<td><strong>Call number:</strong> C0600</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Repository:</strong> Princeton University. Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections Manuscripts Division One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Size:</strong> 23.0 boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Language(s) of Material:</strong> English</td>
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<td><strong>Abstract:</strong> Arthur Mendel was a prominent music scholar in the twentieth century and a professor at Princeton University. The collection contains correspondence with professional colleagues, course notes, musical notes, scrapbooks, and clippings. There is also additional unprocessed material from Mendel's time at Princeton.</td>
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<td><strong>Location:</strong> This collection is stored onsite at Firestone Library.</td>
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After graduation from Harvard University (B.A. 1925), Mendel went to Paris, where he studied with Nadia Boulanger (1925-1927). He was music critic of The Nation (1930-1933), literary editor for G. Schirmer (1930-1938), editor of the American Musicological Society's journal (1940-1943), and editor for Associated Music Publishers (1941-1947). He was also an active translator. From 1936 to 1953 he conducted the Cantata Singers, one of the first groups in the USA to give authentic performances of Baroque music. He taught at the Dalcroze School of Music and the Diller - Quaile School in New York (1938-1950), serving as president of the former (1947-1950).

In the late 1940s Mendel gained recognition as a musicologist. He was appointed professor of music at Princeton University (1952), where he was departmental chairman (1952-1967), and held the Henry Putnam University Professorship from 1969 until his retirement in 1973. He was a member of the editorial boards of the Neue Bach - Ausgabe and the new Josquin edition. Mendel published studies on the history of musical pitch and the rhythmic structure of Renaissance and Baroque music. His editions and studies of Bach's life and works, most notably the documentary biography The Bach Reader (1945, with Hans T. David), and his practical and critical editions of the St. John Passion (1951, 1974), brought him recognition as the foremost American Bach scholar of his generation.

In his later years he investigated the music of Josquin and possible applications of computer technology to musicological problems. A Festschrift in his honor, Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Music, was published in 1974 (edited by Robert L. Marshall).

The collection consists of articles, correspondence, course notes, scrapbooks (1937-1952), memorabilia, and printed matter of Mendel, a professor of music at Princeton (1952-1973). The collection contains correspondence between Mendel, professional colleagues, and organizations such as the American Musicological Society, the Josquin Committee, and the International Josquin Festival Conference (June 1971) in New York, N.Y. There are also Mendel's records on the status of dissertations, course notes for a senior seminar in music history, material on pitches of various instruments and standard tuning frequencies, and scrapbooks containing letters, public relations announcements, and newspaper reviews of the Cantata Singers of All Souls Church in New York City, of which he was the conductor. In addition, there are liability insurance policies and cancelled personal checks of Mendel's wife, Elsa.

Additional material, also unprocessed was added to the collection in May 2007. This material includes sixteen binders and folders of Mendel while he was at Princeton University. The binders contain sheet music, original manuscript material, class curriculum and notes, and writings and criticism of Bach. Also included is correspondence; a binder labeled "Arthur's Honors"; photographs from an exhibition about Mendel; personal photographs; a photo album of his wife Elsa Wissell and her family, and documents about her death and her estate; photographs and letters about the "Cantata Singers"; printed material; and newspaper clippings.
This is an unprocessed collection and remains in its original arrangement.

### Access and Use

**Access**

The collection is open for research.

**Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information**

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### Acquisition and Appraisal

**Provenance and Acquisition**


**Appraisal**

No appraisal information is available.

### Processing and Other Information

**Preferred Citation**

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Arthur Mendel Papers, Box and Folder Number; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

**Encoding**

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2012-08-06T12:54-0400

**Descriptive Rules Used**

Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

### Subject Headings

- Josquin, Des Pres, 1440?-1521 -- Criticism and interpretation -- 20th century.
- All Soul's Church (New York, N.Y.)
· American Musicological Society.
· Cantata Singers.
· Princeton University. -- Dept. of Music -- 20th century.
· Music -- Instruction and study -- New Jersey -- Princeton -- 20th century.
· Musical pitch.
· Correspondence.
· Faculty papers.
· Scrapbooks.
· Conductors (Music) -- New York (State) -- New York.
· Princeton University -- Faculty.
· Music
· Princeton University
## Contents List

### Correspondence: A - Ar, 1973-1974

Size: 6.0 folders

- **American Council of Learned Societies, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 1

- **AMS, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 2

- **AMS Publication, 1974**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 3

- **AMS Publication, 1973 (incl.), 1973**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 4

- **AMS: Washington, 1974**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 5

- **Archival Restoration Associates, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 1 Folder: 6

### Correspondence: As - H, dates not examined

Size: 11.0 folders

- **AS, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 2 Folder: 1

- **Babitz, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 2 Folder: 2

- **Bach Concordance: BG Sachverzeichnis, dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 2 Folder: 3

- **Bach, J.S., Inst., etc., dates not examined**
  - Size: 1.0 folder
  - Box: 2 Folder: 4

- **Barenreiter, dates not examined**
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  - Box: 2 Folder: 5

- **British Museum, dates not examined**
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  - Box: 2 Folder: 6

- **Dissertations in Progress, dates not examined**
  - Box: 2 Folder: 7
Size: 1.0 folder
Dufay Conference: 12/6 - 7/74, dates not examined
   Box: 2 Folder: 8
Size: 1.0 folder
Durr: Dadelson, dates not examined
   Box: 2 Folder: 9
Size: 1.0 folder
Handel and Haydn, dates not examined
   Box: 2 Folder: 10
Size: 1.0 folder
Haydn Proceedings, dates not examined
   Box: 2 Folder: 11
Size: 1.0 folder
Correspondence: I - Neu, 1972-1973
Size: 5.0 folders
Int(l Congress: Bach Symposium, dates not examined
   Box: 3 Folder: 1
Size: 1.0 folder
KNUF, dates not examined
   Box: 3 Folder: 2
Size: 1.0 folder
Microfilm Print(s), dates not examined
   Box: 3 Folder: 3
Size: 1.0 folder
Neumann, Frederick, 1972
   Box: 3 Folder: 4
Size: 1.0 folder
Neumann, Frederick, 1973
   Box: 3 Folder: 5
Size: 1.0 folder
Correspondence: Neu - B, 1975
Size: 12.0 folders
Neumann, Werner, dates not examined
   Box: 4 Folder: 1
Size: 1.0 folder
NYPL, dates not examined
   Box: 4 Folder: 2
Size: 1.0 folder
Oxford, dates not examined
   Box: 4 Folder: 3
Size: 1.0 folder
Reese Memoir, dates not examined
   Box: 4 Folder: 4
Size: 1.0 folder
Research Committee, dates not examined
   Box: 4 Folder: 5
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Schmitz, dates not examined
Box: 4 Folder: 6
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Smend, dates not examined
Box: 4 Folder: 7
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Staehelin, dates not examined
Box: 4 Folder: 8
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Strunk Festschrift, dates not examined
Box: 4 Folder: 9
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A, dates not examined
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B, 1974
Box: 4 Folder: 11
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B, 1975
Box: 4 Folder: 12
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Correspondence: C - L, dates not examined
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C, dates not examined
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D, dates not examined
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E, dates not examined
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G, dates not examined
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L, dates not examined  
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Correspondence: M - R, dates not examined  
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N, dates not examined  
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P, dates not examined  
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Q, R, dates not examined  
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Box: 6 Folder: 5

Correspondence: S - Z, dates not examined  
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S, dates not examined  
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Departmental Business, dates not examined  
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Box: 7 Folder: 2

U-V-W-X-Y-Z, dates not examined  
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Josquin Committee Papers, 1977-1979  
Size: 6.0 folders  
Confidential File, dates not examined  
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Josquin Committee, 1979  
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Box: 8 Folder: 2

Committee Business, dates not examined  
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Size: 1.0 folder

CH/EL/HMB, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

1977 Meeting, 1977

Size: 1.0 folder

Individual Committee Members, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

Josquin Conference - T, dates not examined

Size: 4.0 folders

Josquin Conference, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

Mass Workshop, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

Music 410, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

T, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

Cantata Singers: Personal Checks - Cantata Singers, 1937 - 1945

Personal Checks, dates not examined

Size: 2.0 folders

Obsolette Insurance Policies, dates not examined

Size: 1.0 folder

The Cantata Singers, 1937 - 1945

Size: 1.0 folder


Size: 2.0 folders

The Cantata Singers, 1946 - 1947

Size: 1.0 folder

The Cantata Singers, 1948 - 1949

Size: 1.0 folder


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Pitch Material, dates not examined
Size: 11.0 folders
  Pitch: Miscellaneous & Curiosa, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 1
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  Brass, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 2
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  Cammer-Ton, Chorton, etc., dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 3
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  Pitch: Chiavette, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 4
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  Harpsichords, etc., dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 5
  Size: 1.0 folder
  Leipp, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 6
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  Meeûs, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 7
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  Organ - Pipe Measures, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 8
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  Organs, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 9
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  Praetorius, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 10
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  Schlick, dates not examined	Box: 13 Folder: 11
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Standards, dates not examined
Size: 4.0 folders
  Strings, dates not examined	Box: 14 Folder: 2
  Size: 1.0 folder
  Thomas & Rhodes, dates not examined	Box: 14 Folder: 3
  Size: 1.0 folder
  Vocal Compasses, dates not examined	Box: 14 Folder: 4
Woodwinds, dates not examined

Pitch Material and Cantata Singers programs, etc., dates not examined

Elsa Wissell's Family Photo Album, 1896-1984

Scrapbook, 1928-1942

Photographs, 1902-1975

Binder with "Arthur's Honors", Correspondence, Printed Material, 1938-1988

Binder 1: Handel I; Binder 2: Monteverdi; Binder 3: Bach Performance Book; Binder 4: Performance I, 1957-1967


4 Binders Containing Bach Cantatas BWV 1-224, 1963-1966

3 Binders with Material for Teaching Classes; 1 Binder Labeled "Handwriting Studies", 1954-1971

Matted Photographs, undated