



*Montclair History Center*

# Guide to the *Margo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby Collection*

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## *Summary*

This collection contains material that belonged to Marjo Lewis (b.1881, d.1974) and Mabelanna Corby (b. ca. 1900, d.1962), prominent musical figures in Montclair in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The material was collected by an individual and given to the Montclair History Center. Within the collection, most of the material consists of both handwritten and published song books written by Lewis and/or Corby. Of note in the collection is handwritten lyrics by Lewis to what she hoped would become New Jersey's state song (as of 2020, New Jersey is the only state to not have a state song).

**Creator(s):** Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby (compiled by Eliot Prowse)

**Dates:** ca. 1884-1951

**Location:**  
Clark House, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor (upstairs Library)

**Quantity:**  
1 Box

## *Scope and Content*

The types of documents in this collection include (but are not limited to) sheet music, letters and newspaper articles. Some of the documents were created as early as 1884, but the majority was created in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. All the pieces are original, either handwritten or published. They pertain mostly to various pieces of sheet music. A large portion of the sheet music is written and composed by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby. Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby were prominent musical figures in Montclair in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This collection is limited primarily to this topic.

## *Arrangement Note*

The files in this collection are arranged by two subjects: sheet music and miscellaneous. As the sheet music is about 75% of the collection, it was determined that it would be the focus of the collection and be arranged in alphabetical order by title. The staff and volunteers responsible for the processing of this collection felt that this was the most

sensible arrangement because the materials are intended for frequent access. This collection has been entered by file folder into the PastPerfect database.

## *Container List*

This is an inventory of the collection. It includes box number, the folder title, and the folder contents.

<b><i>Box Number</i></b>	<b><i>Folder Title</i></b>	<b><i>Folder Contents (subfolders)</i></b>
Box 1	Sheet Music (Alphabetical by Title)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-“Absent” written in 1899</li> <li>-“Again” written in 1927</li> <li>-“April Fool” and “Little Pig Nose” booklet</li> <li>-“Arcadie” written in 1898</li> <li>-“August” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Ave Maria” x2</li> <li>-“Baby Dreams” written in 1920</li> <li>-“Barney McGee’s Making Sheeps Eyes At Me” written in 1908</li> <li>-“The Big Brown Bear”</li> <li>-“Bird Songs at Eventide”</li> <li>-“Boat Song” written in 1908</li> <li>-“Boat Song” from the Musical Masque “When Sappho Sang”</li> <li>-“Broken Dreams” x3 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Bubbles” x14 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Butterflies” x5 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-“A Century of Russian Song from Glinka to Rachmaninoff”</li> <li>-“Colorature Songs” written in 1900</li> <li>-“Constancy” x2 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Coquette” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Could I”</li> <li>-“A Cry at Dawn” written in 1923</li> <li>-“Dawn” from the Musical Masque “When Sappho Sang”</li> <li>-“Dearest”</li> <li>-“My Dream Girl”</li> <li>-“English Songs”</li> <li>-“Eternal Hope” x3 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Favorite Songs by F. Paolo Tosti” written in 1899</li> <li>-“Fay Foster”</li> <li>-“In Flanders Fields” x6 written by Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Flower Rain” written in 1908</li> <li>-“Forgive and Forget”</li> <li>-“For You Alone” written in 1909</li> <li>“Four American Indian Songs” x2</li> <li>-“Four Songs by Mabelanna Corby and Marjo Lewis”</li> <li>-“Fragments”</li> </ul>
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		<p>-“French Songs” x2</p> <p>-“From the Land of the Sky blue Water” Omaha Tribal Melody</p> <p>-“Grandma” written in 1923</p> <p>-“Had a horse, a finer no one ever saw” written in 1891</p> <p>-“Heine Songs”</p> <p>-“The Hills of Jersey” Music by Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“Honey, Dat’s All” written in 1921</p> <p>-“I Dreamt” written in 1884</p> <p>-“If I were a Sunbeam” written in 1909</p> <p>-“I’m Calling You” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“Into My Heart”</p> <p>-“It is May”</p> <p>-“It is May” from the Musical Masque “When Sappho sang”</p> <p>-“Joyous Youth” x5 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“June Is IN My Heart”</p> <p>-“A Khaki Lad”</p> <p>-“King Duncan’s Daughters”</p> <p>-“A Kiss” from the Musical Masque “When Sappho Sang”</p> <p>-“Kittens and Other Songs”</p> <p>-“Le Baiser” written in 1891</p>
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		<p>-“Little Grey Home in the West”</p> <p>-“The Little Hills”</p> <p>-“Little Mother of Mine” written in 1917</p> <p>-“Little Songs of Color”</p> <p>-“I Long For You”</p> <p>-“Matching Hearts”</p> <p>-“Memory’s Garden” x5 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“The Message Of The Violet” From “The Prince of Pilsen”</p> <p>-“Missing You” x3 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“The Morning Wind” from “The Sun Dial”</p> <p>-“The Nearest Little Garden”</p> <p>-“New Jersey” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“O Happy Day”</p> <p>-“Oh! That we two were Maying” written in 1888</p> <p>-“Operatic Anthology”</p> <p>-“Please Please Do” x 3 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“Poempage” x5 written by Marjo Lewis</p> <p>-“Purple Hyacinths” x4 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</p> <p>-“The Rosary” written in 1911</p> <p>-“The Rose Enslaves The Nightingale”</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-“Sing New Jersey’s Praise” written in 1929</li> <li>-“Somewhere Someday” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Somewhere Someday” x2 booklet written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Song” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Songs by A. Walter Kramer”</li> <li>-“Songs From India” by Lily Strickland</li> <li>-“Songs by R. Coningsby Clarke”</li> <li>-“Songs with Accompaniment of Piano and Other Instruments” written in 1901</li> <li>-“Spring is Here!” x5 booklet of sheet music. written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Spring is Here!” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“The Star”</li> <li>-“Summer and You” x8 booklet of sheet music written by Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Summer and You” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Sweet Little Woman o’ Mine”</li> <li>-“Tell the Telephone” x2 written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“There’s a Convent by the Beautiful Sea”</li> <li>-“Thoughts of Home” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Thoughts of Home” x4 booklet of sheet music</li> <li>-“Three Songs” songs include: “Hearts</li> </ul>
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		<p>Delight”, “Constancy”, and “I know a maid”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-“The Three Riders” booklet of sheet music</li> <li>-“The Unforseen” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Vale”</li> <li>-“Venezia” booklet of sheet music written by Ethelbert Nervin</li> <li>-“Violets” written in 1900</li> <li>-“Voices of the sky” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Walkin’ In De Gahden”</li> <li>-“What He Would Have Me Do” x2 booklet of sheet music written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“When Skies Are Blue” x3 booklet of sheet music written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Where The Violets Grow” loose set of sheet music written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Where The Violets Grow” x5 booklet of sheet music written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“The Whippoorwill”</li> <li>-“Why?” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> <li>-“Without Love” x3 From the Musical Masque “When Sappho Sang”</li> <li>-“With You” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Would You” loose set of sheet music</li> <li>-“Would You” x5 booklet of sheet music written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby</li> </ul>
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		-“Your Letter” written by Marjo Lewis and Mabelanna Corby
<b>Box 1</b>	Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Card Titled “Democracy: We take the dreams of men, mold them to laws that dreams be born again.” (signed by Charles Farwell Edau)</li> <li>- Green printed note notifying of a year's subscription addition to the Ladies’ Home Journal</li> <li>- Photograph of M. Baer Salov in Montclair NJ held in red folder</li> <li>-Proposal for a State song for New Jersey. Written by Mabelanna Corby and Marjo Lewis</li> <li>- Article from “Charm” from Thursday May 7th, 1931 (5x)</li> <li>-Newspaper article from Nov. 17, 1920 titled “Galli-Curci Entrances 5,000 Concert-Goers in Newark Armory</li> <li>-Handwritten copy of “The Spirit’s Song”</li> <li>-Handwritten copies of poems by John Erskine, William Hamilton Hayne, Katrina Trask, and Francis Hopkinson</li> <li>-Flyer titled “When Sappho Sang: A Musical Masque in Two Acts”</li> <li>-Collection of tickets for the show “When Sappho Sang” at Montclair High School Auditorium. Saturday Matinee May 19, 1923</li> <li>-Letter to Miss Marjo Lewis. December 5, 1951</li> <li>-Letter to Marion Clair. September 25, 1951</li> <li>-Letter to Perry Como</li> <li>-letter, from John Earle Newton to Club</li> </ul>

		Members x3, February 7, 1933
<b>Box 1</b>	Unknown Sheet Music	-Various unknown sheet music