

MSS 509

Jelly Roll Morton Collection

1871 Dec. 2-1983 Feb. 7

Bulk dates 1914-1941

Extent: 68 items

Scope and content: This series of the William Russell Jazz Collection includes a variety of items having to do with Jelly Roll Morton and other musicians. Included are the original copy of Morton's will and a copy of his death certificate, his contract with RCA Manufacturing Co. to record an album (1939), legal documents from his family (a birth registration receipt and a marriage license), ephemera such as business cards, lyrics to an unfinished composition, a record catalog featuring Morton's albums, and clippings and publications with articles about Morton. The series also contains Russell's notes about the reproduction of Morton material in other series. There is a large amount of sheet music of compositions both by Morton and by others. In the material concerning other musicians there are two items pertaining to Vladimir de Pachmann (a photograph and an autographed musical quote), George Guesnon's New York driver's license, business cards of several musicians, and Christmas cards.

Biographical note: William Russell (1905-1992) was a jazz historian who focused on New Orleans-style jazz. He spent several years working on a book about Jelly Roll Morton, not published in Russell's lifetime. Jelly Roll Morton (d. 1941) was a pianist, jazz composer, and conductor.

- Cite as: Jelly Roll Morton Collection, MSS 509, Williams Research Center, The Historic New Orleans Collection.
- Arrangement: The collection is arranged by type of material, in the following sub-series: I. Correspondence, II. Clippings and Publications, III. Ephemera, IV. Financial and Legal Papers, V. Notes, VI. Photographs, and VII. Sheet Music. Sheet music is arranged alphabetically by title; the other series are in chronological order.
- Language: English.
- Restrictions: Researchers may be limited to consulting one or two items at a time, per the discretion of the Reading Room staff. Reproduction of original documents, when permitted, must be performed by the Williams Research Center staff.
- How to Order: Please provide the reference staff with the manuscript call number and folder number.
- Accession number: 92-48-L

Folder List

Correspondence

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| Folder 1 | 1941 June 23 | Envelope, Ferd [?]. Morton, [Los] Angeles, Calif., to Mr. R. J. [Roy] Carew, Washington, D.C. Envelope (Photocopy), 1 item. |
| Folder 2 | Ca. 1941 | Christmas card from Merrill Hammond. Card has a cartoon about Jelly Roll Morton's Naked Dance on front. With photocopy of card, and note on cardboard. C, with photocopy and note, 3 items. |
| Folder 3 | 1945 or 1954 | Christmas card, Omer Simeon, New York, NY, to Mr. William Russell, Chicago, Ill. With envelope and photocopies of card and envelope. Card and envelope have two different dates. C, with photocopies, 5 items. |

Clippings and Publications

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| Folder 4 | 1914 June 20 | Advertisement by Morton and Morton, The Freeman. With part of a circular from the National Lawyer's Guild. Clipping, L, 2 pp. total, 2 items. |
| Folder 5 | Ca. 1914 | Photocopies of article about vaudeville team of Morton & Morton, with illustration of Ferd [Jelly Roll] Morton, The Freeman. Clippings (photocopies), 1 p. each, 2 items. |
| Folder 6 | Ca. 1914 | Photocopies of article found in folder 5. Also two envelopes and a note. Clippings (photocopies) in envelopes, 7 items. |
| Folder 7 | 1944 Mar. | The Record Changer. Includes the article, "A Fragment of an Autobiography" by Jelly-Roll Morton. Serial, 39 pp., 1 item. |
| Folder 8 | 1956 Mar. 31 | Obituary of Eugene "Uncle Buddie" Bertrand, The Louisiana Weekly. Clipping, 1 item. |
| Folder 9 | 1974 Dec. 8 | Advertisement, Bob Greene's World of Jelly Roll Morton, New York Times. With photocopy and note. Clipping, photocopy, note, 3 items. |
| Folder 10 | N.D. | Booklet to accompany record album, Jelly Roll Morton's New Orleans Memories. By Charles Edward Smith. Booklet, 18 pp., 1 item. |

Ephemera

- Folder 11 **[Not after 1933]** Musical quotation, autographed by [Vladimir] de Pachmann, with photocopy, in envelope. MuQS, 3 items.
- Folder 12 **1934** Handbill, Jelly Roll Morton, at the Ritz Ballroom, New York, NY. With photocopy. Handbill and photocopy, 4 pp. total, 2 items.
- Folder 13 **1938 Nov.-
1980 Apr. 15** Advertising card from Lil Armstrong's Swing Shack, Chicago, Ill. With invitation to the dedication and opening day ceremonies of Louis Armstrong Park, New Orleans, La. In envelope. C, envelope, 3 items.
- Folder 14 **1938 Spring** Handbill, Music Box, [Washington, D.C.], Mummer Revue. Handbill, 1 p., 1 item.
- Folder 15 **1938 Spring** Photocopies of handbill in folder 14. Handbills (photocopies), 2 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 16 **Ca. 1939** Large business card, Jelly Roll Morton's Orchestra, New York City, [N.Y.]. C, 1 p., 1 item.
- Folder 17 **Ca. 1939 and [198-]** Two photographs of Jelly Roll Morton's business cards. Photographs by Duncan P. Schiedt. With photocopy, and Christmas card from the Ernest Morial administration. Photographs, C, photocopy, 4 items.
- Folder 18 **Ca. 1939** Lyrics, probably by Jelly Roll Morton, "Got a letter from a friend ..." With note in Russell's hand. Lyrics and note, 1 p. each, 2 items.
- Folder 19 **[193-]** Handbill advertising Jelly Roll Morton albums from H.R.S. Record Shop, New York City, [N.Y.] With photocopy. Handbill and copy, 1 p. each, 2 items.
- Folder 20 **[1940?] Apr.** Record catalogs, General Records, a division of Consolidated Record, Inc., New York City, [N.Y.] Morton is pictured on the cover, and his albums are featured in the catalog. 2 brochures, 12 pp. each, 2 items.
- Folder 21 **[Not after 1941]** Photocopy of business card, "Jelly Roll" Morton (Originator of Jazz), Staff Writer, Tempo-Music Pub. Co., New York, N.Y. C (photocopy), 1 p., 1 item.

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| Folder 22 | [Not after 1941] | Photocopy of business card in folder 21. C (photocopy), 1 p., 1 item. |
| Folder 23 | [Not after 1957] | Business card, Paul Barbarin's New Orleans Jazz Band, New Orleans, La. From bag labeled Originals. C, 1 item. |
| Folder 24 | Ca. 1957 | Business card, George Guesnon, Musician and (Teacher of String Instruments), New Orleans, La. From bag labeled Originals. C, 1 item. |
| Folder 25 | [Not after 1967] | Negative photostat of business card, Allen's Brass Band, Henry (Red) Allen, leader, Algiers, La. In envelope. From bag labeled Originals. C (neg. photostat), 2 items. |
| Folder 26 | [Not after 1967] | Color photocopy of negative photostat of business card in folder 25. C (copy), 1 item. |
| Folder 27 | 1983 Feb. 7 | Two photocopies of a ticket and part of an invitation from Eubie Blake's 100th Birthday Party, Sam S. Shubert Theatre, New York, N.Y. 2 photocopies, 3 pp., 2 items. |
| Folder 28 | n.d. | Business card, Harrison Smith, Brooklyn, N.Y. With label, "Originals." From bag labeled Originals. C, 2 items. |
| Folder 29 | n.d. | Two copies (one negative and one positive) of a handbill, Jelly Roll Morton, Grand Movie Ball, Colonnade, [Washington, D.C.?], and negative copy of ticket, Jelly Roll Morton, Cabaret Night at the Music Box, [Washington, D.C.] With Russell's label. 3 pp., 4 items. |
| Folder 30 | n.d. | Two photocopies of postcard advertising Teenan Jones' Place, Chicago, Ill. C (photocopy), 2 pp., 2 items. |
| Folder 31 | n.d. | U.S. postage stamp with picture of a boat and the caption New Orleans 1812. In envelope. Stamp and envelope, 2 items. |
| Folder 32 | n.d. | U.S. postage stamps commemorating Duke Ellington. 4 stamps, 4 items. |
| Folder 33 | n.d. | U.S. postage stamps commemorating W. C. Handy, in envelope labeled C.E.S. [Charles Edward Smith] Article / W. C. Handy Stamps. Stamps and envelope, 2 items. |

Financial and Legal Papers

- Folder 34 **1871 Dec. 2** Two copies of receipt for payment to register birth of Louis[e?] Hermoine Monette. In envelope. DS (photocopies), envelope, 2 pp., 3 items.
- Folder 35 **1894 Feb. 5** Two copies of marriage certificate of William Mouton and Louisa Monette. DS (photocopies), 2 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 36 **1939 Sept. 26** Contract between Jelly Roll Morton and RCA Manufacturing Co., Inc., for four recordings by Morton and his orchestra. Signed by Morton. With photocopy. TDS, and photocopy, 4 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 37 **1939 Oct. 13** Receipt for \$210 from Stephen W. Smith, signed by Jelly Roll Morton. Partially printed ADS, 1 p., 1 item.
- Folder 38 **1939 Oct. 13** Photocopy of receipt in folder 37. Partially printed ADS (photocopy), 1 p., 1 item.
- Folder 39 **1940 Mar. 8** George Guesnon's New York State driver's license. Signed by Guesnon. DS (with photocopy), 3 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 40 **1941 June 28** Last will and testament of Ferdinand Joseph [Jelly Roll] Morton. Morton leaves the bulk of his estate to Anita Gonzales. In two folders, one with Russell's notes about the will's provenance written on it. Partially printed DS, and AD, 2 pp. plus two folders, 3 items.
- Folder 41 **1941 June 28** Photocopies of Jelly Roll Morton's will. Original document in folder 40. Partially printed DSs (photocopies), 2 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 42 **1941 July 10** Ferdinand [Jelly Roll] Morton's death certificate. DS (photocopy), 1 pp., 1 item.

Notes in Russell's hand

- Folder 43 **[Not before 1972]** Two notes about provenance of Jelly Roll Morton's will. AN, 2 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 44 **1982** Note citing an article about Anita [Gonzales] (Jelly Roll Morton's heir). AN, 1 p., 1 item.
- Folder 45 **n.d.** Note about "Thursday note" written by R. J. Carew. AN, 1 p., 1 item.

Folder 46 **n.d.** Notes about Jelly Roll Morton material, which Russell wanted to have reproduced. In envelope and folder. AN, envelope and folder, 4 pp., 5 items.

Photographs

Folder 47 **1912** Reproduction of photograph of Prof. Toney [Tony] Jackson. B&W photograph, 1 item.

Folder 48 **Ca. 1912** Reproduction of photograph of Tony Jackson and unidentified man. Note from Jackson on bottom of photograph. B&W photograph, 1 item.

Folder 49 **Ca. 1914** Photocopy of photograph of Jelly Roll Morton and Rosa Brown, with Russell's notes on verso. B&W photograph (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.

Folder 50 **[Not after 1933]** Photocopies of photograph of Vladimir de Pachmann. B&W photograph (photocopy), 2 pp., 2 items.

Folder 51 **n.d.** Two photographs of cats. One in envelope, with other with card. 2 photographs, envelope, C, 4 items.

Sheet Music

Folder 52
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 624 **1910** “All That I Ask of You Is Love,” lyric by Edgar Selden, melody by Herbert Ingraham. (New York: Maurice Shapiro, 1910.) 2 copies. Printed MuD, 5 pp. each, 2 items.

Folder 53
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 625 **1925** “Always” by Irving Berlin. On verso: “The Roses Brought Me You” by Owen Murphy and Al Sherman. Special copy for organists. (New York: Irving Berlin Inc., 1925.) Printed MuD, 4 pp., 1 item.

Folder 54
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 626 **1944** “Always” (Waltz) by Irving Berlin. First violin part. (New York: Irving Berlin, Inc., 1944.) Printed MuD, 8 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 55
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 627 **n.d.** “Anvil Chorus” by [Verdi], arranged by Krug. Fragment, no publication data. Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 56
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 628 **n.d.** “Anvil Chorus” from G. Verdi’s *Il Trovatore*, arranged by Tavan-Rosey. On verso: Sextett from “*Lucia di Lammermoor*” by Donizetti, arranged by George Rosey. (New York: George Rosey Pub. Co., N.D.) Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 57
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 629 **1956** “Big Fat Ham” by Ferdinand J. Morton (Jelly Roll), arranged by J. Lawrence Cook. (Washington, DC: Roy J. Carew, 1956.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 58
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 631 **1950** “The Crave” (Tango) by Ferdinand J. Morton (Jelly Roll), transcribed and edited by J. Lawrence Cook, “Manuscript edition.” (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1950.) Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 59
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 630 **1957** “Don’t Tell Me Nothin’ ‘Bout My Man!”, words by Harrison Smith, music by Ben. Garrison. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1957.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 60
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 632 **1950** “Fickle Fay Creep” (Piano Solo) by Ben. Garrison. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1950.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 61
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 633 **1947** “Frog-i-more Rag” by Ferdinand J. Morton (Jelly Roll), Edited by J. Lawrence Cook. (Washington, DC: Roy J. Carew, 1947.) Printed MuD, 8 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 62
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 634 **1925** “Grandpa’s Spells” by Ferd (Jelly Roll) Morton. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co., 1925.) Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 63
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 635 **1938** “If You Knew How I Love You,” lyric by Ed. Werac, music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Professional copy. Printed MuD, 3 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 64
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 636 **1938** “If You Knew How I Love You,” lyric by Ed. Werac, music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 65
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 637 **1949** “I’m Looking for a Little Bluebird” words by Harrison Smith, music by Ben. Garrison. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1949.) Printed MuD, 3 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 66
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 638 **[Not after 1941]** “Jelly Roll Blues” by Ferd Morton [Jelly Roll Morton]. 2 photocopies of a manuscript document. AMuDS (photocopy), 4 pp., 2 items.
- Folder 67
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 639 **1972** Jelly Roll Morton and His Hot Red Peppers (1927-1930), music by Jelly Roll Morton, French words by Jean Eigel. (Paris: Soci t  d’Editions Musicales Internationales S.E.M.I., 1972.) Printed MuD, 43 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 68
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 640 **[Ca. 1951]** “Jelly Roll” Morton’s Famous Series of Blues & Stomps for Piano, Book 2. (London: Herman Darewski Music Publishing Co., N.D.) Printed MuD, 32 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 69
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 641 **1951** “Jelly Roll” Morton’s Famous Series of Blues & Stomps for Piano, Book 3. (London: Herman Darewski Music Publishing Co., 1951.) Printed MuD, 24 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 70
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 642 **1949** “Jelly Roll” Morton’s Famous Blues, Stomps and Ragtime,” edited by George Hoefer. (New York: Melrose Music Corp., 1949.) Printed MuD, 52 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 71
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 643 **1925** “Kansas City Stomps” by Ferd (Jelly Roll) Morton. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co., 1925.) Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 72
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 644 **1925** “King Porter Stomp” by Ferd (Jelly Roll) Morton. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co., 1925.) Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 73
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 645 **1948** “Mamie’s Blues (219 Blues)” words and melody by Mamie Desdume, arranged by Ferdinand J. Morton (Jelly Roll), transcribed and edited by J. Lawrence Cook. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1948) Americana edition. Printed MuD, 4 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 74
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 646 **1925** “Milenberg Joys” words by Walter Melrose, music by Leon Roppolo, Paul Mares, [and] Jelly Roll Morton. (Chicago: Melrose Bro. Music Co., 1925.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 75
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 647 **1925** “Milenberg Joys,” words by Walter Melrose, music by Leon Roppolo, Paul Mares [and] Jelly Roll Morton. (Chicago: Melrose Bro. Music Co., 1925.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 76
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 650 **1912 Jan.** “Miserere” from “Il Trovatore” by G. Verdi, transcribed by Richard Hoffman. Clipped from The Etude. Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 77
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 651 **1915** “Miserere” from “Il Trovatore” by Verdi, edited and fingered by M. Greenwald. Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 78
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 652 **1917 July** “Miserere” from “Il Trovatore” by G. Verdi. Clipped from The Etude. Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 79
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 651 **n.d.** “Miserere” from G. Verdi’s “Il Trovatore,” arranged by Tavan-Rosey. On verso: “The Soldier’s Chorus” from Ch. Gounod’s “Faust,” arranged by Tavan-Rosey. (New York: George Rosey Pub. Co., N.D.) Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 80
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 652 **1949** “The Miserere” (Characteristic Piano Solo) by Ferdinand J. Morton, transcribed and edited by J. Lawrence Cook. (Washington, DC: Roy J. Carew, 1949.) Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 81
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 653 **1938** “My Home Is In A Southern Town,” words and music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (New York: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 82
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 654 **1938** “My Home Is In A Southern Town,” words and music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. Professional copy. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 4 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 83
Shelved as Mss 526, folder 655 **1929** “My Little Dixie Home,” words by Harrison G. Smith, music by Bob Cloud & Ben Garrison. (New York: Harrison G. Smith, 1929.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 84
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 656 **1950** “The Naked Dance” by Ferdinand J. Morton (Jelly Roll), transcribed and edited by J. Lawrence Cook. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1950) “Manuscript edition.” Printed MuD, 7 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 85
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 657 **1926** “Sidewalk Blues (My Baby’s Gone and I’ve Got the Blues),” music by “Jelly Roll” Morton, lyric by Walter Melrose. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co. Inc., 1926.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 86
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 658 **1928** “Snake Hip Dance,” words and music by Wilton Crawley, arranged by Harry Schoolfield. ([New York]: Wilton Crawley, 1928.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 3 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 87
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 659 **1924** “Someday Sweetheart” by John C. Spikes and Benjamin Spikes. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co., 1924.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 88
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 660 **1922** “Someday Sweetheart” by John C. Spikes, revised by Harold Weeks. (Seattle: The Melody Shop, 1922.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 89
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 661 **1938** “Sweet Substitute,” words and music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (New York: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 90
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 662 **1926** “Sweetheart O’ Mine (The Ballad Beautiful),” music by Ferd Morton, lyric by Walter Melrose. (Chicago: Melrose Bros. Music Co. Inc., 1926.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 91
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 1014 **1910** “Tee-Na-Nah (Indian Rag)” by Harry Weston. (New Orleans: L. Grunewald Co. Ltd., 1910.) Printed MuD (negative photostat), 4 pp., 1 item.

- Folder 92
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 663 **1949** “That’ll Nevah’ Do!” (Piano Solo) by Ben. Garrison. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1949.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 93
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 664 **1957** “That’s Like It Ought’a Be” (Piano Solo) by Harrison Smith, recorded by Roy Evans, “Jelly Roll” Morton Trio. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1957.) Printed MuD (photocopy), 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 94
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 655 **1950** “The Turtle Walk” (Hot Jazz Tune) by Tosh Hammed & Ben. Garrison, piano solo arr. By Aletha Mae Robinson, recorded as ‘Turtle Twist’ by ‘Jelly Roll’ Morton. (New York: Harrison Smith, 1950.) Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 95
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 666 **1939** “We Are Elks” (National March Song), lyric by Ed. Werac, music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (New York: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1939.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 96
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 667 **1929** “Whoopie! I’m Havin’ My Fun (Smilin’ the Blues Away),” words by Harrison G. Smith, music by Bob Cloud & Ben Garrison. (New York: Harrison G. Smith, 1929.) Printed MuD, 2 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 97
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 668 **1938** “Why,” lyric by Ed. Werac, music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. Professional copy. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 3 pp., 1 item.
- Folder 98
Shelved as MSS 526, folder 668 **1938** “Why? (A Musical Interrogation),” lyric by Ed. Werac, music by “Jelly Roll” Morton. (Washington, DC: Tempo-Music Pub. Co., 1938.) Printed MuD, 6 pp., 1 item.