

Haverford College Library
Special Collections

Finding Aid for the DONALD SWANN PAPERS,
1969-1984

Collection No. 950
2 ½ document boxes (1.25 linear feet)
©April, 2001

Gifts of Robert Butman, 1981 and 1989

RESTRICTIONS

No restrictions

ABSTRACT

Primarily relating to the opera *Perelandra* written by Donald Swann (1923-) and correspondence with Prof. Robert Butman relating to its staging at Haverford College.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Donald Swann wrote the music for the opera *Perelandra*, based on C.S. Lewis' novel, which was produced at Haverford College in 1969. Bob Butman was a [Professor of English at Haverford, 1980-87 \(Emeritus Professor, 1970-80\) and Director of Drama, 1961-70](#)

SUBJECT HEADINGS

[Swann, Donald, 1923-
Butman, Robert Hawes
Perelandra](#)

[Haverford College -- History
Perelandra](#)

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

Contents deal with the production of *Perelandra* at Haverford College in 1969 such as scripts, one of which was **Swann's**, clippings, programs and photographs; also

letters of **Swann** to Robert Butman, 1969-1981, concerning the production, personal news and other work in which **Swann** was involved.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1: Donald Swann letters and Perelandra materials

Folder I: Letters of Donald Swann to Robert Butman, 1969-1981, 22 items, which concern the production of *Perelandra*, personal news, other work Swann was involved in, especially a letter of 18 April 1981 which details his work and career.

Folder II: Three photocopies of the script for *Perelandra*: 1. Donald Swann's copy; 2. Second state of the script; 3. Same as Swann's copy, but annotated.

Folder III: Items connected with *Perelandra*: clippings and other reviews, program for Haverford production, costs of production and letters in re, T.D. with annotated directions by Swann, [1969]; photograph of Flanders and Swann, 1967; other Swann printed items: catalogue of Swann works, 2 playbills of pieces written and performed by Swann.

Box 2: *Perelandra* materials and other scripts

1. photocopy of the original score to *Perelandra*; 2. photocopy of the script to *Candle Tree*, by Arthur Scholey and Donald Swann; 3. original T.S. and synopsis of *The Visitors*, by Arthur Scholey; 4. copy of the original script for *Lucy and the Hunter*.

Box 3: Correspondence of Donald Swann and *Perelandra* materials

Folder I: Letters of Donald Swann, 1982-1984 and n.d. All letters to Robert Butman, 22 items. Letters discuss a variety of topics, specifically *Perelandra* and the possible production of *Lucy and the Hunter* and *The Visitor*.

Folder II: Letters received by Donald Swann, 1983 -. Correspondence (three letters) between Donald Swann and Brenda Phillips in August, 1983. Regarding Ms. Phillips' request for a taped copy of *Perelandra*.

Folder III: Memorabilia. Items include: 1. Program from the Haverford/BMC production of *Perelandra*; 2. flyers, programs, and song sheet from the Haverford Peace Fair, June 4, 1983, at which Donald Swann performed; 3. copy of biographical background of Donald Swann and Arthur Scholey (typed); 4. copy of biographical information of Donald Swann (hand written by Swann himself).

Folder IV: Letters received by Robert Butman, 1969 - . 2 items. including a letter to Robert Butman from Patricia Shaw, dated Nov. 28, 1969, which discusses the performance of *Perelandra*.

Four tapes of *Perelandra*, two from an original production, are housed in the Quaker microfilms room. Also in the microfilms room: a cassette recording of *Lucy and the Hunter*.