

Performing Arts records, Coordinator, John Ludwig, 1964 – 1969

Accession Code: 94.02.PA
Collection Code: WAC RG 6 S2
Inclusive Dates: 1963 – 1969
Volume: 3.5 linear feet
Prepared by: Jill Vuchetich

Provenance:

These files are part of the Walker Art Center institutional records. They were created by Walker Art Center staff and stored on the roof since 1971.

Bio / History:

John Ludwig, 1935 - 1995, was coordinator for the Guthrie Theater and the Walker Art Center from 1964 - 1969. Ludwig left the Walker to become the general manager of the Center Opera Company, later Minnesota Opera, when the opera left the sponsorship of the Center Arts Council/Walker Art Center.

John Ludwig graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1957. He served in the US Navy at Pensacola Florida after graduation. Ludwig attended Yale University from 1961 - 1963 and received a Masters degree of Fine Arts in Theater Production. In 1963 he was the recipient of

the Ford Foundation internship program and worked at the Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Ohio. Ludwig was appointed, Coordinator for the Guthrie Theatre and Walker Art Center in the spring of 1964.

After leaving the Minnesota Opera, Ludwig was the General Director for the Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts, (1975). He then became the general manager for the National Institute of Opera (1983). Ludwig published the Catalog of American Musicals in 1988.

Scope and Content:

Arrangement: The Coordinator records, also referred to as programming files are divided into four subseries: administration, music, dance, and theater. Within each subseries the folders are arranged chronologically by season. A season begins in July and ends the following June.

Description: The Programming files of the Coordinator contain information regarding events organized by the Walker Art Center in various venues around the Twin Cities including the Guthrie and Firehouse theaters. Events fall into three categories: music, dance and theater. Theater also contains poetry and intermedia. The Coordinator was also the contact person for the Center Arts Council and helped to facilitate events sponsored

by the CAC. He was also responsible for scheduling events in the Guthrie Theater when the theater company was not using the space. The folders in the Ludwig collection are events that he presented. They do not contain the events presented by the CAC. Also missing are the Center Opera Company files. They are probably at the Minnesota Opera.

Important events from the first season (1963/1964) include the Jazz series featuring Theolonius Monk, and other legendary artists. As well as the first dance residency presented by the Walker of Paul Taylor Dance Company, August thru September 1964. Several music series occurred seasonally including jazz, folk and classical. The Master Dance Class series also became a popular regular occurrence including artists Shozo Sato October thru November 1964, Alwin Nikolais, August 1965, Martha Graham, August 1966, and Merce Cunningham, August 1967. In addition to Master Dance Classes, Alwin Nikolais was commissioned by the Walker to create a dance work for the new Guthrie Theater's thrust stage. The work "Vaudeville of the Elements" was given its world premiere in the Guthrie, December 10 and 11, 1965. Toward the end of the 1960s the music series begins to branch out into concerts of pop and rock performers including Janis Joplin, 1968, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Led Zeppelin and The Who in 1969.

In the winter of 1969, John Ludwig devotes most of his efforts towards the Center Opera Company, which will end its association with the Walker Art Center that same year. Ludwig leaves the Walker to become the full-time General Manager of the Center Opera Company in July 1969.

Suzanne Weil was hired in the winter of 1969 as a consultant for the Walker. Her duties were to assist John Ludwig in scheduling the other events beyond the Center Opera. In July 1969 Suzanne Weil became the coordinator of Performing Arts.

Restrictions:

No Restrictions

Separation Note:

None

Access:

By appointment only.

Container List to follow

WALKER ART CENTER INSTITUTIONAL RECORDS: FOLDER INVENTORY

BoxFolder		Date
001 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Coordinating Committee Minutes	1963-1964
001 001a	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence	1963 - 1964
001 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Guthrie Theater	1963-1964
001 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Guthrie Theater: Event Forms	1963-1964
001 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music Committee: Folk	1963-1964
001 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music Committee: Minneapolis Symphony String Quartet series	1963-1964
001 006	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Theolonius Monk: contract, 6/14/64	1963-1964
001 006a	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Sahomi Tachibana, 5/4/64 (Jade exhibition opening)	1963-1964
001 007	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Center Arts Council	1964-1965
001 008	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Committee minutes	1964-1965
001 009	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence (includes Judson Theater, Steve Paxton)	1964-1965
001 010	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Guthrie Theater	1964-1965
001 011	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Jazz Series	1964-1965
001 012	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: String Quartet Series, October - January	1964-1965
001 013	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Sinfonia, December - April	1964-1965
001 014	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Christmas Concert, December 18	1964-1965
001 015	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Folk, January - March	1964 - 1965

Box Folder		Date
001 016	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Charles Biederman:The Structurist Relief 1935 - 1964: Opening Event, 3/29/65	1964 - 1965
001 017	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Ernest Krenek Festival, April 16-23	1964 - 1965
002 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Master Dance Classes: Joan Skinner, 8/10/64	1964 - 1965
002 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Master Dance Classes: Paul Taylor, 8/10 - 9/2/64 (artist-in-residence)	1964 - 1965
002 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Graciela Martinez, New Art of Argentina opening, 9/8/64	1964 - 1965
002 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Master Dance Classes: Shozo Sato, 10/30 - 11/18/64	1964 1965
002 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: The Key, 2/21/65	1964-1965
002 006	Coordinator, John Ludwig:Dance: New York City Ballet, March 16	1964-1965
002 007	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Drama Events	1964-1965
002 008	Coordinator, John Ludwig:Theater: Robert Fitzgerald: poetry reading, May 24	1964 - 1965
002 009	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Here (2) Festival, June 14-18	1964 - 1965
002 010	Coordinator, John Ludwig:Administration: Center Arts Council	1965-1966
002 011	Coordinator, John Ludwig:Administration: Concert Contracts	1965-1966
002 012	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Contracts: BMI License Agreement	1965-1966
002 013	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence	1965-1966
002 014	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Firehouse Theater	1965-1966
002 015	Coordinator, John Ludwig:Administration: Guthrie Theater	1965-1966
003 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Laurindo Almelida, October 10	1965 - 1966
003 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Odetta, November 14	1965 - 1966

Box Folder		Date
003 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Christmas Concert, December 18	1965 - 1966
003 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Modern Jazz Quartet, January 21	1965 - 1966
003 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: American Jazz Ensemble, March 18	1965 - 1966
003 006	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Folk Music Series, March - April	1965 - 1966
003 007	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Sinfonia, April	1965 - 1966
003 008	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Keyboard Series, Spring	1965 - 1966
003 009	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: King David, Spring	1965 - 1966
003 010	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Alwin Nikolais Master Class, August	1965 - 1966
003 011	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Alwin Nikolais Master Class applications, August	1965 - 1966
003 012	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Alwin Nikolais Master Class registration, August	1965 - 1966
003 013	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Alwin Nikolais Concert, December 10-11 (Commission "Vaudeville of the Elements")	1965 - 1966
003 014	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Alwin Nikolais promotion, December 10-11	1965 - 1966
004 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Center Arts Council	1966 - 1967
004 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Contracts	1966-1967
004 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Expenses	1966-1967
004 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence	1966-1967
004 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Administration: Richard Schechner correspondence	1966-1967
004 006	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Guthrie Theater	1966-1967
004 007	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Dollar Concert Series, July	1966-1967

Box Folder	Date
004 008 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Miriam Mekeba, September 12	1966-1967
004 009 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Julian Bream, October 23	1966-1967
004 010 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: World of Kurt Weil, The, November 14	1966-1967
004 011 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Sinfonia, December 5	1966-1967
004 012 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Christmas Concert, December 18	1966 - 1967
004 013 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Carlos Montoya, March 7	1966 - 1967
004 014 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Peter Yates, March 30	1966 - 1967
004 015 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Judson Dance Theater (unrealized)	1966-1967
004 016 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Martha Graham Dance Class: registration, August	1966 - 1967
004 017 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Martha Graham Dance Workshop, August	1966 - 1967
004 018 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Paper Bag Players, March 21	1966 - 1967
005 001 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Budget	1967-1968
005 002 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Center Arts Council	1967-1968
005 003 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Contracts	1967-1968
005 004 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Expenses	1967-1968
005 005 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Ticketing information	1967-1968
005 006 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence	1967-1968
005 007 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Gallery Concerts: Daniel Goode	1967-1968
005 008 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Blues Project cancelled	1967-1968

Box Folder		Date
005 009	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Buffy St. Marie, September 10	1967-1968
005 010	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Ramsay Lewis Trio, September 24	1967-1968
005 011	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Eleanor Steber, October 1	1967-1968
005 012	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Laurindo Almeida, October 8	1967-1968
005 013	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: John Ogdon, October 29	1967-1968
005 014	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Olatunji, Art of the Congo opening, 11/5/67	1967-1968
005 015	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Butterfield Blues Band, 11/12/67	1967-1968
005 016	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Ian and Sylvia, December 1	1967-1968
005 017	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Richard Dyer-Bennet, December 9	1967-1968
005 018	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Christmas Concert, December 17	1967-1968
005 019	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Elizabeth Schwarzkopf, 1/10/68 (cancelled)	1967-1968
005 020	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Ravi Shankar, 1/17/68	1967-1968
005 021	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Judy Collins, 2/18/68	1967-1968
005 022	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Texas Boys Choir, cancelled	1967-1968
006 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Sabicas, 3/23/68	1967-1968
006 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Charles Lloyd Quartet, 4/7/68	1967-1968
006 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Arlo Guthrie, 4/20/68	1967-1968
006 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Gary Burton Quarter, 4/28/68	1967-1968
006 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, 5/5/68	1967-1968

Box Folder	Date
006 006 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Jacques Loussier Trio, cancelled	1967-1968
006 007 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Miles Davis Quartet, 5/26/68	1967-1968
006 008 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Mose Allison Trio, 6/23/68	1967-1968
006 009 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Sanford Margolis, 6/30/68	1967-1968
006 010 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Ann Halprin: Dance Workshops	1967-1968
006 011 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Merce Cunningham classes, August 1967	1967-1968
006 012 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Merce Cunningham participants August 1967	1967-1968
006 013 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Merce Cunningham questionnaire, August 1967	1967-1968
006 014 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: First Chamber Dance Quartet, 11/26/67	1967-1968
006 015 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Dance: Utah Dance Company, 4/21-25/68	1967-1968
006 016 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Intermedia	1967 - 1968
006 017 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Budget	1968-1969
006 018 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence	1968-1969
006 019 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert expenses,BMI	1968-1969
006 020 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Concert Ticket Information	1968-1969
006 021 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Correspondence AFL-CIO arts project	1968-1969
006 022 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Administration: Expenses	1968-1969
006 023 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Electronic Studio	1968-1969
006 024 Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Electronic Studio: seminars with James Seawright	1968-1969

Box Folder		Date
007 001	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Muddy Waters, 7/14/68	1968-1969
007 002	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Big Brother and the Holding Company with Janis Joplin, 8/18/68	1968-1969
007 003	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Doc Watson, 9/15/68	1968-1969
007 004	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: John Cage Festival, unrealized	1968-1969
007 005	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Flatt and Scruggs, 10/13/68	1968-1969
007 006	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: The USA, 10/20/68, cancelled	1968-1969
007 007	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, unrealized	1968-1969
007 008	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Luciano Berio, unrealized	1968-1969
007 009	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Odetta, 11/17/68	1968-1969
007 010	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Blood, Sweat and Tears, 1/16/69	1968-1969
007 011	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Pete Seeger, 3/22/69	1968-1969
007 012	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Lessac / Glover / Music Projection, 3/30/69	1968-1969
007 013	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Nobody's Old Favorites II with John Cage, 4/8/69	1968-1969
007 014	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Jacques Loussier, unrealized	1968-1969
007 015	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: William Russo: The Civil War, a Rock Contata, 4/26/69	1968-1969
007 016	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Led Zeppelin, 5/18/69	1968-1969
007 017	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: The Who, 6/8/69	1968-1969
007 018	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Music: Johnny Winter with Holy Modal Rounders, 6/29/69	1968-1969
007 019	Coordinator, John Ludwig: Theater: Poetry, Peter Schjeldahl, 5/17/69	1968-1969