



Archives and Special Collections Department,  
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon  
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## **Salvador Arnita Collection, 1952-1980**

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Libraries, AUB  
Prepared by Iman Abdallah Abu Nader

Contact information:

[asc@aub.edu.lb](mailto:asc@aub.edu.lb)

Webpage:

[www.aub.edu.lb/Libraries/asc](http://www.aub.edu.lb/Libraries/asc)

## Descriptive Summary

**Call No.:** AA: 6.2.1

**Library catalog ID:** [b14621113](#)

**Record Creator:** Arnita, Salvador, 1915-1985

**Collection Title:** Salvador Arnita Collection, 1952-1980

**Collection Dates:** 1952-1980

**Physical Description:** 2.6 linear feet, 8 Boxes

**Abstract:** Salvador Arnita is a Palestinian composer and Organist. In 1949, Arnita settled in Beirut, joined the American University of Beirut (AUB) as Assistant Professor of Music 1950, and took different posts until his retirement as Professor of Philosophy (Music, Kapellmeister) in 1979-1980. His collection includes musical notes and partitions and most importantly his own musical compositions.

**Language(s):** English and Arabic

## Administrative Information

**Source:** Deposited by David Kurani, Senior Lecturer in AUB Civilization Sequence Program, at the University libraries in November 2001.

**Access Restrictions:** The collection can be consulted within the premises of the Archives and Special Collections Department, Jafet Memorial Library, American University of Beirut.

**Photocopying Restriction:** No photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

**Preferred Citation:** Salvador Arnita Collection, 1952-1980, AUB, AA: 6.2.1, Box no.-, File no.-, American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

## Scope and Content

The collection includes biographical information on Salvador Arnita; articles by his wife Yusra Jawhariyah Arnita; programs and performances, musical notes; invoice book; books for music teaching; Musical Partitions and Musical Compositions by him.

The collection is important for researchers who are interested in Music of the Middle East or in faculty involved in music and musical performances of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Arrangement

The Collection is arranged in three series:

- Series I:** Biographical information about him and his wife; Articles by his wife, 1960s-1980s
- Series II:** Programs and Performances, Books, Musical Partitions
- Series III:** Compositions by Salvador Arnita

## Biographical Sketch

Born in Jerusalem, Palestine, 1915. He showed an early aptitude for music and became assistant organist at the historic Church of the Holy Sepulchre at the age of eleven. At sixteen, he enrolled at St. Cecily's Academy Rome. Two years later, he went to London to study choral and orchestral conducting. At twenty, he was back in Jerusalem as Music Director of the YMCA. From 1949-1980 worked at AUB as Assistant Professor of Music, Associate Professor and Professor of Music and was a pillar of the Beirut musical scene. Salvador Arnita was "a complete musician having composed more than 200 original musical compositions, giving more than 100 organ recitals in the Middle East, Europe, and the United States, and conducting some of the world's major orchestras, such as the Guildhall Symphony, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Torino Radio Orchestra, and the Berlin Symphony. Among his original compositions are three symphonies, four concerti (for organ, piano, flute, and viola), two suites, 10 piano preludes, two piano sonatas, four organ preludes and fugues, two string quartets, and a solemn hymn, "Centenarius," especially composed to commemorate AUB's centennial in 1966. International orchestras played many of these compositions. Awarded by Belgian Government the Legion D'honneur in 1962, and the Lebanese Government the Gold Medal (First Class) and by AUB the AUB Coin. Deceased in 1985. He was married to Yusra Arnita who was a holder of a Diplome de Musique (Paris) and taught music history and theory at AUB. She was the author of *Folkloric Arts in Palestine* and *Modern Music in its Contemporary Setting* both in Arabic.

## Subject Headings

American University of Beirut -- Faculty.  
Musicians -- Biography.  
Organ music.  
Musicals.  
Concerts.  
Classicism in Music.  
Music, Oriental.  
Anniversaries.

الفلكلور -- فلسطين.

## Container List

**Series I: Biographical information about him and his wife. Articles by his wife, 1960s-1980s**

**Box 1: Biographical information about him and his wife, articles by his wife.**

- File 1: Biography; First Recital on New Organ, 1972; Arnita's First Cantana in Arabic.
- File 2: His wife: Yusra Jawhariyah Arnita, biography and articles by her: Arabic Music Today, الألبسة الشعبية في فلسطين، الموسيقى العربية، 1960s-1980s.

## **Series II: Programs and Performances, Books, Musical Partitions, 1952-1980**

### **Box 1 (cont.):**

- File 3: Programs and Performances (I), 1952-1958
- File 4: Programs and Performances (II), 1963-1980.
- File 5: Amhal and the Night Visitors Musical Notes, 1952.
- File 6: Invoice book from AUB.

### **Box 2:**

- Musical Partitions: Night of Miracles and La Gazza Larda by Gioacchino Rossini  
38 volumes

### **Box 3:**

- Musical Partitions: Mendelssohn Leider Ohne Wort. Sonatinen Fur Piano Solo by Anton Diabelli. Tchaikovsky: Les mois de l'année. Anton. Dvorak: 16 Slavonic Dances. Keissler: 24 Etudes por le piano. R. Schumann: Scherzo, Presto Passionataet Canon.

### **Box 4:**

- Musical Partitions: Books of Prominent musicians

### **Box 5:**

- Musical Partitions: Books of Prominent musicians

### **Box 6:**

- Books for Music Teaching

### Miscellaneous:

- The great staff.
- Instrument of the Orchestra
- Values Notes Rests.
- AUB music Section presents a variety of Classical Concert performed by five AUB students enrolled in music course 253 directed by Professor S. Arnita. May 28, 1980.
- Major Key signatures.
- Musical forms.
- Beirut University College - Louaize College for Higher Education Zouk Mosbeh- Musical forms.
- Elementary Examination (Music 252)
- The Concerto

### **Box 7:**

- Books for Music Teaching

### Series III: Compositions by Arnita

#### Box 8: Musical Compositions

- Munyati- song without words
- Show us thy Mercy لا يوجد اسم في السماء
- Lebanese National Anthem arranged for four-part Chorus of Men's Voices
- Libera Domine for Salti, Chorus, Organ and Orchestra
- Easter Interlude for four mixed voices, with Orchestra and Organ.
- Ya Ghzayyel يا غزيل (Folk song for male voices and Piano arranged by S. Arnita)
- Chant national du Liban (Hymne Libanais) Arrangement par Emile Shneider-Kamin
- Solemn Prelude for Organ & String orchestra
- Hymn of Praise
- Centenarius for Baritone solo, choir & Organ. Words by B. Thurston. Music by S. Arnita.
- The sixth hour for Solo Baritone, Choir, & Orchestra.
- Nuptial Song for four mixed voices and Organ.
- Union voices, mixed Chorus and Orchestra.
- Fugue on Bach for two Piano.
- Tango. Theme by Afif Alvarez Bulos. Arranged by S. Arnita
- Danse Arabe
- يا شباب الوطن
- "بطاقة هوية" سجل أنا عربي. تأليف محمود درويش- تلحين سلفادور عرنيطة.  
Cantata Dramatica par Baritone, Coro e Orchestra. Salvador Arnita.
- Flot du Danube arranged for piano & hands by S. Arnita.
- Piano method for beginner (Age: 6-7) by S. Arnita
- Andalusia
- Landate Dominum
- Overture
- سجينة بلبنان
- Pour Alto Solto, Choeur et Orchestre par Samir Tomb arranged et orchestra par S Arnita- paroles pour J. Abi Ghanem

#### Box 9: Musical Compositions

- Schirmer's wire bound – Music writing book.
- Allegretto Pastorale
- Allegretto from Symphony No.2
- Organ Recital by Salvador Arnita.
- Requiem for a friend
- Advent psalm for mixed chorus and organ by S. Arnita, words by Thos. e. Shutter.
- شادي وشادية كتاب المعلم للصفوف التمهيدي والأول والثاني. تأليف: يسرى جوهريّة عرنيطة.  
تلحين: سلفادور عرنيطة الجزء الأول ١٩٧٥

- هَيْنَ ضرب السيف.

**Box 10:** Publication from: The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music Birzeit University: (Received from Mr. Mohamad Maragha Sep. 17, 2014.)

- Antiphony for Oboe, Carillon and String Orchestra. Allegretto Pastorale for Oboe, and String Orchestra.
- Andante Meditativo from Symphony No.1 for String Orchestra.
- Libera me, Domine for Soloists, Choir, Organ and String orchestra.

**Box 11:** Publication from: The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music Birzeit University: (Received from Mr. Mohamad Maragha Sep. 17, 2014.)

- Salvador Arnita's Centennial Celebration (19<sup>٨٤</sup>-1914) Catalogs.
- Palestine's Musical Pulse Catalog.

Files: Copies of:

- Prelude
- Waves of Danube
- Fugue on Bach.

C D: Compositions by / or arranged by Salvador Arnita played at the Edward Said National Conservatory Birzeit University, 2014.

## Related Material at AUB

### Archival Material

- AUB Choir, [AA:1.11.2](#)
- Personnel Department, 1924- 2005, [AA:2.5.0.3\(6-7\)](#)
- Department of Fine Arts and Art History, 1952-1975; 2003-, [AA:3.6.3.8](#)
- Institut de Musique and Department of Music;1929 -1940, [AA:3.6.5.1](#)
- Walid Ghulmiyah Collection; 1960 – 2012, [ARCHIVE: 780.92.2](#)
- [Zaki Nassif Archives: music and lyrics](#)
- Zaki Nassif Archives: music, [ARCHIVE: 780.92.2](#)
- Paul Meers, AUBites File, AA:6
- Arkadie Kouguel, AUBites File, AA:6

### Books

- Arnita, S. *The visit of the magi: a Christmas piece for unison voices, bass solo and mixed chorus with string orchestra and organ.* [J 783.3:A74v](#)
- Tamari, S. (2009). *Mountain against the sea: essays on Palestinian society and culture.* Berkeley: University of California Press. [J 956.9405:T153m](#)
- عرنيطة، يسرى جوهرية. ( ١٩٦٨ ). *الفنون الشعبية في فلسطين.* بيروت: منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية. [J 398:A74fA:c.1](#)

- عرنيطة، يسرى جوهريّة. (١٩٥٧). شادي وشادية: أغان وألحان للأطفال. بيروت: شركة اعلانات الشرق الاوسط. [J 784:A74sA:v.1:c.1](#)
- ترزي، ريما ناصر (٢٠١٣). أغاني الحرية والأمل. القدس: معهد ادوار سعيد الوطني للموسيقى، جامعة بيرزيت. [CA:F 492.7:T196aA:v.1:](#)

## Photos

- Easter Musicale conducted by Professor Salvador Arnita, 1975  
[Ph:AUB:1975/04\(05\):01:54](#)
- Portrait of Salvador Arnita, 1971 [Ph:AUB:1971\(02\):01:53](#)
- Salvador Arnita with Orchestra, 1971 [Ph:AUB:1971\(29\):01:53](#)
- Salvador Arnita practicing with the Egyptian Orchestra, 1966  
[Ph:AUB:1966/07/14:01:51](#)
- Portrait of Salvador Arnita, 1950s [Ph:AUB:1950s\(67\):01:44](#)
- Centennial Dinner for the American University of Beirut, 1966  
[Ph:AUB:1966/06/27\(06\):101-120:51](#)
- Centennial Reception held by President Samuel Kirkwood, 1966  
[Ph:AUB:1966/12/03\(04\):255-274:51](#)
- Visit of the Board of Trustees members to the American University of Beirut, 1959 [Ph:AUB:1959/04/17\(02\):1-28:48](#)

## Poster

- Chamber Music Concert by Quatuor Musique Del Tempo.  
[Ps:AUB:2015/10/01\(03\)](#)
- امسية غنائية يؤديها رابحوا مباراة "من كل مدرسة كورال ٢٠١٠".  
[Ps:AUB:2010/05/21\(04\):17](#)

## Publications

- Arnita, S. (1980. July). Man of Music. *AUB Today*, p: 9
- Arnita, J. (1951. January). Arabic music today. *Al-Kulliyah*, 26(1), 21-22.