

## **Concord Music Group Business Records and Music (circa 1953–2002)**

**Creator(s):** Concord Music Group, Contemporary Records, Fantasy Records

**Title:** Concord Music Group Music and Business Records

**Dates:** circa 1953–2002

**Quantity:** 5 boxes, 3.52 linear feet

**Abstract:** Concord Music Group is a United States music company founded in 1973. The records in this collection come from the company's acquisition of Fantasy Inc. in 2004, and most relate specifically to Contemporary Records, which was acquired by Fantasy Inc. in 1984. These papers include music and business records.

**Collection No.:** 78

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Rutgers University Libraries, Institute of Jazz Studies

### **Administrative History:**

Concord Music Group began as Concord Records, a music label founded by Carl Jefferson in 1973 following the success of his 1969 Concord Jazz Festival. In 2004, Concord Records acquired Fantasy Inc., merging the two labels into Concord Music Group. This merge also included the wide variety of labels already under the ownership of Fantasy, including Debut, Riverside, Prestige, Milestone, Stax, Specialty, Pablo, Good Time, Takoma, Kicking Mule, and Contemporary.

### **Scope and Content:**

The Concord Music Group records (circa 1953–2002) all relate to Fantasy Inc. Most of the collection is business records and music from Contemporary Records. Included is correspondence between founder Lester Koenig and various record reviewers and a business ledger from 1970–1981. The remainder of the collection includes catalogs, liner notes, record proofs, and promotional materials from Fantasy, Prestige, Good Time, and Tower Records.

### **Arrangement Note:**

Folders 1–9 have been kept in original order. Folders 10–17 are arranged chronologically based on the arrangement of the tabbed divisions present in the original ledger book: Record and Distribution of Receipts, Record and Distribution of Sales, Record of Checks Drawn on Banks

and Cash Disbursements, and Record of Invoices and Distribution of Purchases. Folders 18–24 are arranged chronologically and/or by content.

### **Administrative Information:**

Processing note: This collection was processed in 2014 by David Sanders as part of a Manuscripts and Archives class at Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

### **Detailed Description of the Papers List:**

#### Series 1: Music and Lyrics (circa 1955–1963)

#### **Box 1**

##### Folder 1: Music and Lyrics: Lead Sheets, Lyrics, (circa 1955–1963)

- a. You're Something Else lead sheet, (Benny Carter, mus., Doug Langdon, lyr.), © ASCAP, undated
- b. Another Soul lead sheet, (Morris Bailey, comp.), © Sharsnock Music Co. Inc., undated
- c. If He'd Just Hurry Back To Me lead sheet, (Victor Feldman mus., Joy Bryan lyr.), undated
- d. The Last Generation lead sheet, (Sonny Simmons comp.), undated
- e. Lord Knows I've Tried lead sheet, (LeFebvre), undated
- f. Rondolay lead sheet, (Hampton Hawes, comp.), © Contemporary Music, BMI, 1963
- g. So Do I (I Thought of You) lead sheet, (Red Mitchell, mus., Doug Langdon, lyr.), © ASCAP, undated
- h. Winbad the Wailer lead sheet, (Lennie Niehaus, comp.), © Contemporary Music, 1955
- i. Why Dont'cha Tell Me lead sheet, (Helen Humes/Cora Woods/Jimmy Rushing, comp.), © Composers Music, 1960
- j. Yes, Is All That I Can Say (Deep Theo, Lady Medusa on back of page) lead sheet, (Hampton Hawes, comp.), undated

#### Series 2: Business Records (circa 1953–2002)

Note: All correspondence with Lester Koenig

Folder 2: Correspondence: Barney Glazer at Twentieth Century News Syndicate, (circa 1964–1967)

Folder 3: Correspondence and clippings: Bill Laffler at United Press, (circa 1953–1969)

Folder 4: Correspondence: Hal Levy at Westways Magazine, (1967)

Folder 5: Correspondence: Martin Williams at Smithsonian Institute, (1960–1965 bulk, 1972)

Folder 6: Correspondence: Jerald Krupnick at Westfield/ Newark Star Ledger, (circa 1960–1972)

Folder 7: Correspondence and Clippings: Hollie West and Byron Roberts at Washington Post (circa 1954–1970)

Folder 8: Good Time Jazz Extended Play Catalogue: Sample catalogs, correspondence with publishers, check stubs, and sample sheet music publications, (1958–1960).

Folder 9: Copyright Royalties: Clippings, lead sheets, lyrics, contracts, and correspondence, (1967–1972).

Folder 10: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record and Distribution of Receipts, (October 1970–September 1978)

Folder 11: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record and Distribution of Receipts, (September 1978–September 1981)

## **Box 2**

Folder 12: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record and Distribution of Sales, (October 1970–September 1974)

Folder 13: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record and Distribution of Sales, (September 1974–September 1981)

Folder 14: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record of Checks Drawn On Banks and Record of Cash Disbursements, (October 1970–September 1976)

Folder 15: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record of Checks Drawn On Banks and Record of Cash Disbursements, (October 1976–September 1981)

## **Box 3**

Folder 16: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record of Invoices and Distribution of Purchases, (October 1970–September 1973)

Folder 17: Contemporary Records Ledger, Record of Invoices and Distribution of Purchases, (October 1973–September 1981)

Folder 18: Liner Notes (1992–1996, 1999–2000, 2002), and Original Jazz Classics Collector's Guide, (1995)

Folder 19: 7-inch and 10-inch Extended Play Record Cover Proofs, undated

#### **Box 4**

Folder 20: Fantasy Records Catalogs, (1985, 1987, 1991–1994)

Folder 21: Fantasy Records Catalogs, (1995–1998)

Folder 22: Fantasy Records Catalogs, (1999–2002)

Folder 23: The World's Mightiest Jazz Catalog (1979), Prestige and Fantasy Twofer Catalog (1984), Tower Records Catalogs, (1995–1997)

#### **Box 5**

Folder 24: Oversize Liner Notes, Promotional Flyers, Record Store LP Place Holder (1987, 1990, 1992)