

**U DX343 Papers of Professor Peter Dickinson relating 1981-2009
to his work on 'Larkin's Jazz'**

Accession number: 2011/022022/21

Biographical Background: Peter Dickinson was born in Lytham St Annes, Lancashire on 15 November 1934. He was Organ Scholar at Queen's College, Cambridge and then spent three years in New York (1958-1961) working as a critic, teacher and freelance performer. He returned to England in 1962 and established courses in experimental music at the College of St Mark and St John, Chelsea. He held a number of academic posts including lecturer at Birmingham (1966-1970) and was the first Professor of Music at Keele University (1974-84) where he started the Department with its Centre for American Music. He was the first Chair at Goldsmiths College, University of London (1991-97) and was Head of Music at the Institute of United States Studies, University of London (1997-2004).

In 1980 he was a founding member of the Association of Professional Composers and the following year was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a member of the Royal Society of Musicians since 1985. He is chair of the Bernarr Rainbow Trust, a charity set up in 1997 for the benefit of music education. Dickinson has been an active pianist with numerous recitals, broadcasts and recordings through a twenty-five-year partnership with his sister, the mezzo Meriel Dickinson. His literary interests have led him to using the work of poets including Auden, Dylan Thomas, Emily Dickinson, Philip Larkin and Stevie Smith ('Stevie's Tunes' was premiered in 1985).

See U DX343/2 for a detailed account of his inspiration for Larkin's Jazz and why he included spoken extracts from Larkin's work instead of vocal performance. Dickinson's music has been regularly performed and recorded by some of the leading musicians. He has written widely including for numerous books and periodicals and for over thirty years he was a regular contributor to BBC Radio 3. Larkin's Jazz (which is 24 minutes long on the CD) was first performed by the Nash Ensemble with Henry Herford conducted by Lionel Friend at Keele University on 5 February 1990 (see U DX343/6 for a CD recording of this performance)

Custodial history: Deposited by Professor Peter Dickinson on the 19th January 2011

Description: Material including musical score and a recording on CD, relating to the composition of a piece entitled 'Larkin's Jazz' by composer Peter Dickinson

Extent: 0.833 linear metres

Related material: Papers of Philip Arthur Larkin [Ref U DPL] include correspondence and articles relating to jazz

Settings of Philip Larkin by Brian Blyth Daubney [Ref U DX358]

Poem 'The North Ship' set to music by composer William Beckmann [Ref U DX310]

Access conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader

Copyright: Various

Language: English

Hull History Centre: Professor Peter Dickinson re his work 'Larkin's Jazz'

U DX343/1	Correspondence between Peter Dickinson and Philip Larkin Regarding setting Larkin's poems to music, items from Peter Dickinson are photocopies. 1 item	15 Jul 1981-21 Dec 1983
U DX343/2	'Philip Larkin Remembered' by Peter Dickinson Copy of the review article taken from 'The Royal Society of Arts Journal' 1 item	Apr 1989
U DX343/3	'The Poet's Voice' by Peter Dickinson Copy of the review article taken from 'TheTimes Higher Education Supplement' 1 item	24 Feb 1989
U DX343/4	Newspaper cuttings From 'The Times Higher Education Supplement '(17 Mar 1989) from Kingsley Amis and Peter Dickinson (21 Apr 1989) discussing 'Larkin's Jazz' and how it would have been received by Larkin 1 item	Mar-Apr 1989
U DX343/5	Bound presentation copy of the musical score of 'Larkin's Jazz' by Peter Dickinson With loose pages featuring the layout of Larkin's Jazz including extracts from 'The Less Deceived' and 'The Whitsun Weddings' that were featured in the piece 1 item	1989
U DX343/6	'Mass of the Apocalypse' CD with tracks 7-17 featuring a live performance of 'Larkin's Jazz' recorded at Keele University on 5 Feb 1990 1 item Item is currently unavailable whilst we investigate the creation of an access copy. If you require access please contact the University Archives team at archives@hull.ac.uk clearly outlining your interest and timescales.	2009
U DX343/7	Catalogue of Peter Dickinson's music 1 item	2000
U DX343/8	Volume. Words and Music by Peter Dickinson Book relating to poetry and music, marking fifty years of writings on the subjects by Peter Dickinson. 1 volume	2016

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U DX343/9	<p>Lecture titled 'Larkin's Jazz (1989)' by Peter Dickinson</p> <p>Typescript draft marked up for editing. Delivered by Dickinson at the Institute of United States Studies, Institute of English Studies, University of London</p> <p>1 item</p>	25 Nov 2003
U DX343/10	<p>Script for two part BBC Radio programme titled 'Larkin's Jazz'</p> <p>Text for two programmes devised and presented by Peter Dickinson based on the writings of Philip Larkin, with David Killick. The programmes were recorded 14 Jul 1988 and aired on BBC Radio 3 on 26 Aug 1988 and 2 Feb 1988. The programmes were repeated on BBC Radio 4 on 15 Sep 1992 and 22 Sep 1992. Photocopy of original edited and annotated typescript.</p> <p>1 item</p>	1988
U DX343/11	<p>File. Correspondence Peter Dickinson and T.N. Wheldon of Gosschalks Solicitors</p> <p>Relates to permissions sought from the Philip Larkin estate by Peter Dickinson to use a number of Larkin's poems in the composition of a musical tribute to Larkin and his love of jazz. Poems mentioned are Two Guitar Pieces, Reasons for Attendance, Annus Mirabilis, For Sidney Bechet, Love Songs in Age, and Reference Back.</p> <p>1 file (7 items)</p>	24 May 1988-3 Jan 1989
U DX343/12	<p>File. Correspondence Peter Dickinson and Mavis Pindard of Faber and Faber Ltd</p> <p>Relates to permissions sought from the Philip Larkin estate by Peter Dickinson to use a number of Larkin's poems in the composition of a musical tribute to Larkin and his love of jazz. Includes reference to the piece having been commissioned for first performance by Keele University.</p> <p>1 file (5 items)</p>	21 Jul 1988-31 Dec 1989
U DX343/13	<p>File. Correspondence Peter Dickinson and Andrew Motion as Biographer of Philip Larkin and Trustee of the Larkin Estate</p> <p>Relates to permissions sought from the Philip Larkin estate by Peter Dickinson to use a number of Larkin's poems in the composition of a musical tribute to Larkin and his love of jazz. Includes reference to the piece having been commissioned for a performance by Richard Baker and the Nash Ensemble.</p> <p>1 file (3 items)</p>	7 May 1988-8 Jun 1988

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| U DX343/14 | <p>File. Correspondence Peter Dickinson and Anthony Thwaite</p> <p>References to: permissions sought from the Philip Larkin estate by Peter Dickinson to use a number of Larkin's poems in the composition of a musical tribute to Larkin and his love of jazz; use of 'Two Guitar Pieces' and enclosure of text of the same by Thwaite; promise by Dickinson to send Thwaite a recording of Larkin's Jazz and to Dickinson being in the process of reading Thwaites 'Letters'; Thwaite's comments on the draft of an article by Dickinson for the journal 'About Larkin'.</p> <p>1 file (7 items)</p> | <p>9 Jul 1988-26
Nov 2017</p> |
| U DX343/15 | <p>File. Letters sent by Jean Hartley to Peter Dickinson</p> <p>References to: Hartley sending copies of 'Listen' issues not previously owned by Dickinson; Hartley's thoughts on Dickinson's talk about Larkin; Maeve's [Brennan] commemoration; Dickinson having reviewed Hartley's autobiography years ago; Hartley having listened to Dickinson's CD; possibly plans for a bronze statue of Larkin in Paragon Station. Photocopies of originals.</p> <p>1 file (3 items)</p> | <p>13 Oct 2003-15
Nov 2009</p> |
| U DX343/16 | <p>File. Letters sent by Anthony Hedges to Peter Dickinson</p> <p>References to: Hedges being interested to have a cassette of Dickinson's settings (of Larkin poems to music); Hedges is unable to attend a lecture by Dickinson on Larkin; Hedges comments on part of Dickinson's lecture text. Enclosures: text of 'Bridge for the Living' by Larkin, 1981; text of speech given by Anthony Hedges at a Larkin Thanksgiving Ceremony at the University of Hull re the composition of the score for 'Bridge for the Living'.</p> <p>1 file (4 items)</p> | <p>19 Aug 2003-29
Dec 2003</p> |
| U DX343/17 | <p>Pamphlet. 'The Jazz Influence'</p> <p>Programme for a concert at Blackheath Convert Halls, 8pm on 7 Nov 1994. Peter Dickinson appears as the pianist and contributed the introductory text 'programme notes'. Includes a biography of Dickinson on p.12.</p> <p>1 item</p> | <p>7 Nov 1994</p> |

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| U DX343/18 | Pamphlet. 'Keele Concerts Programme
Nineteenth Season 1989/90'
Programme of concert held 5 Feb 1990, which
included a performance by The Nash Ensemble of
'Larkin's Jazz'. The piece was composed by Peter
Dickinson and was based on several of Larkin's
poems.
1 item | 5 Feb 1990 |
| U DX343/19 | Pamphlet. 'Hull Choral Union Souvenir
Programme'
Programme includes performance of 'Bridge for
the Living' performed by Hull Choral Union and
written by Anthony Hedges and Philip Larkin.
1 item | 29 Oct 1981 |
| U DX343/20 | Pamphlet. 'Pretending to be me'
Programme relating to a production of 'Pretending
to be me', featuring Tom Courtney as Philip
Larkin, staged at the West Yorkshire Playhouse
and The Comedy Theatre. Enclosures: Circular
letter re the performance; flyer advertising the
performance of 'Pretending to be me' at the West
Yorkshire Playhouse; flyer advertising
performance of 'Larkin with women' at the West
Yorkshire Playhouse; flyer advertising
performance of 'Larkin with women' by
Manchester Library Theatre Company.
1 item (5 pieces) | Dec 2002-Apr
2003 |
| U DX343/21 | Audio recording. 'Anthony Hedges on his
collaboration with Philip Larkin'
Recording of Anthony Hedges speaking about his
collaboration with Philip Larkin on the musical
composition 'Bridge for the Living'. Marked 'A poor
copy of a poor recording'.
1 item
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University Archives team at
archives@hull.ac.uk clearly outlining your
interest and timescales. | c.1981 |

U DX343/22

Audio recording. 'Anthony Hedges contribution to Larkin Thanksgiving, Middleton Hall, Hull University' and 'Bridge for the Living' Recording of a contribution made by Anthony Hedges at a Larkin Thanksgiving event held at Middleton Hall, University of Hull. Also a recording of the performance of 'Bridge for the Living' featuring Hull Choral Union, Humberside Sinfonia, Adrian Thompson as tenor, and Alan Spedding as conductor.

c.1981

1 item

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