



Réseau canadien du patrimoine juif



GUTMAN, Adam = ADAMS, George (pseudonym).

<https://www.cjhn.ca/fr/permalink/cjhn296>

Collection: GUTMAN, Adam = ADAMS, George (pseudonym).
Niveau de description: Fonds
Collation: 0.07 metres of textual records. - 2 compact discs (CD-ROM). - 4 photographs.

Portée et contenu:

Poetry volume Aphorismos, tome VI, desktop published, containing poems and a reproduction of a Gutman painting (done under the pseudonym Benjamin Raysele.) Photocopies of musical scores for Yiddish poems, clippings about French Canadian music scene, including singer Alys Robi. Added 2000: Clippings about October 2000 tribute to Gutman at CJC National Archives, CD of music composed by Gutman (compiled by his son Jimmy), CD of song sheets and illustrated posters for Gutman's music composed for popular French singers in Quebec in the 1950s and 1960s. Addition 2007: 4 color photo, 1967-2000. One sketch of Adam Gutman done by himself under the name Benjamin Razele, 1987. 2 music sheet for the Centennial Songs, words and music by George Adams, 1967. 1 music sheet for "C'est Noël dans mon village", word by Jean Grimaldi and music by George Adams, 1955.

Dates ultimes: 1950-2003.

No du fonds: P0195

Notice biographique

/ histoire

administrative:

Adam Gutman was born March 20, 1916 in Radom, Poland. A child prodigy in violin, he was performing in public by age 13 and was the first Jew accepted to the Warsaw conservatory of music. During WWII he was interned in the ghetto and was then deported to the concentration camps of Auschwitz and Mathausen. His wife Ida survived the war, but 2 siblings did not, prompting Gutman to use a combination of their names, Benjamin Rajzele, to sign the paintings he created later in his life. Reunited after the war with his wife, he and Ida immigrated to Canada with their children James and Betty in the late 1940s. Soon after his arrival, Gutman played violin briefly with the Ottawa symphony, then took up the career of a touring violinist, playing in the cities and small communities of Quebec, often in gypsy costume. For his musical career, his agent advised him to use the name George Adams, and it was under this name that he became known as a composer of popular French music which often topped the charts of the Quebec hit parade, paired with the lyrics of artists such as Jean Grimaldi and sung by singers such as Alys Robi, Jacques Darioux, Yvan Daniel, Roland Montreuil, Jimmy Burns and Rod Norman. When the popularity of this music waned, Gutman concentrated on teaching music privately to Montreal students, using a variety of instruments. He was also a collector of instruments, a painter and a poet. He set the poetry of many Yiddish poets to music and hoped to publish these compositions. Adam Gutman died in August 2003.

Histoire de la
conservation:

The first portion of the collection was donated by Adam Gutman himself in 1996 and consisted of his poetry writings, photocopies of music, and some clippings. In 2000 the rest of the material was donated by his son James (Jimmy), at the time of a tribute to Adam Gutman (aka George Adams, composer) organized by Jimmy Gutman in cooperation with the CJC Archives committee. This second part of the donation includes the musical and image CDs and materials associated with the tribute evening. At the time of Gutman's death in 2003 CJC Archives added some obituary and biographical clippings to the collection. Originals of the photocopied materials are held by Adam Gutman or by his estate and heirs. Addition 2007 was donated by Dr. Jimmy Gutman, son of Adam Gutman, on March 19, 2007.

Notes:

P96/05 and additions. English, French, and Yiddish. Originals of the photocopied items are owned by Adam Gutman or his heirs. Adam Gutman (George Adams)' music created a bridge between Jews and French Quebecers. The 1967 items relate to a growing interest of late in the 1967 World's Fair in Montreal.

Archives /
Généalogie:

Archival Descriptions

Dépôt d'archives:

Canadian Jewish Archives