

## BC 10 ELSIE HALL PAPERS

*Donated by Miss Elsie Hall and Mr Philip Stohr*

Elsie Hall (1877-1976) was born at Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia on 22 June 1877. She showed signs of musical talent from a very early age and was giving public performances by the age of 6. The family moved to Sydney in 1882 when her father was appointed mining editor with the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

In 1888 Elsie, with her mother and sister Muriel, travelled to Germany where she enrolled at the Stuttgart Conservatorium. In 1890, she moved with her family to London where she won a pianoforte scholarship at the Royal College of Music, but because the family planned to return to Australia, she did not take this up. When their plans changed, she became a pupil of John Farmer at the Harrow Music School, subsequently attending the Royal High School for Music in Berlin. In 1895 she won the Mendelssohn State Prize and next year made her public début with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.

In November 1897 Elsie Hall returned to Australia. Accompanied by her sister, Muriel on the violin, she toured Australia for several years before accepting a teaching appointment at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Adelaide.

In about 1903 she returned to her concert career in England. In 1913, she married Frederick Otto Stohr and they made their home in South Africa. They had one daughter and two sons.

In 1919 she gave her first recital with the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra and continued to play with leading South African orchestras until she was 93, making periodic visits to Europe and Australia.

In June 1957 she was awarded an honorary doctorate of music from the University of Cape Town. Her autobiography, *The Good Die Young*, was published in 1969. She made broadcasts for both the South African and British Broadcasting corporations and was recorded on gramophone records.

She died at Wynberg, on 27 June 1976 in her one hundredth year and was buried in Hout Bay cemetery.

### **A PROFESSIONAL CAREER**

- A1 Album of clippings and programmes, 1880-1884
- A2 Album of clippings and programmes, 1886-1903
- A2 Album of clippings and programmes, 1899
- A3 Scrapbook of clippings, 1935; 1950s
- A4 Album of newspaper clippings and letters 43p. 1935-1954
- A5 Scrapbook of clippings, 1935
- A6 Scrapbook of clippings and programmes, 1954-1962
- A7 Scrapbook of clippings, programmes and letters, 1965-1972
- A8 Scrapbook re tour with the Arte Viva Trio, 1954. Includes clippings and notes by Elsie Hall
- A9 Loose programmes, 1890-1960s. Includes some letters
- A10 90<sup>th</sup> birthday concert, 1967. Notes and telegrams of congratulation
- A11 *Lantern*, vol. XVIII, no. 3, Mar 1969. Includes article on Elsie Hall
- A12 Loose newspaper clippings, ca. 1940-1957. (42 items)
- A13 Notebook of lecture notes of lectures at the College of Music, 1963

## **B BOOK AND AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL**

Typescript material used in preparation for the book, especially radio talks given by Elsie Hall on the S.A.B.C., 1961, and the B.B.C., 1962 & 1965:

- B1 Typewritten manuscript proof of Elsie Hall's autobiography: *The good die young*. 76p. and copy of part 1 (14p.)
- B2 Scripts of radio talks for B.B.C & SABC. Includes some pages of autobiography:
  - i) Script of radio talk 1 for B.B.C. (8p)
  - iv) Script: Elsie Hall – no. 1 (6p)
  - v) Typescript of book (3p)
  - vi) Script Talk II – B.B.C. (4p)
  - vii) Script, Elsie Hall, no. II, 1965 (4p)
  - viii) Script, S.A.B.C., Elsie Hall – I remember I (3p)
  - ix) Script: Elsie Hall, no. 3 (3p)
  - x) Script: S.A.B.C., Elsie Hall: Within my memory – 2 (Woman's world) (4p)
  - xi) Script: Elsie Hall: I remember – 2 (4p)
  - xii) Script: Elsie Hall – Within my memory – 3 (4p)
  - xiii) Script: Elsie Hall – Within my memory – 4 (5p)
  - xiv) Script: Elsie Hall – Within my memory – 5 (4p)
  - xv) Typescript for book. (2p)
- B3 Notebook containing reminiscences

## **C DIARIES AND PERSONAL**

- C1 Diary, inscribed London 1911
- C2 Folio size scribbler: Holograph journal of Elsie Hall's tour through North African and Italy, 1945. (plus one holograph and 2 typed pages initialed R.W.)
- C3 Notebook, labeled "Recipes". Includes diary entries for 1951-1952, and recipes
- C4 Notebook labeled "Engagements. Bulawayo Oct 1965. Contains memoirs
- C5 Diary, 12 Mar – May 1963. Includes some loose clippings
- C6.1-C6.4 Notebooks containing autobiographical notes and diary for part of 1965
- C7 Diary: Northern Rhodesia 1964 (Quarto size exercise book)
- C8.1-C8.15 Desk diaries, 1924; 1934; 1935; 1940; 1943-1948; 1954-1955; 1958; 1962; 1965
- C9.1- C9.39 Pocket diaries, 1938; 1941-1942; 1944-1945; 1947 (2); 1948; 1949 (2); 1950-1952; 1954-1955; 1956 (2); 1957-1962; 1963 (2); 1964-1965; 1966 (2); 1967-1976
- C10.1- Various notebooks, address books, etc
- C11 Personal papers, will, contract, certificates, etc
- C12 Prints of Elsie Hall's (?) hands, signed by Gregoire Boonzaier, 1935
- C13 Manuscript of short story by Elsie Hall and rejection letter from *Personality*, 1972
- C14 Miscellaneous fragments: notes, verses, etc
- C15 Photographs and notes re Muriel Hall (Elsie Hall's sister)
- C16 Notebook of household expenditure, 1965-1971
- C17 Notebook of travel expenses, 1968
- C18 Notebook "My 90<sup>th</sup> birthday concert". Record of expenses
- C19 Notebook of investments
- C20 Financial matters, including marriage settlement
- C21 Household accounts
- C22 Folder of records of household expenditure, properties, etc
- C23 Unemployment insurance
- C24 Bank statements and accounts
- C25 Bantu Affairs Administration Board: Documents re employment of staff, 1969-1970s
- C26 Papers re employment of Barnabas (gardener or domestic servant?), 1974

C27.1-C27.8 Bank deposit books, 1967-1974

C28 Cheques, 1974-1976

## **D CORRESPONDENCE**

- D1 Letters to Elsie Hall from her husband, Fritz Stohr. Sep 1916-1921 (4 folders)
- D2-D3 Letters to Elsie Hall from her children:
  - D2 Philip Stohr
  - D3 Oscar Stohr. Includes photographs
- D4-D6 Letters to Elsie Hall from her grandchildren
  - D4 Emily Stohr
  - D5 Michael Stohr
  - D6 Flora Stohr
- D7 Letters of condolence after the death of Emily Stohr, 1974
- D8 Letters to Elsie Hall from friends
  - D8.1 Princess Alice of Athlone, 1948-1976 (20)
  - D8.2 Stanley Baldwin, 1936 (2)
  - D8.3 Marie Benecke (Mendelssohn's daughter), [1882?]-1897 (46 items)
  - D8.4 Peter Burgis, 1970-1971. Re recordings for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. (5 items)
  - D8.5 Carl [?] (Swedish ambassador to Bucharest, Berlin, etc), 1967-1975 (10 items)
  - D8.6 Christabel Edwards, [1975]-1976 (12 items)
  - D8.7 Tom Goff, 1959-1975. Includes letters re his death and obituaries. (164 items)
  - D8.8 Sir Patrick Hamilton, 1969-1975 (5 items)
  - D8.9 P E Hughes (Elsie Hall's nephew Philip). 1973-1976. Includes photographs. 17 items
  - D8.10 Bruce Hungerford, 1956; 1968-1969. Includes introductory letter by Edithe Braham and biographical information about Hungerford. 6 items
  - D8.11 Martin [Kok?], also signed "Coque", 1959-1960. Includes poems, signed "Cocque". (43 items)
  - D8.12 Henri Philippe Junod, 1946; 1974; 1975 (3 items)
  - D8.13 Frank & Olga Lambert, 1966. (3 items)
  - D8.14 Lady Meg Meade-Fetherstonhaugh, 1970-1976 (27 items)
  - D8.15 Hermann Scherchen, 1948-1966 (11 items)
  - D8.16 Dame Sybil Thorndike, 1952- [1972?] (16 items)
  - D8.17 Household of King George V, mainly from governess of Princess Mary, J Dussan, 1909-1922 (13 items)
  - D8.18 Letters to Elsie Hall in chronological order, 1889-1976 (2 folders).
- D9 Letters of appreciation for concert given in Egypt, 1945
- D10 Letters and notes from Elsie Hall to her parents, 1886; 1895; 1944 (3 items)
- D11 Letters from Elsie Hall to Miss Rose Ehrlich, 15 Craigievar, Rondebosch, Cape, Aug-Oct 1945, and 1 letter from Dr Stohr, 1944, to Mrs Eckhard in London re his father's papers. (17 items)
- D12 Letters, notes, etc, written by Elsie Hall (4 items)
- D13 Letters and clippings re death sentence imposed on John Henry Peo and request for clemency from Elsie Hall. 1971
- D14 Cards and notes to Elsie Hall, undated
- D15 Christmas cards with messages (2 folders)
- D16 Postcards

## **E PHOTOGRAPHS**

- E1 Loose photographs of Elsie Hall
- E2 Photographs of Dr Fritz Spohr
- E3 Photographs of Philip Stohr and Flora
- E4 Photographs of Emily and Michael Stohr
- E5 Photographs of Oscar Michael Stohr

- E6 Photographs of the Stohr family
- E7 Photographs of the Hall family
- E8 Photographs of Elsie Hall's grandparents and of Australia
- E9 Miscellaneous portraits, etc
- E10 Miscellaneous photographs
- E11 Photographs of Rhodesia
- E12 Photograph album of unidentified snapshots. Includes Rhodesian scenes
- E13 Small box of photographs, mostly cartes-de-visite and mostly unidentified

## **F FRITZ AND PHILIP STOHR – PERSONAL PAPERS**

- F1 Wills of Fritz Stohr and Clara Helene Stohr
- F2 Notes re schoolwork, education, etc
- F3 Letters from Fritz Stohr to his mother, 1890?-1891?; Mar-Oct 1900 (Boer War letters); 1906-1908 (3 folders)
- F4 Letters from Fritz Stohr to his sister, Marie Eckhard, 1894-1945
- F5 Letters from Fritz Stohr to his sister, Emily Simon, c.1880s-1919
- F6 Letters from Fritz Stohr to Lene, 1909-1910
- F7 Letters from Fritz Stohr to Philip Stohr, 1935-1939
- F8 Letters to Fritz Stohr from various people
- F9 Letters to Stohr family, 1847-1908 (2 folders)
- F10 Letters and fragments to members of the Stohr family, undated, possibly c.1850
- F11 Articles by Dr Fritz Stohr
- F12 Articles and essays by Fritz(?) and Philip Stohr (2 folders)
- F13 Typed article on "Sebungwe District", 1912. 3p.

## **G MISCELLANEOUS**

- G1 Album: Fiji. Ex Dr Elsie Hall's father (35p., all dates 1873/74). Includes photographs, autographs, leaf-drawings or prints, and 2 miniature oil portraits on card (loose).
- G2 Album containing photographs. Main caption reads: Norddeutscher Lloyd S S "Salier", 3084 tons, Capt. G Thälenhörst, for Bremen, via ports, sailed from Sydney at noon on March 28, 1888, from Melbourne at 5 o'clock Sunday morning, April 1, 1888; from Adelaide at noon, April 4, 1888. Arrived at Colombo on the morning of April 20, 1888, reaching Genoa on May 9, 1888 and disembarking there, proceeding thence by train to Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, Germany. 22p. Photographs include some of Suez Canal and Aden.
- G3 Album containing much loose material (items i-iii) covering the Anglo-Boer War, 1900.
  - i) 8 miscellaneous newspaper clippings, ca 1900.
  - ii) 7 sheets of odd pencil sketches, etc.
  - iii) Loose newspaper clippings referring to the Anglo-Boer War:
    - Maj-Gen C E Knox
    - British soldiers
    - Our Military Album (from Penny Pictorial Magazine)
    - The Richmond River Detachment of N.S.W.Lancers who went to Aldershot.
    - Gen. Lord Kitchener.
    - Lieut-Gen, Sir H E Colville.
    - Colonel Plumer to relieve Mafeking.
    - Maj.-Gen, C E Knox (Magersfontein).
    - Colonel Pilcher's Expedition to Douglas.
    - War in South Africa – the dash for Kimberley. (Sydney Mail 1900).
    - Rev. C M Sheldon.
    - Lieut.-General Lord Methuen.
    - N.S.W. Volunteers marching down Adderley Street – Cape Town.
    - Cartoon: Cronje's surrender.
    - Sir Charles Warren (Spion Kop).

- Maj.-General Hector A Macdonald.  
 Maj.-General Sir W F Gutsche (Stormberg).  
 2 drawings Imperial Bushman's Contingent.  
 An up-to-date map (Daily Telegraph, Wed Apr 11, 1900).  
 iv) Album containing 21 newspaper clippings pasted in, which refer to Anglo-Boer War
- G3 Watercolours, etc, including watercolour by William J Pickerill
- G4 Poem printed on silk: George England: *To my dear daughter Jane and her husband, on their marriage, Oct 26, 1847*
- G5 Folder containing various notes, envelopes, desk pad with blotter, hand-embroidered folder, containing the programme for "The Chinese puzzle", New Theatre, London, etc
- G6 Pamphlets and maps**
- G6.1 Map of England and Wales, with journey plotted
- G6.2 R.A.C. map of Great Britain and Ireland (in German)
- G7- Pamphlets
- G7.1 Supplement to the Northern Rhodesia Government Gazette, dated the 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1947. Ordinance no. 34 of 1947: *An Ordinance to amend the Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, 1939*
- G7.2 Alexandra Club, Cape Town: Forty-first annual report and statement, for year ended September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1943
- G7.3 *The Bulletin of International News*, Vol. XX, No. 26, December 1943
- G7.4 *International Affairs review supplement*, Vol. XIX, No. 13, September 1943
- G7.5 *N.C.W. News*, vol. 9, no.7, Feb 1944
- G7.6 Music for All, Cairo, Egypt, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1941, to VE-Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945. Souvenir Brochure
- G7.7 Van Riebeeck Festival brochures, 1952 (3 items)
- G7.8 Roneod booklets of poetry, printed by Crossroads Press, 1970. Signed "Peter"
- G7.9.1 *Sonorum Speculum*, no.53, 1973
- G7.9.2 *Sonorum Speculum*, no.56, 1974
- G7.9.3 *Sonorum Speculum*, no.57, 1974
- G8 Cape Town Symphony Orchestra. Programmes, 1973; 1975 (3 items)
- G9 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Christmas 1975 catalogue
- G10 The Regent Institute: *How to succeed as a writer*
- G11 Orleans, Jacob and Edmund Jacobson: *How to win at Scrabble*
- G12 Decimilization poster
- G13 Cape Town Symphony Orchestra programmes, 1973; 1975 (3 items)
- G14 Union-Castle Line. [Stirling Castle] Menu 20 September 1951
- G15.1-2 Two pocket French-English dictionaries
- G16 *Sayings of Ruskin*
- G17 *Manchester portraits: a series of lithographic drawings* by Will Rothenstein. 1900 (oversize)