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Tania León papers17015215

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Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Content Description	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5

Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	León, Tania
Title:	Tania León papers
ID:	17015215
ID:	MS#2118
Date:	1960s-2020s
Physical Description:	110 Linear Feet 8 document boxes; 2 small flat boxes; 3 shopping bags; 1 large carton; 40 flat boxes, 30 manuscript boxes, 20 record cartons, 5 poster boxes
Language of the Material:	English , Spanish .
Abstract:	Tania León (b. 1943, in Havana, Cuba) is a composer of both large scale and chamber works, as well as a conductor, educator, and advisor to arts organizations. The collection includes manuscript and published scores, photographs, programs, posters, recordings, awards, books, clippings, and correspondence.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Tania León (b. 1943, Havana, Cuba) is highly regarded as a composer, conductor, educator and advisor to arts organizations. She is credited with playing an important role in introducing Latin American music to American audiences, and her compositional style, with influences from gospel and jazz, has been described as "utterly distinctive."

Recent commissions include works for New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, NDR Symphony Orchestra, Grossman Ensemble, International Contemporary Ensemble, and pianist Ursula Oppens with Cassatt String Quartet. Appearances as guest conductor include Philharmonic Orchestra of Marseille, Gewandhausorchester, Orquesta Sinfonica de Guanajuato, and Orquesta Sinfónica de Cuba.

Tania León has received wide acclaim and recognition for her accomplishments as an educator and advisor to arts organizations. A longtime resident of New York, she has played important roles at its institutions, such as the Dance Theater of Harlem, Brooklyn Philharmonic,

American Composers Orchestra and its Sonidos de las Américas festivals, and the New York Philharmonic, which she served as New Music Advisor.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

The collection documents León's work as a composer through holograph manuscripts, sketches, master scores, proofs, and mimeographs. There is also material related to her performances and other work, including awards, correspondence, photographs, posters, programs, articles, clippings, reviews, and recordings. In addition, the collection includes approximately 60 books with contributions by, or essays on, León. There is also an extensive photograph archive that documents her life and work, including images made by Margaret "Marbeth" Elizabeth Schnare, who followed León's life and career from 1968 until her death in 2006. Lastly, the collection includes books and a collection of CD recordings, many of them inscribed to León.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

Material is unprocessed, and is closed until processing is complete. The Library anticipates that this collection will be processed by the end of 2025.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Composers
- Conductors (Music)