



# ArchivesSpace

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## Elliott M. Sanger papers 4079590

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Sanger, Elliott M
<b>Title:</b>	Elliott M. Sanger papers
<b>ID:</b>	4079590
<b>ID:</b>	MS#1106
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1936-1986
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3.5 linear feet 8 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Elliott M. Sanger papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Elliott Maxwell Sanger was born in New York on March 23, 1897. He graduated from the Columbia University School of Journalism in 1917 and began a career in advertising. In 1936 Sanger co-founded with John V. L. Hogan the classical music radio station WQXR. Sanger served as vice president and general manager of the station from 1936 to 1965. In 1944 the station was purchased by the New York Times Company. Sanger died in New York City in 1989.

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## Summary

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Included are Sanger's personal diaries (1936-1967) relating to WQXR. Also included is a complete bound file of the WQXR PROGRAM GUIDE (June 1936-December 1963) containing a record of the broadcasting of classical music in New York City, the daily schedule, and essays on composers, music festivals, individual compositions and music in general by such writers as Irwin Edman, Will Durant, M. Lincoln Schuster, Edward Johnson, John Barbirolli, as well as by Sanger and his co-founder, John V. L. Hogan. The collection includes business letters, congratulatory and testimonial letters from listeners and advertisers, reports on the station's history, samples of newspaper clippings containing WQXR advertisements and program listings, market surveys of listeners, and promotional brochures prepared for prospective advertisers. There is a corrected typescript and galley proofs for Sanger's book *Rebel In Radio* (New York, Hasting House, 1972) and 6 volumes of documents in support of the station's application for "clear channel" status filed with the FCC. Also included are 49 photographs of the station's staff and musical personalities, 4 audiotapes of 1973 interviews with Sanger, and 4 audio cassettes celebrating WQXR's 50th Anniversary.

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## Summary

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1980 Addition: A selected file of approximately 150 letters, manuscripts, documents, photographs and printed materials relating to the history of radio station WQXR. There are business letters, congratulatory and testimonial letters from listeners and advertisers, including one each from Will Durant and Sinclair Lewis, office memoranda and reports on the station's history, samples of newspaper clippings containing WQXR advertisements and program listings, market surveys of listeners and promotional brochures prepared for prospective advertisers. There is a corrected typescript and galley proofs for Sanger's book, *REBEL IN RADIO* (N.Y., Hastings House, 1972), and 6 volumes of documents in support of the station's application for "clear channel" status filed with the Federal Communications Commission in 1948. Also included are 49 photographs of the station's staff, musical personalities who have broadcasted, the studios and transmitters, 4 audio cassettes celebrating WQXR's 50th anniversary, the anniversary album, and the anniversary edition of *REBEL IN RADIO*.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged into 4 series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

Legacy finding aid created from Pro Cite. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-03-01 2019-05-20

### Restrictions on Access

Boxes 1A, 2-7 of the collection are located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Sanger, E.M. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1979.  
Accession number--M-1979.

Gift of Elliott M. Sanger, 1979-1980, 1986.

### **Ownership and Custodial History**

Gift of Elliott M. Sanger, 1979-1980 & 1986.

### **Processing Information**

Processed BRC 11/--/86. KAL/BC - 10/79, rev. BC 1/80, 11/80, 11/86, rev. MTM 4/2000

### **Processing information**

Katia Shraga, May 2019: fixed finding aid based on physical content of each box; updated AS and stack directory appropriately. Prepared Box 1A to be sent offsite.

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared.  
Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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- Music
- Music radio stations -- New York (State) -- New York
- Radio -- Transmitters and transmission
- Radio advertising -- New York (State) -- New York
- Radio broadcasting -- New York (State) -- New York
- Radio stations -- New York (State) -- New York
- Advertisements
- Albums (books)
- Audiocassettes
- Audiotapes
- Brochures
- Diaries
- Galley proofs
- Interviews
- Photographs

- Reports
- Surveys (documents)
- Businessmen
- Sound recordings
- Durant, Will, 1885-1981
- Edman, Irwin, 1896-1954
- Hogan, John V. L. (John Vincent Lawless), 1890-1960
- Lewis, Sinclair, 1885-1951
- Sulzberger, Arthur Hays, 1891-1968
- United States. Federal Communications Commission
- WQXR (Radio station : New York, N.Y.)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Cataloged Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances	
The series contains correspondence related to Sanger's radio station, WQXR, from Will Durant, Sinclair Lewis, and Arthur Sulzberger., 1937-1944	box 1	folder 1

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### Series II: *Rebel In Radio*

Title/Description	Instances	
The series contains materials related to Elliot Sanger's book <i>Rebel in Radio</i> , 1973., [1973] <u>Physical Description</u> : Typescript, photographs, galley proof	box 1	folder 2-5
Sanger interview by Andre Bernard, April 12, 1973: Sanger Interview with P.M. Program by Bill Newcastle, September 29, 1973 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 reel to reel audio tapes	box 1A	
WQXR Broadcast, May 24, 1973, 10-12 Noon, 2 reels: "The Listening Room" hosted by Robert Sherman -- Guest, E. M. Sanger <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 reel to reel audio tapes	box 1A	

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### Series III: WQXR

**Scope and Contents**

The series contains files related to Sanger's radio station, WQXR. The bound volumes contain monthly program guides from July 1936 through December 1956.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
FCC "Clear Channel" Hearings, 1946	box 1	folder 6-9
FCC "Clear Channel" Hearings, 1946	box 2	folder 1-2
Correspondence, 1936-1948	box 2	folder 3
Market Research Survey, 1936-1944	box 2	folder 4-5
Newspaper clippings, 1936	box 2	folder 6
Photographs	box 2	folder 7

**Scope and Contents**

Includes photos of Sanger, James Farley, John Barbirolli, and Herbert Lehman, as well as photos of studio equipment.

Sales records, 1936-1948	box 2	folder 8
Remembrances and background material: 1986 anniversary program, 1936-1950, 1986	box 2	folder 9
"This Is My Music" with Elliot Sanger, March 1, 1986 -- New York Philharmonic 50th Anniversary Concert, September 23, 1986 -- Part I and II -- WQXR Dinner Comments, September 23, 1986 <u>Physical Description</u> : 4 audio cassettes	box 1A	
1936-1947 <u>Physical Description</u> : 11 volumes	box 3	
1948-1956 <u>Physical Description</u> : 9 volumes	box 4	
1957-1963 <u>Physical Description</u> : 7 volumes	box 5	

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**Series IV: Personal Papers**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Diaries, 1936-1939 <u>Physical Description</u> : 4 volumes	box 5
Diaries, 1940-1952	box 6



Physical Description: 15 volumes

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Diaries, 1955-1967

box 7

Physical Description: 13 volumes

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Key to Abbreviations beginning 1950

box 6

Physical Description: 1 folders

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"In Memoriam: Elliott M. Sanger,", 1989

box 7

Physical Description: 1 folders

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