The Louis Delaquerrière Album

Louis Achille Delaquerrière (1856-1937) was a tenor at the Opéra-Comique, Paris. Born in Normandy, he attended the Petit Séminaire de Rouen - where he obtained his Baccalauréat ès Lettres - and was a choir boy in the Maîtrise de la cathédrale de Rouen. His vocal teachers included Louise de Miramont and Jean-Baptiste Faure. He married his teacher, soprano Louise de Miramont (1845-1911) in 1880.

Delaquerrière’s stage career began at the Opéra-Comique in Le Chalet (1881); his roles included: ‘Almaviva’ - Barber of Seville, ‘Don José’ - Carmen; he also appeared in Mignon (A. Thomas), La Dame Blanche (Boieldieu), La Traviata (Verdi), L’Ombre (Flotow) and Le Postillon de Lonjumeau (Adam). He created the roles of ‘le Comte de Nangis’ in Chabrier’s Le roi malgré lui (1887) and that of “Pierre” in Messager’s Madame Chrysanthème (1893); he sang the première of Flon’s Le panache blanc (Brussels, 1884).

Delaquerrière’s pedagogical career spanned some twenty-five years; his students were recruited by the Paris Opéra and Opéra-Comique, and included: Lucienne Bréval, Paul Franz, Raymonde Visconti, Jeanne Campredon, Jacques Isnardon, Germaine Lubin, as well as his own son José Delaquerrière.

Louis Delaquerrière’s Album contains mementos of his career, including: newspaper clippings; letters and cards from composers, performers, librettists, poets, painters, sculptors, caricaturists, and students; manuscript scores; menus; programmes; sketches; invitations to serve as a juror for the Paris Conservatoire’s admissions juries and examinations; an invitation to Gounod’s funeral; and photographs. In particular, several of the composers’ letters offer insights into contemporary vocal performance practice.

NOTES REGARDING THIS CD-ROM:

This CD-ROM contains .jpg images of all items physically-contained (as in mounted-in, or glued-onto the pages) within the Louis Delaquerrière Album, plus additional ‘loose’ items which are not presently mounted on the pages. The majority of the images have been taken with an OLYMPUS digital camera [model #D-450 ZOOM, 1.3 Megapixels], and have not been ‘enhanced’ or altered, other than to orient them to an upright/readable position.

Each numbered full-page image appears twice on this CD-ROM: firstly, to provide an index or overview of all of the pages; and secondly, to replicate the body of the album by placing each individual page-image immediately preceding its associated images:

First: Index-Pg001.jpg - Index-Pg103.jpg (100+ pages)

Second: Pg001.jpg - Pg103.jpg (100+ pages), followed by close-ups of individual items on most pages

Wherever possible, the code for an individual item (letter, sketch, manuscript) will include the name of its creator, i.e. letters, the name of the writer; sketches, the name of the artist; scores, the name of the composer, etc.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

AC = Autograph Card
ACS = Autograph Card, Signed
ACC = Autograph Calling-card
ACCS = Autograph Calling-card, Signed
ANS = Autograph Note, Signed
ALS = Autograph Letter, Signed
ApoemS = Autograph poem, Signed
ditto = a mimeograph (pale blue) copy
ev = envelope
facsim. = facsimile
MSS = Manuscript Score
inscr = inscription
pcard = post card
TLS = Typed Letter, Signed
NUMBERING

Each *Album* page has been numbered. Individual items on each page are then numbered with the corresponding *Album* page-number (the page-numbers are visible on both the "Index-Pg030.jpg" and "Pg030.jpg" images), plus a unique number which includes a name (where possible), an alphabetic designation, and the date (where possible, given in parentheses). In an effort to describe each page in a consistent and logical fashion, I began at the upper LH corner, and moved in a clockwise-direction, designating each individual item alphabetically: A, B, C, etc.

The code for the letter written by Alexandre Guilmant, affixed to page 30, appears thus:

Pg030-B-ALS-1a-Guilmant-(10-Ja-1893).jpg

- **B** denotes that this letter is the 2nd item (when moving in a clockwise fashion from the upper LH corner of the page)
- **ALS** Autograph Letter, Signed
- **1** page/sheet #1 of the letter
- **a** implies side one of the page;
- **(10-Ja-1893)** the date inscribed on the letter (or the envelope’s postmark)

An effort has been made to match envelopes with their letters, so that an item designated "A may include both a letter and its corresponding envelope – even when they are laid-out vertically on the page. With respect to postcards, 1a refers to the picture-side; in the case wartime postcards, 1a refers to the decorated side (which includes the recipient’s address). All items of musical interest have been included on this CD-ROM; occasionally, wartime photographs will appear only on the index pages.

There are two instances of duplicate page numbers: pages 10 and 99. These have been numbered as:

- **010A and 010B**
- **099A and 099B**

The additional 'loose' items have not been numbered, as they are not associated with a particular page. These items have been given a “prefix” of PZ; so that they will appear following the numbered *Album* pages on this CD-ROM. In cases where there are multiple items by one author, they have been given consecutive numbers–merely to distinguish them from one another.

Lastly, Louis’s son, tenor José Delaquerrière possessed his own smaller ‘autograph book’ of memorabilia. Digital images of pages from José Delaquerrière’s album (not given to UWO) are also included on this CD-ROM, with the “prefix” Z; blank pages have not been photographed.

The *Fonds José Delaquerrière* (Archives MSS-127) is deposited at the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BanQ - [www.banq.qc.ca/](http://www.banq.qc.ca/)), and contains copies of many of his father’s (Louis Delaquerrière) musical compositions.

Request for access to and/or reproduction of items related to *The Delaquerrière Album* should be made in-writing, using the form provided on this CD-ROM: 0-Proj-Reg-Delaquerrière.rtf Please submit the completed form to us by fax or by post.

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