Uncovering Hidden Voices:
Exploring Piano Works by Black Women Composers
In the Helen Walker-Hill Collection
CU Boulder Collegiate Chapter of MTNA
Elizabeth Strickland, Bryan Chuan, Anastasiia Pavlenko, David Reid, Elizabeth Smith
Chapter Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Hayghe
Research Advisor: Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi

About the Walker-Hill Special Collection at CU Boulder

- The Helen Walker-Hill Collection at the University of Colorado Boulder is composed of musical compositions by black women composers throughout the United States and England.

- The collection was compiled by pianist and musicologist, Dr. Helen Walker-Hill, and is hosted by American Music Research Center.

- Proceeding from a desire to use music of black women composers in her piano performance and teachings, Dr. Walker-Hill has dedicated herself since 1987 to uncovering the material, utilizing secondary sources and numerous archives, conducting interviews with composers, and engaging in voluminous correspondence with individuals and institutions.

Publications by Helen Walker-Hill

Piano Music by Black Women Composers: A Catalog of Solo and Ensemble Works (Greenwood Press, 1992)

- A catalog of music composed by black women to date including over 300 piano works and 200 detailed descriptions of works the author was able to obtain and study.


- An anthology of music by nineteen black women composers. The volume includes an historical overview, short biographies, and pictures of the composers

From Spirituals to Symphonies: African-American Women Composers and Their Music (Greenwood Press, 2002)

Sources and Websites

Hidden Voices: https://www.colorado.edu/project/hidden-voices/

Helen Walker-Hill Collection: https://archives.colorado.edu/repositories/3/resources/2199

American Music Research Center: https://www.colorado.edu/amrc/
To request music from the Helen Walker-Hill Collection, contact sca@colorado.edu  
(A small copying fee may apply)

**Selected Composers and Works from the Helen Walker-Hill Collection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composer</th>
<th>Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Anna Gardner Goodwin      | Adelene  
|                           | Cuban Liberty March  
|                           | The Educational Congress March                                      |
| Florence Beatrice Price   | Arkansas Jitter  
|                           | At the Cotton Gin  
|                           | Bayou Dance  
|                           | Cotton Dance  
|                           | Dances in the canebrakes (3 mvts.)  
|                           | Fantasie Negre  
|                           | Rabbit Foot  
|                           | Rocking Chair  
|                           | The Sea Swallow                                                   |
| Undine Smith Moore        | Many Thousand Gone  
|                           | Before I'd Be A Slave  
|                           | Fugue in F Major  
|                           | Scherzo  
|                           | The Romantic Young Clown                                          |
| Irene Britton Smith       | Passacaglia and Fugue  
|                           | Prelude  
|                           | Variations on a theme by MacDowell                                  |
| Zenobia Powell Perry      | Piano Potpourri (14 pieces)  
|                           | - Vignette No. 1  
|                           | - A Jazz Trifle  
|                           | - Homage  
|                           | Rhapsodie  
|                           | Sonatina (2 mvts.)                                               |
| Julia Perry               | Miniature  
|                           | Prelude for piano                                                |
| Valerie Capers            | Portraits in Jazz (12 pieces)  
|                           | - Billie's Song  
|                           | - Bossa Brasilia  
|                           | - Cool-Trane                                                     |
| **Mable Bailey**  
(1939-Present) | **Dance**  
*Prankster*  
**Dialogue**  
**Child’s World** (song cycle) *  
**Bee Suite** (brass trio) * |
|----------------|
| **Jeraldine Sanders Herbison**  
(1941-Present) | **Piano Sonata** (4 mvts.)  
**Prelude and Rondo** |

*Indicates works not in the Helen Walker-Hill Collection