

**Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania**

**dr. Darius Kučinskas**

# **Sharing punched sounds**

**The case of Lithuanian Piano Rolls**

**Collection at Martynas Mažvydas**

**National Library of Lithuania**

BAAC Annual Conference  
Vilnius, 3rd November, 2016

# Piano rolls: general info

Produced mostly in 1890-1932

Different types of rolls (65, 73 and 88 notes)

US became world leader in 1920-1930  
(millions of rolls and titles)

All piano rolls industry stopped before 2WW

Piano rolls extended sound recording heritage with unique and rare recordings: famous pianists, world popular music, ethnic music

Not fully catalogued and researched until nowadays

# Piano rolls: collections and research

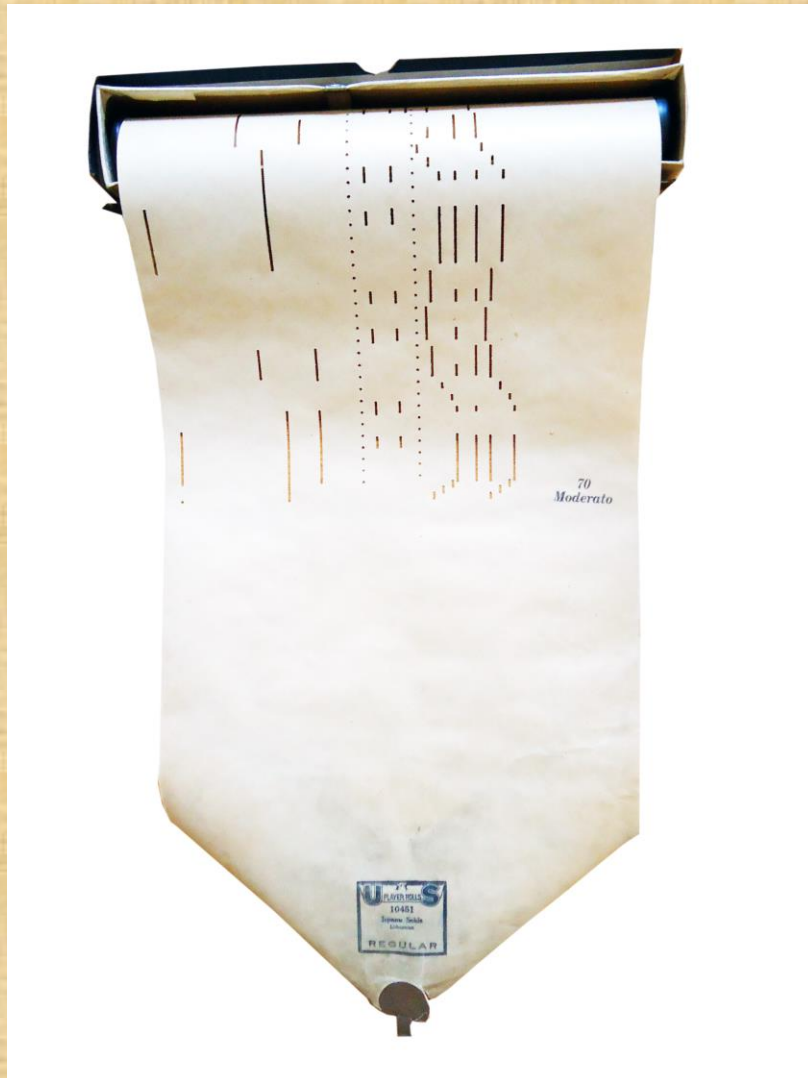
Only few state collections known in the world  
(Vienna, Berlin, Washington, Maryland, Los Angeles,  
San Francisco)

Rich and valuable private collections (mostly in US)  
are difficult to access and research

Need of a special instrument – pianola or player  
piano – to play and research rolls

Digitizing process have many discussions and  
sometimes is not the best way for preservation of  
recorded music (duplicate? re-play? scan? photo?)

# Piano rolls: what it is?



# Piano rolls: registries and catalogues

## THE BILLINGS ROLLOGRAPHY

VOLUME ONE  
QRS WORD ROLLS, 99-6000

PLAYER PIANO MUSIC  
FROM 1917 TO 1934

Ginny and Bob Billings

This three-volume set has been compiled,  
edited, written, typeset, reproduced, bound  
and published by

ROCK SOUP  
Ginny and Bob Billings  
1518 Sunnyslope Avenue  
Belmont, CA 94002

Copyright © 1990 by Ginny and Bob Billings  
All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction in whole or in part in any form.  
Published in the United States of America by Ginny and Bob Billings

## Mechanical Music Registry Project

### Wurlitzer-Apollo Era DeKalb Factory Output Database Report Serial Numbers 105,000 to 107,599 (latter part of 1927 to latter part of 1928)

#### Grouped by Year and Instrument Type; Indexed on Serial Number

Sunday, August 11, 2013

Ledger information courtesy of Q. David Bowers and the Archives Department, Smithsonian Institute  
Copyright © 2013 by Mechanical Music Press, et, al. - All Rights Reserved

Total items listed in this report: 2424

- Style Notes:
1. Undecipherable or missing characters and/or digits are indicated with a tilde or swung dash (~) character.
  2. Editor's comments and/or additions to the text are shown in "[ ]" brackets.
  3. All pianos shown in the report were manufactured in Wurlitzer's DeKalb, Illinois, factory. However, any and all Wurlitzer North Tonawanda factory output, such as coin pianos, photoplayers, organettes, mortuary organs, and theater organ pianos, are specifically excluded from this report. Also excluded are blank unassigned serial numbers.
  4. The original ledger material has been slightly edited and obvious spelling errors and omissions corrected, but in all instances the original intent has been preserved. Otherwise the reader would be confronted with an endless number or annoying (sic) notations.

### 1927 Ledger Sale/Shipping Date Entries

#### Style 703 EE Piano

S/N	Style Name and/or Typ	Finish	Ledger Date
105468	Style 703 EE Piano Destination: Greenville, Tex.	Brown Mahogany	12/14/1927
105500	Style 703 EE Piano Destination: Atlanta, Ga.	Brown Mahogany	11/30/1927

Total Items for Style 703 EE Piano: 2

#### Style 707 Piano

S/N	Style Name and/or Typ	Finish	Ledger Date
-----	-----------------------	--------	-------------

# Piano rolls: archives and libraries



# ETHNOMUSICOLOGY REVIEW

[Home](#) [Volume 20](#) [Sounding Board](#) [Archive](#) [About](#)

[f Like](#) [Share](#) 4

## Highlights from the Ethnomusicology Archive: the Robert Berkman collection

*Submitted by Maureen Russell on August 8, 2013 - 8:39pm*



Robert "Bob" Berkman is one of a handful of performing pianolists in the world today. Instead of the purely mechanical renditions often associated with the player piano, Berkman's performances sparkle with life and emotion through his expert manipulation of the pianola's subtle controls. In addition to his performance expertise, Berkman worked at one of the last companies that produced piano rolls, and is a well-known collector of piano rolls and an expert in the subject. He donated an important collection of piano rolls to the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive. The collection includes a wide variety of musical traditions, including Spanish, Greek, Polish, Czech, Italian, Hungarian, and German piano rolls.

### What's New

**More Ethnomusicology Archive recordings now online on California Light and Sound on the Internet Archive**



The UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive is pleased to announce that more recordings from the Archive's collections are now available online as part of the California Light and Sound Collection on the Internet Archive. California Light and Sound is a project of the...

Activate  
Thinking Historically, Being Present: Kuwait, Summer 2016

# Piano rolls: archives and libraries



STANFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

[My Account](#) [Feedback](#) [Staff login](#)

[About](#) [Libraries](#) [Using the libraries](#) [Collections](#) [Research support](#) [Ask us](#)

Search

[Home](#) > [About](#) > [Projects](#) > [The Player Piano Project](#)



[soundarchive@stanfo...](mailto:soundarchive@stanfo...)

## The Player Piano Project

*presented by the*

**Stanford Department of Music & Archive of Recorded Sound**

The Player Piano Project promotes study and research into all aspects relating to the player piano and organ, especially as they relate to historically informed performance practice of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Project seeks to bring together researchers, musicians, and others interested in contributing to knowledge of the player piano and organ.

**The Player Piano Project**

About the Project

Collections

Audio / Video

Press

Links

Contacts

Stanford's new player piano collection brings sounds of histo...



Activate Win  
Go to Settings to

# Piano rolls: archives and libraries

STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS

April 17-18, 2015

## REACTIONS<sup>to</sup>the RECORD

Early Recordings, Musical Style, and the Future of Performance

2015 HOME  
OVERVIEW  
PAST SYMPOSIA

Collecting and describing  
Preservation and digitization  
Instrument restoration  
Research library  
Collaboration

### 2015 Reactions to the Record Symposium: The Player Piano Project

[2015 Home](#)

[Schedule](#)

[Participants](#)

[Directions](#)

[Registration](#)

[Testimonials](#) | [Reviews](#)

### Overview

The 2015 *Reactions to the Record* symposium will take place April 17-18 in Braun Music Center on the Stanford University campus and will focus on an exciting new initiative at Stanford, *The Player Piano Project*. It will feature a concert with the Stanford Symphony Orchestra in Bing Concert Hall on Saturday, April 18th that will showcase this remarkable historical medium. The *Player Piano Project* is an outgrowth of the *Reactions to the Record* events and a collaborative effort of the Stanford Department of Music and the Archive of Recorded Sound with support from individuals and institutions around the globe.

*Reactions to the Record* highlights work in performance practice that engages historical recordings as vital source material. Central to this interest are performances inspired by historical models and efforts toward revival. Presentations in related areas include cultural studies in performance, methodologies of performance analysis, and performance in historical narrative.

Activat  
Go to Se



# Piano rolls: an instrument



**Push up pianola**

**Upright pianola**



# Piano rolls: copying process

Up to 16 rolls  
(QRS Buffalo factory)



# Piano rolls: scanning



**scanning speed using the Ethernet microcontroller interface is about 250 scan lines/sec**

# Piano rolls: scanning



Editing „master roll“



# Collection: Lithuanian piano rolls

Contains 70 piano rolls with Lithuanian music

Collected between 2009-2015 by Darius Kučinskas

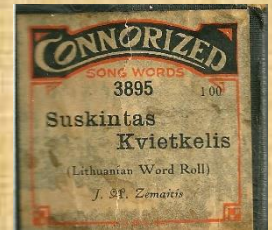
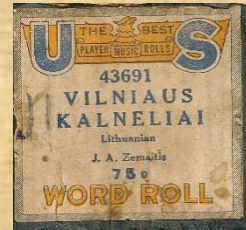
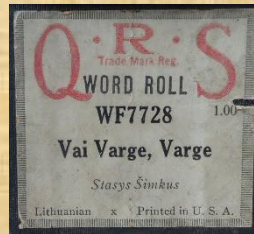
Newly recorded in Buffalo, NY, in 2010-2014

Catalogued and published in December, 2014

Collection obtained by Library in Autumn, 2015

Published on-line in Spring, 2016

# Collection: general overview



Published in US between 1916 and 1932

Published mainly by 3 companies:  
Connorized Song Words  
US Word Roll  
QRS

# Collection: general overview



342 rolls (384 tracks) fixed in the Complete Catalogue

Only 173 rolls were discovered, described *de facto* and recorded onto 7 CDs added to a Catalogue





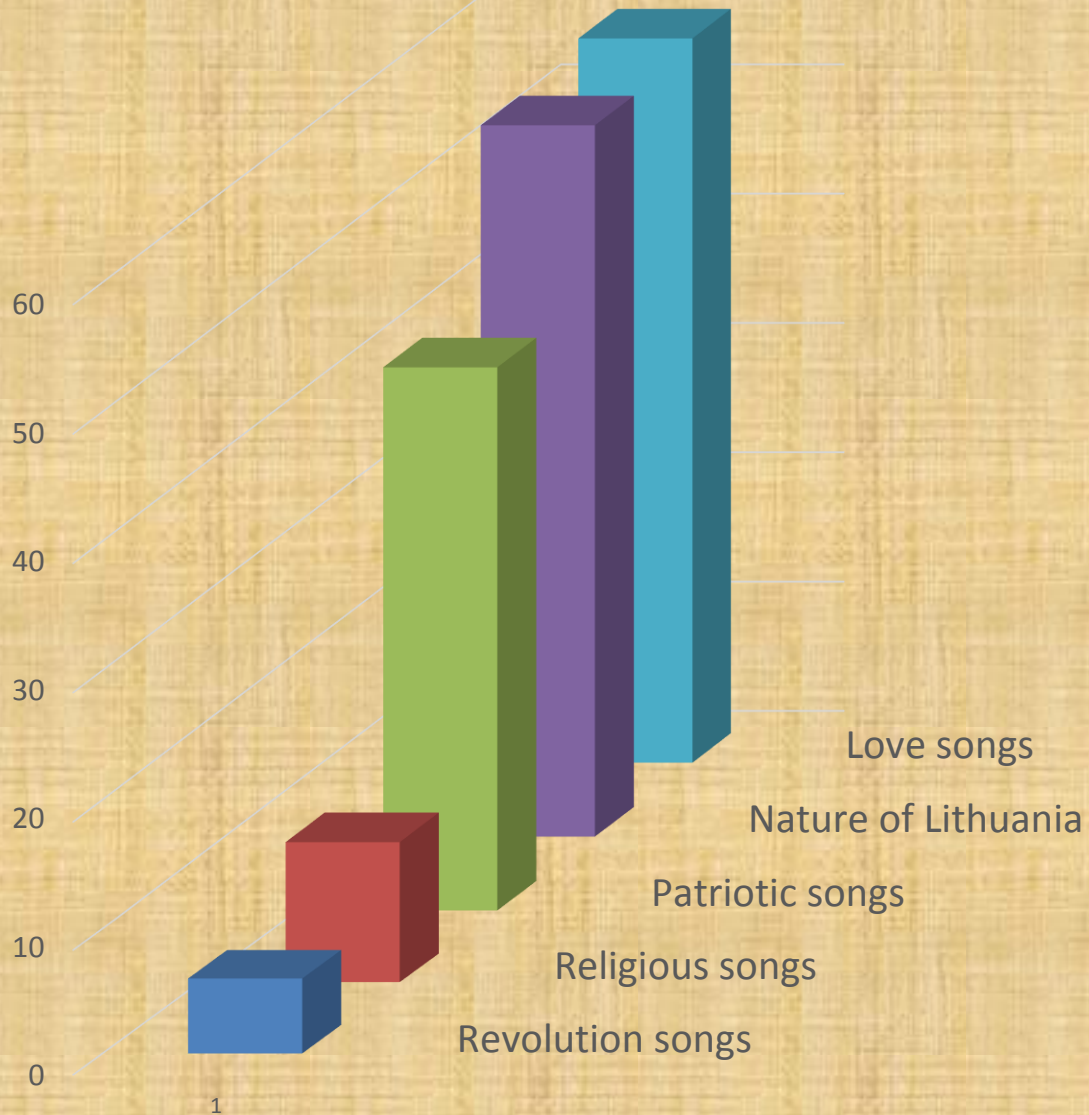
# Collection: structure

Over 60% contain Lithuanian folk music and arrangements

Up to 40% contain professionally composed music

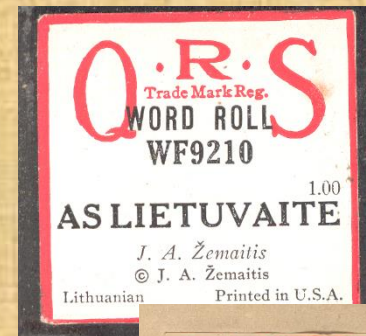
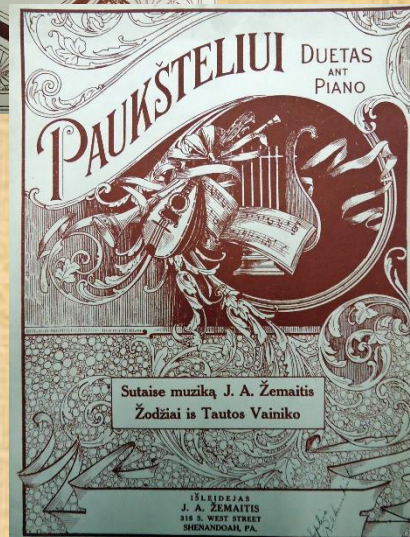


# Collection: thematic structure



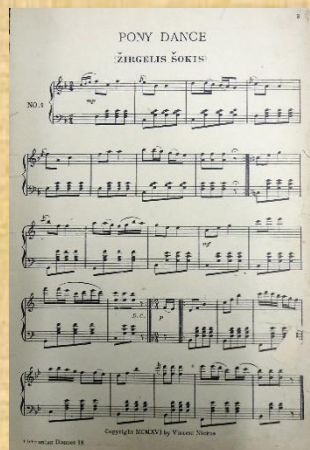
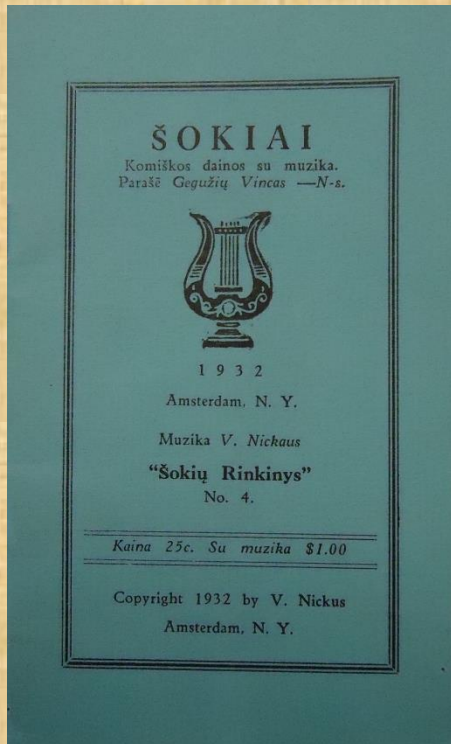
# Collection: composers and publishers

Jonas ŽEMAITIS (1868-1932)



# Collection: composers and publishers

Vincentas NICKUS (1886-1938)



## ŽIRGELIS. No. 1.

Mūsų Stasiukas, tai vyrukas:  
Greitai sukas, kaip ratukas;  
Jodinėja ant žirgelio,  
Muša taktą ant bugnelio.

Kai užsėdo ant žirgelio,  
Tuoj išėjo už miestelio;  
Jojo greitai per girę,  
Šimtą mylių pas mergelę.

### Muzika

Kad prijojo beržynėlį,  
Pasistatė žirgužėlį;  
Rišo žirgą prie berželio  
Šalia kelio, ant kalnelio.

Čia atėjo mergužėlė,  
Graži, jauna miestionkėlė,  
Tarė: sveikas, bernužėlį,  
Ką darysi beržynėly?

### Muzika

Ją Stasiukas tuoj pažino,  
Pas berželį pavadino;  
Atsisėdo prieš saulutę,  
Susiglaudė su Onute.

Užkukavo gegužėlė,  
Tuoj pašėlo mergužėlė;  
Pakibino bernužėlį,  
Padabino vainikėlį.

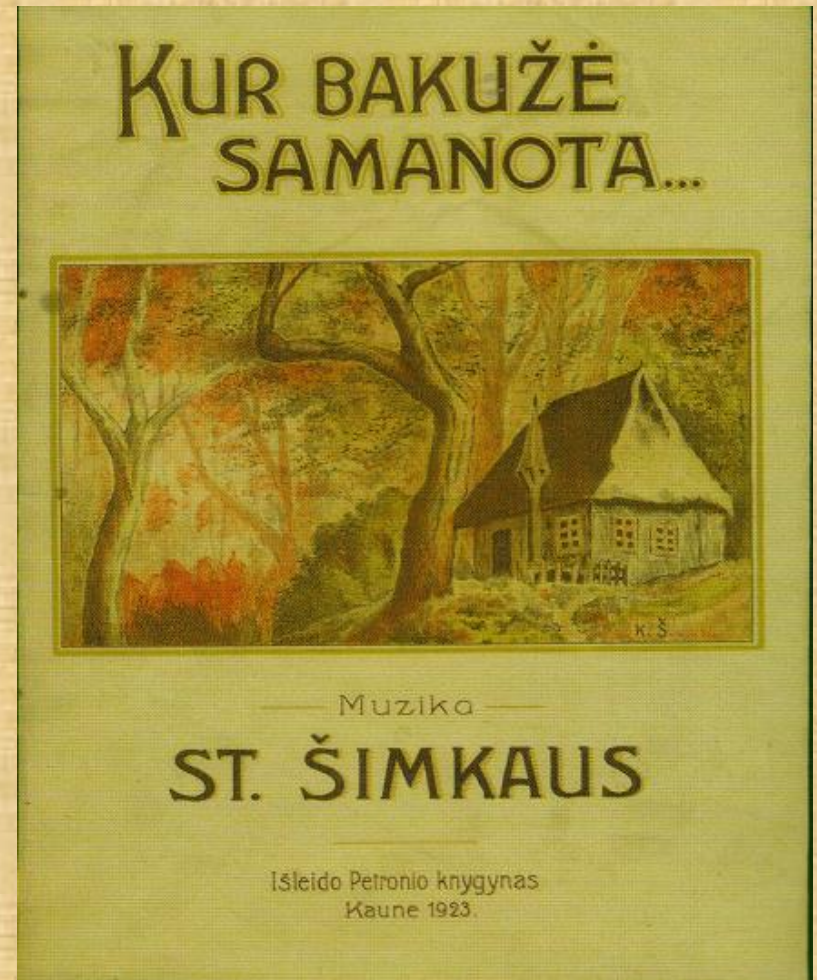
### Muzika

Kad atėjo vakarėlis,  
Sužibėjo pažarėlis;  
Nekukuoja gegužėlė,  
Nenurimsta mergužėlė.



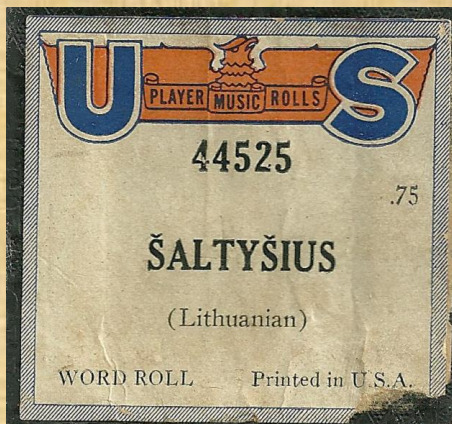
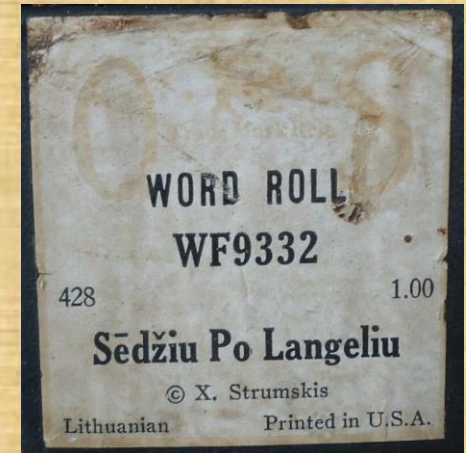
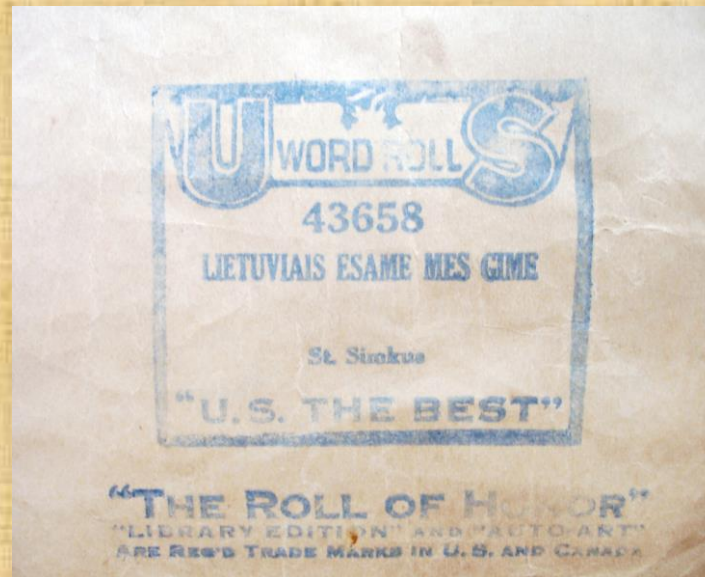
# Collection: composers and publishers

Stasys ŠIMKUS (1887-1943)

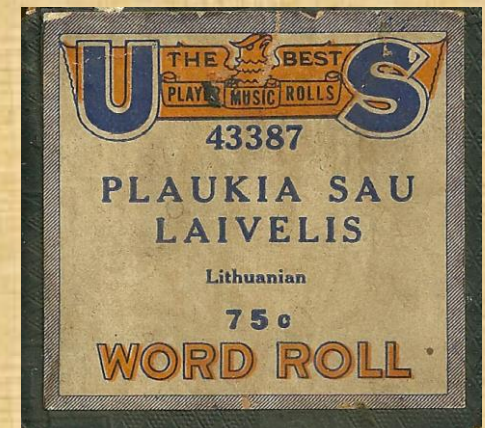


# Collection: composers and publishers

Stasys ŠIMKUS (1887-1943)

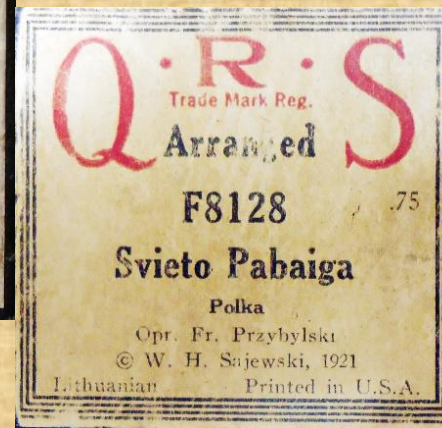
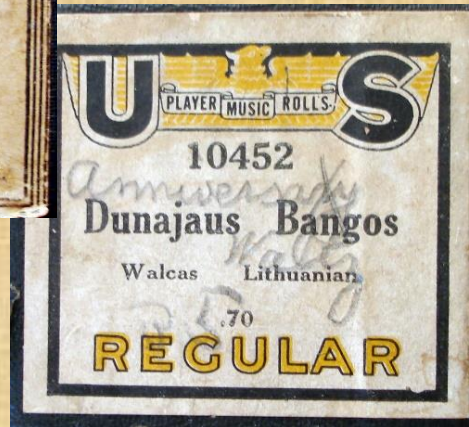


Call sign of *Voice of America*  
1942-2004



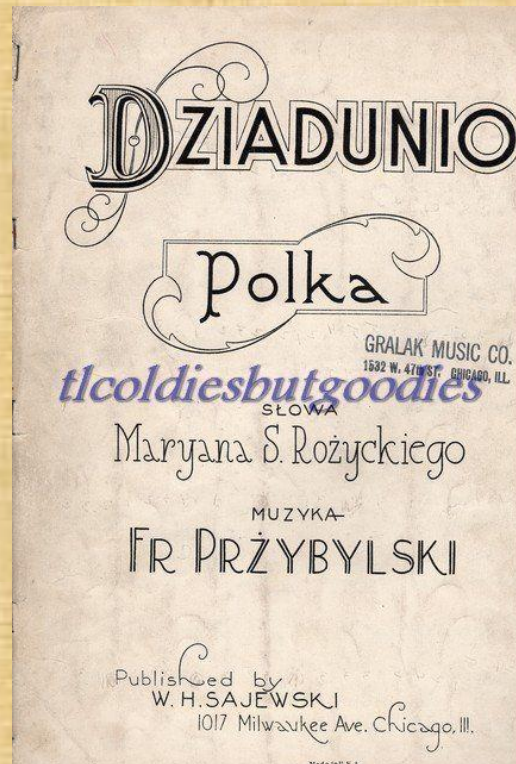
# Collection: other music

International repertoire published as “Lithuanian”



# Collection: other music

International repertoire published as “Lithuanian”



**US 10450**

**Dedukas Polka**

(=Clarinet polka, Polka Dziadek)

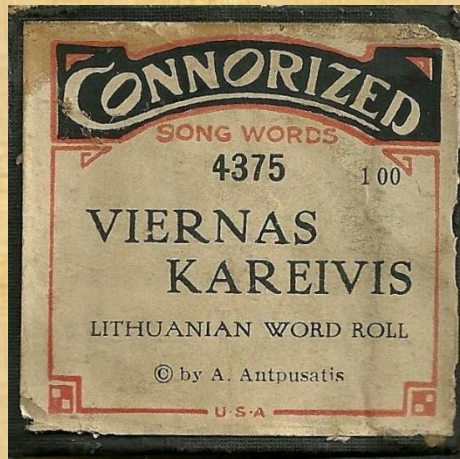
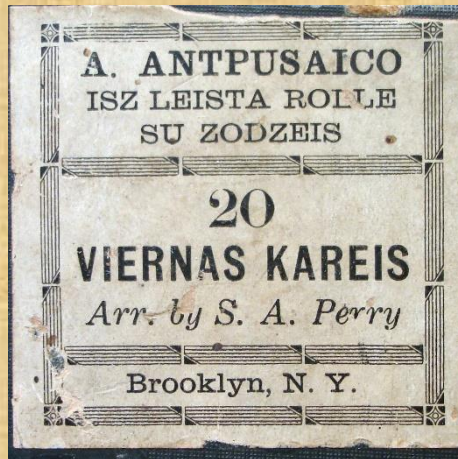
Catalogues: MTR-1921/VI.27, US-1926, US-1927/V

The same roll: QRS F8466 (Senelio polka)

Call sign of *Lato z Radiem*  
at *Polskie Radio* since 1971



# Collection: arranged and played by...

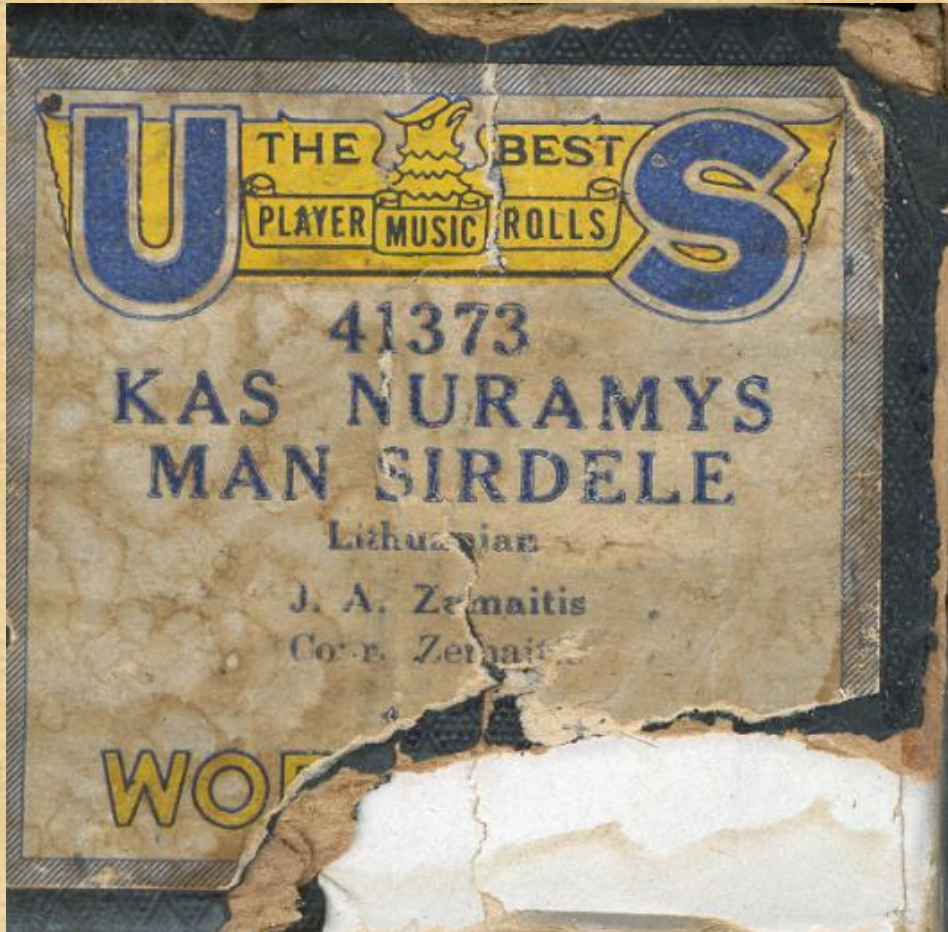


Arranged and played(?) by Sam Perry  
(Samuel Perelstein)



1884-1936

# Collection: arranged and played by...



Unknown musician

[Samuel Perelstein (?)]

# Collection: newly recorded by...



LAKESIDE  
PLAYER PIANO  
CHICAGO

# Collection: newly recorded by...



# Collection: presentations



International Vilnius Book Fair, 2011

# Collection: presentations



Stanford University, 2015

# Collection: presentations



Lithuanian Theatre, Music  
and Cinema Museum, 2015



LIETUVOS NACIONALINĖS MARTYNO MAŽVYDO BIBLIOTEKOS

## RITINĖLIŲ PIANOLAI KOLEKCIJOS PRISTATYMAS

2015 m. lapkričio 18 d., trečiadienį, 17.30 val.  
Lietuvos teatro, muzikos ir kino muziejuje, renginių salėje (III aukšte)  
Vilniaus g. 41, Vilnius

Pristato:  
Prof. dr. Darius Kučinskas, Vytauto Didžiojo universiteto Muzikos akademija  
Živilė Časaitė, Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka

Muzikuoja:  
Paulius Steponavičius, Lietuvos teatro, muzikos ir kino muziejus

*Maloniai kviečiame. Mjilmas nemokamos.*

Projektą „Nacionalinio publikuotų dokumentų archyvinio fondo (NPDAF) Valdo ir garso archyvo plėtra ir skaidra (įgyvendintai unikaliai XX a. pr. lietuviškų ritinėlių pianolai kolekcijai)“ finansuoja Lietuvos kultūros taryba ir Lietuvos Respublikos kultūros ministerija

Organizatoriai:  
LIETUVOS NACIONALINĖ MARTYNO MAŽVYDO BIBLIOTEKA

Partneriai:  
LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS KULTŪROS MINISTERIJA  
LIETUVOS KULTŪROS TARYBA

# Collection: presentations

Peršokti į turinį **Paieška** Kolekcijos Tezauras Darbo vietų rezervavimas DUK Užklausa Pagalba ▼

**e Paveldas**  
Bibliotekos • Muziejai • Archyvai

Lietuvos kultūros paveldo paieška

**Ieškoti**

Ieškoti rezultatuose **Patikslinti paieška**

Iš viso rasta paveldo įrašų: 61  Garsas 61

Rodyti po: 10 ▼ Pagal laikotarpį (nuo seniausio) ▼ Rūšiuoti Rodyti po vieną



**Ant kalno karklai siubavo / music by Mikas Petrauskas. - 1916, MCMXXI 1921**

» peržiūrėti skaitmeninto objekto vaizdus

Nacionalinė biblioteka

Plokštelės kūriniai ▼



**Liepele polka / [muz. V. Nickaus]. - 1920-1932**

» peržiūrėti skaitmeninto objekto vaizdus

Nacionalinė biblioteka

Plokštelės kūriniai ▼



**Pamylejau vakar / parase Stasys Simkus. - 1920-1932**

» peržiūrėti skaitmeninto objekto vaizdus

» Kūriniai

Nacionalinė biblioteka

### Laikotarpis

[Pažymėti sąrašą](#)

1900-2000

### Tiekėjas

[Pažymėti sąrašą](#)

Nacionalinė biblioteka 61

### Autorius

[Pažymėti sąrašą](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> Žemaitis Jonas	11
<input type="checkbox"/> Petrauskas Mikas	10

Activate Go to Settings

Online presentation, 2016



# Collection: presentations

 Paveldas  
Biblioteka • Muzejai • Archyvai

A' a'

Ant kalno karklai siubavo / music by Mikas Petrauskas. - 1916, MCMXXI 1921

← [Grįžti į sąrašą](#) [peržiūrėti skaitmeninto objekto vaizdus](#)

Tipas  **gargas**

Autoriai [Mikas Petrauskas](#)

Išleidimo duomenys **QRS [1916]**

Apimtis popierius, 1 ritinėlis pianolai (88 klavišams) dėžutėje; Archyvinė kopija: 35MB Viešos prieigos kopija: 4MB

Daugiau informacijos apie objektą [Nacionalinė biblioteka](#)

Rašto sistema lotynų

Kalbos lietuvių anglų

Pastabos Su dainos tekstu

Išleid. data nustatyta iš: Kučinskas, D. Lietuviška muzika pianolai. Kaunas, 2014, p. 29  
Skaitmenintas objektas: Vilnius; Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka; 2015 11 17  
Projektas "Virtualios elektroninio paveldo sistemos (VEPS) plėtra" yra finansuojamas iš Europos Sąjungos struktūrinių fondų  
Išteklius apimtis: 1 garso failas  
Prieigą prie archyvinės kopijos teikia LNB  
Skaitmenintas objektas iš: Ant kalno karklai siubavo [Garso įrašas] : suvalkiečių daina / music by Mikas Petrauskas. - Printed in U.S.A., [1916]. © MCMXXI [1921]. - 1 ritinėlis pianolai (88 klavišams) dėžutėje  
Vartotojo kopija: sistemos reikalavimai: interneto naršyklė  
Archyvinė kopija: kreipties būdas: Lietuvos nacionalinės bibliotekos kompiuterinis tinklas  
Originalas suskaitmenintas WAV formatu; vartotojo kopija - MP3 formatu

Susijusios vietos [Lietuva](#)

**Plokštelės kūriniai**  
Ant kalno karklai siubavo



 [Patinka](#) { 0 }

Online presentation, 2016



**Thank you!**