



Finding Aid for the Volkmar Andrä papers

Collection processed by Lindsay Hansen and John Ahouse, 2006.

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Description is in English.

Finding aid updated using Describing Archives: a Content Standard (version 2022.0.1.1).

Repository:

Wende Museum

Culver City, California

Local identifier:

2006.900.601

Title:

Volkmar Andrä papers

Date:

1950s, 1971-1990, bulk 1978-1989

Extent:

1.4 linear feet (1 archives box, 1 document box)

Creator(s) / Collector(s):

Andrä, Volkmar
VEB Deutsche Schallplatten (Berlin, Ost)

Abstract:

Volkmar Andrä (b. 1944) was a music producer and editor in East Germany, working for the state-controlled recording company, VEB Deutsche Schallplatten (circa 1954-1990). From 1972 to 1996, he worked for AMIGA (1947-), the popular music division of VEB Deutsche Schallplatten. The AMIGA label encompassed many different musical styles, including rock, pop, Schlager (easy listening), entertainment, children's songs, folk, jazz, chanson, and political songs. Artists on the Amiga label include the Puhdys, Karat, and Stern Combo Meissen. This collection contains materials from Andrä's time working for AMIGA/VEB Deutsche Schallplatten beginning with his employment at AMIGA (1972) through the unification of Germany in 1990. Documents contained here include: licensing and legal agreements, promotional materials from various East German artists, planning documents for music festivals, documents relating to album releases, minutes, VEB Deutsche Schallplatten internal labor organization documents, and budgets. There are also a number of personal materials, such as correspondence, and vacation planning.

Physical location:

Stored onsite at the Wende Museum.

Conditions governing access:

The collection is open for research use. Some materials in the collection are restricted; consult repository for details.

Language of material:

Materials are predominantly in German with some materials in English, Russian (Cyrillic text), Czech, French, Italian, Korean, Polish, Spanish, Hungarian, Arabic and Latvian.

Physical characteristics and technical requirements:

This collection contains audio cassettes. Special equipment is required to access these materials. If you have questions about these materials please email collections@wendemuseum.org.

Conditions governing use:

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Rights statement for archival description:

Pursuant to its open access policy, the Wende Museum makes the guide to the Volkmar Andrä papers and the metadata contained within available for public use.

Immediate source of acquisition:

Immediate source of acquisition unknown. Found in the Museum's collection.

Preferred citation:

[Identification of item], Volkmar Andrä papers. 2006.900.601. Archive. Wende Museum.

Administrative / Biographical History:Volkmar Andrä

Born in 1944 Volkmar Andrä studied musicology, cultural studies, and German literature. In 1966 he founded the Hootenanny-Klubs (renamed the Oktoberklub in 1967) and was a member until 1968. From 1968 to 1972 he worked for DDR-Fernsehen (GDR television) as an editor in the entertainment division. He was responsible for the programs *Schlagerstudio* and *Notenbank*. From 1972 to 1996, he worked for AMIGA (the popular music division of VEB Deutsche Schallplatten, the GDR's state-controlled record company) as a music editor. In that capacity, he produced a number of GDR pop and rock sampler LPs, such as *Kleeblatt*, *Hallo*, *Rythmus*, and *Die großen Erfolge*. He also served as producer on a multitude of albums from East German musicians, including the following: Veronika Fischer & Band, Petra Zieger, Gaby Rückert, Herbert Roth, Elektra, Berluc, Helga Hahnemann, Stern Combo Meissen (Stern Meissen), and many more. With Stern Meissen, he was a producer on the albums: *Weises Gold* (1978), *Der Weite Weg* (1979), and *Reises zum Mittelpunkt des Menschen* (1980). Before leaving VEB Deutsche Schallplatten, Andrä founded the Firma GTM, a label dedicated to the release of light and folk music (from Herbert Roth to De Plattfööt) of the newly reunited German states.

AMIGA Records

Founded in 1947 by the singer/actor Ernst Busch, Amiga became part of VEB Deutsche Schallplatten in 1954. The label encompassed many different musical styles, including rock, pop, Schlager (easy

listening), entertainment, children's songs, folk, jazz, chanson, and political songs. The most successful artists on the Amiga label were the Puhdys, Karat, and Stern Combo Meissen. Volkmar Andrä acted as producer for some of these albums. In 1994, Amiga was absorbed by BMG Berlin Musik GmbH.

VEB Deutsche Schallplatten

In addition to Amiga, this record company included five other labels: Litera (literature and spoken work), Eterna (Classical music), Nova (new and avant-garde music), Aurora (worker's songs and Ernst Busch productions) and Schola (instructional and academic recordings). After the Wende, the company became Deutsche Schallplatten GmbH.

Scope and content:

Collection includes business and personal documents amassed by Volkmar Andrä during his tenure at VEB Deutsche Schallplatten/AMIGA Records. Includes licensing and legal agreements with bands like Stern Combo Meissen and Falco, promotional materials from various East German artists, planning documents for music festivals, documents relating to album releases, meeting minutes, VEB Deutsche Schallplatten internal labor organization documents, and budgets. There are also a number of personal materials, such as correspondence, and vacation planning. The majority of the materials are dated from the late 1970s to the early 1990s.

System of arrangement:

The collection is arranged in the following series:

AMIGA: This series includes materials related to the record label, including legal documents, general meeting minutes, project notes, budgets, and memos.

Artists and musicians: This series includes contracts for recording, promotional and biographical materials; lyrics and playlists for individual recordings; foreign licensing agreements.

Festivals: This series includes planning materials and meeting notes for festivals such as the Pyongyang Weltfestival and special concerts held at the Palast der Republik.

Personal: This series includes correspondence, medical documents, vacation requests, plans for parties, and other personal items of Volkmar Andrä.

Undetermined: This series includes materials within the collection that were found loose within the boxes and not noticeably assigned to a specific series.

Subject terms:

Amiga (Sound recording label)
 Andrä, Volkmar
 Büttner, René
 German Democratic Republic
 Music publishing
 Music trade
 Popular music—Germany
 Stern Combo Meissen
 VEB Deutsche Schallplatten (Berlin, Ost)
 World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship (13th : 1989 : P'yöngyang, Korea)

Box inventory:

Series I: AMIGA, circa 1980-1990, undated box 1, folders 1-15

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 1, folder 1	MIDI – Studio	undated
box 1, folder 2	Legal	1990
box 1, folder 3	AMIGA	1988-1989
box 1, folder 4	Miscellaneous	1989
box 1, folder 5	Smile – eine Telefongeschichife	1989
box 1, folder 6	AGL Minutes	1981-1989
box 1, folder 7	Goal-setting	1988-1989
box 1, folder 8	BGL Betriebsgewerkschaftsleitung	1988-1989
box 1, folder 9	Betriebskoll. Vertrag (folder 1 of 2)	1987-1988
box 1, folder 10	Betriebskoll. Vertrag (Protokoll) (folder 2 of 2)	1989
box 1, folder 11	Betreibskoll. Vertrag	1985-1986
box 1, folder 12	Miscellaneous	1980-1984
box 1, folder 13	Minutes	1987-1988
box 1, folder 14	Miscellany	1987-1988

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 1, folder 15	Projects	1988

Series II: Artists and musicians, circa 1950s, 1978-1981, 1984-1990, undated box 1, folders 16-24

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 1, folder 16	Angelika Weiz	1987-1989; undated
box 1, folder 17	CD – Special Program	1990; undated
box 1, folder 18	Magna – marketing	1990; undated
box 1, folder 19	Stern Combo Meissen I	1978-1981; undated
box 1, folder 20	Stern Combo Meissen II	1978-1979; 1981; undated
box 1, folder 21	Artists	[circa 1986-1989]; 1990; undated
box 1, folder 22	Artist promotional materials	[circa 1950s]; [circa 1984; 1986-1988]; undated
box 1, folder 23	Foreign licensing	1985-1987; undated
box 1, folder 24	Gerhard Neef	1981; 1987-1989; undated

Series III: Festivals, circa 1977, 1981, 1987-1989, undated box 1, folders 25-26; box 2, folder 1

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 1, folder 25	Palast der Republik – Künstlerball	1988; circa 1987-1989; undated
box 1, folder 26	P.d.R. Events	1979; 1981; 1989; undated

Series III: Festivals, circa 1977, 1981, 1987-1989, undated box 1, folders 25-26; box 2, folder 1

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 2, folder 1	Weltfestspiel, Pyongyang, 1989	1989; undated

Series IV: Personal, circa 1971-1975, 1977-1989, undated box 2, folders 2-5

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 2, folder 2	Medical leaves	1984-1988; undated
box 2, folder 3	Personal	1972-1975; 1977-1984; undated
box 2, folder 4	Parties and vacations	1981; 1983-1989; undated
box 2, folder 5	[scrapbook]	[circa 1971-1972]

Series V: Unclassified, circa 1983, 1987-1989 box 2, folder 6

box / folder	folder title	date(s)
box 2, folder 6	Miscellaneous	1983; 1987-1989