

## Noah Creshevsky (b. 1945) Collection, 1966-2005

### Box 1

#### **Biography**

Noah Creshevsky (b. 1945, Rochester, New York) is an American composer of primarily electronic music. His composition teachers included Nadia Boulanger, Virgil Thomson (at the State University of New York at Buffalo), and Luciano Berio (at the Juilliard School). He has taught at Juilliard, Hunter College, Princeton University, and the City University of New York, Brooklyn College, where he served as director of the Center for Computer Music and is currently Professor Emeritus.

Creshevsky has received awards and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and ASCAP. His music has been published, performed, broadcast, and recorded around the world.

A hallmark of Creshevsky's music is his electronic manipulation of recognizable sounds. He writes, "Much of my musical vocabulary consists of familiar bits of words, songs, and instrumental music which are deconstructed into minute fragments, subjected to a variety of electronic processes, and finally reassembled in ways that bear little or no discernible relationship to their original sources. The result is a sound at once nearly human and tangentially electronic, but never fully one or the other. Allusions to Middle Eastern, Asian, and Western sacred, secular, popular, and classical instrumental and vocal music seek to produce hypothetical performers of indeterminate identity—simultaneously male and female, Western and non-Western, ancient and modern, familiar and unfamiliar."

#### Sources:

"Creshevsky, Noah." *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. <http://www.grovemusic.com>. Accessed November 2, 2006.

Vox Novus. "Noah Creshevsky." [http://www.voxnovus.com/composer/Noah\\_Creshevsky.htm](http://www.voxnovus.com/composer/Noah_Creshevsky.htm). Accessed November 2, 2006.

#### **Description of the Series**

The Noah Creshevsky Collection spans 1966-2005. It fills one box and documents Creshevsky's compositional career. The collection consists of articles written by and about him as well as compact discs, scores, and texts of his works.

The folder of press clippings includes a March 2004 review from *Gramophone* and an article about Creshevsky's sixtieth birthday celebration in the newsletter of the Institute for Studies in American Music.

The Writings folder contains an article by Creshevsky that was published in *Contemporary Music Review*. In this article, Creshevsky discusses his compositional techniques and his strategies for using an "expanded sonic palette."

The bulk of the collection highlights Creshevsky's music. Twenty-one CDs are housed in the Noah Creshevsky Collection. The CDs were compiled between 1992 and 2004 and feature music from most of Creshevsky's career. There are also ten scores that date between 1966 and 2004 and texts of some of his works with voice. These musical materials are non-commercial unless otherwise noted in the container list.

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**Provenance:** The Noah Creshevsky Collection consists of materials donated by Creshevsky to the Music Library between 2002 and 2005. Some material in the possession of the Music Library was also incorporated into this series.

**Restrictions:** None.

**Separations:** Two inches of duplicate and extraneous material were separated and discarded.

**Processor:** Jennifer Ward, December 2006 and April-May 2007.

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**Container List**

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>
<b>Compact discs</b>			
1	Disc 1	Man & Superman (Centaur Records: CRC 2126) Variations — Electric string quartet — Memento Mori — Electric partita — Talea.	1992
	Disc 2	Auxesis (Centaur Records: CRC 2194) Politics as usual [by Charles Amirkhanian] — Borrowed time — Private lives — Coup d'etat.	1995
	Disc 3	Who (Centaur Records: CRC 2476) Fanfare — Sha — Twice — Who — Et puis — Gone now — Breathless — Nude ascending.	2000
	Disc 4	Jubilate	2001
	Disc 5	Canto di Malavita	2002
	Disc 6	Hoodlum priest	2002
	Disc 7	Vol-au-vent	2002
	Disc 8	Hyperrealism (Mutable Music: Mutable 17516-2) Canto di Malavita — Jacob's Ladder — Vol-au-vent — Hoodlum priest — Novella — Ossi di morte — Jubilate — Born again.	2003
	Disc 9	Music by Noah Creshevsky Omaggio — Vol-au-vent — Canto di Malavita.	2003
	Disc 10	Music by Noah Creshevsky Cantiga — I wonder who's kissing her now (2003).	2003
	Disc 11	Try	2003
	Disc 12	The tape music of Noah Creshevsky, 1971-1992 (EM Records: EM1042CD) Strategic defense initiative — Highway — Circuit — Drummer — Great performances — Sonata — In other words (Portrait of John Cage) — Cantiga.	2004
	Disc 13	Music by Noah Creshevsky Sequenza — Denouement.	2004
	Disc 14	Two psalms by Noah Creshevsky Psalmus XX111 [sic] — Jubilate.	2004
	Disc 15	Music by Noah Creshevsky (Disc 1) Vier Lieder — Circuit — Broadcast — Chaconne — In other words (Portrait of John Cage)— Great performances — Portrait of Rudy Perez — Highway — Sonata.	n.d.
	Disc 16	Music by Noah Creshevsky (Disc 2) Nightscape — Celebration — Drummer — Foto- Musik 1: The prize — Foto-Musik 2: Diva — Strategic defense initiative.	n.d.

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1	Disc 17	Music by Noah Creshevsky (Disc 3) Cantiga — Independence Day — Ossi di morte — Chamber concerto — Credo — Jacob's ladder.	n.d.
	Disc 18	Music by Noah Creshevsky (Disc 4) Estancia — Shadow of a doubt — Novella — Great performances (a good performance).	n.d.
	Disc 19	Music by Noah Creshevsky [Disc 5] Vanishing point — Favorite encores.	n.d.
	Disc 20	Omaggio	n.d.
	Disc 21	Three Psalms Psalmus XXIII — Once (Psalm 150) — Jubilate.	n.d.
1		<b>Press clippings</b>	2004-2005
2		<b>Writings</b>	2001
3		<b>Scores</b>	
		Vier Lieder	1966
		My sweet old etcetera — Sing song — Next to of course God — A caution to everyone.	
		Chaconne	1984
		Great performances (Alexander Broude)	1978
		Crosstalk	1985
		Trio	1986
		Three wordless songs	1988
		Yes me – Milestones in a life — Psalm 23.	
		Jubilate	2001
		Circuit	2001
		Once	2004
		Psalmus XXIII	2004
4		<b>Text transcriptions</b>	n.d.
		In other words	
		Highway	