

DAVID W. GUION EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

DAVID W. GUION ROOM

FESTIVAL CONCERT HALL

FESTIVAL HILL, ROUND TOP, TEXAS

(1992 - 1993)

PRAIRIE ECHOES, NEW YORK (1930)

1. Program, Roxy Theatre, July 25, 1930
2. Program Cover, Roxy Theatre, July 25, 1930
3. Program, Page 2, Roxy Theatre, July 25, 1930
4. Photograph, David Guion in Prairie Echoes Costume
5. Photograph, Roxy Theatre, New York, 1930
6. Photograph, Interior, Guion's studio in Greenwich Village, New York
7. Photograph, Interior, Guion's studio in Greenwich Village, New York
8. Photograph, David Guion in "Prairie Echoes" Costume
9. Photograph, David Guion in "Prairie Echoes" Costume

DAVID GUION'S "HOME ON THE RANGE" AND PRESIDENT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT (1930-1936)

10. Steel Engraving of President Roosevelt,
Inscribed "For David W. Guion from Franklin Roosevelt"
11. Photograph, Morton Downey, President Roosevelt and
John Charles Thomas, following performance of
Guion's music at the White House
12. Newspaper cartoon strip chronicling
Guion's Home On The Range, ca. 1930's
13. Program, John Charles Thomas, performing Guion music
14. Photograph, David Guion on horseback in Estes Park, Colorado
15. Sheet Music, Guion, Home on the Range, 1930
16. Sheet Music, Guion, Yellow Rose of Texas, 1935

PROMOTIONAL DISPLAYS (1930's)

- A. Photograph, Window Display, Fort Worth
- B. Photograph, Window Display, G. Schirmer, New York
- C. Photograph, Window Display, Dallas
- D. Promotional Window Card, David Guion
- E. Promotional Chart, 1932 Sales for Home on the Range

DAVID W. GUION IN BALLINGER, TEXAS (1892 - FALL 1911)

17. Photograph, Interior, Front hall, Guion Home, Ballinger
18. Photograph, Front lawn, Guion Home, Ballinger
19. Photograph, Front porch, Guion Home, Ballinger
20. Photograph, Interior, Front parlor, Guion Home, Ballinger
21. Photograph, Guion Family, Ballinger (David standing, center)
22. Photograph, David Guion and his Mother, Ballinger

DAVID W. GUION IN VIENNA (1912 - SUMMER OF 1914)

23. Photograph, Souvenir of Mountain Scene
24. Photograph, Postal Souvenir, David Guion in Vienna
25. Photograph, David Guion on board ship headed for Vienna
26. Photograph, Souvenir of Innsbruck
27. Photograph, David Guion in Vienna
28. Sheet Music, Guion Minuet for Pianoforte
29. Postal Card, Schubert, Historical City Museum, Vienna
30. Postal Card, Beethoven, Historical City Museum, Vienna
31. Sheet Music, Guion Valse Arabesque

DAVID W. GUION IN PENNSYLVANIA (1937-1964) AND DALLAS (1918-1924) AND (1965-1981)

32. Original Artwork, David W. Guion Bookplate
33. Photograph, Guion Home, Dallas
34. Christmas Card, Guion Home, Dallas
35. Photograph, David Guion in his Dallas Studio
36. Photograph, David Guion in 1922
37. Photograph, David Guion in his Dallas Home, 1970's
38. Photograph, David Guion, "Home on the Range" in Pennsylvania
39. Photograph, Interior of Guion "Home on the Range" in Pennsylvania
40. Photograph, David Guion, "Home on the Range" in Pennsylvania
41. Photograph, Creek at "Home on the Range" in Pennsylvania

David W. Guion - (1892-1981)

David Wendell Guion was born on December 15, 1892 in Ballinger, on the plains of West Texas. He grew up listening to cowboy songs and to the music at camp meetings and church services. He began piano study at age four, and gave his first solo recital at age six. In his early teenage years, he often played at the town's silent movie theatre, improvising to match the action on the screen. His first published work, *The Texas Fox Trot* (1915), resulted from one of his ragtime creations on a Saturday night. The young pianist also played Bach and Beethoven, and in 1911 he went to Vienna to study with the famed teacher and pianist, Leopold Godowsky. The outbreak of World War I, in 1914, forced Guion to return to the United States. Following his return, Guion taught piano at several Texas colleges and at the Chicago Musical College.

Guion established a permanent residence in New York City in 1930 in order to find publishers for his growing number of original compositions, transcriptions and spirited arrangements. Settling into a studio apartment in Greenwich Village, he soon established himself as composer, pianist and entertainer. This aspect of his career began on July 25, 1930, with his musical review at the Roxy Theatre, *Prairie Echoes*, and rapidly broadened with nationwide radio broadcasts, and performances at Carnegie Hall. Guion was charmed by New York and New York responded by giving him the name, "The Texas Cowboy Composer" who dressed in cowboy regalia, but could perform Chopin. Guion's two hundred songs, forty-five piano solos, ballets, orchestral suites and choral arrangements combined the folk music of his youth with his European training and gained the attention of Percy Grainger, Lawrence Tibbett, Helen Traubel, John Charles Thomas and Arthur Fiedler. President Franklin Roosevelt particularly admired Guion's artful version of "Home on the Range".

Guion loved Texas and returned to premier his ballet, "Shingandi", to become the official composer for the statewide celebration of the Texas Centennial in 1936, and for the premier of his orchestral suite, "Texas", fourteen musical sketches of Texas, commissioned by the Houston Symphony in 1950. His residence, however, remained in the East. In 1936 he purchased land and an historic farmhouse in the Pocono Valley of Pennsylvania. A collector of Americana and lover of early American primitive furniture, he furnished his spacious house with family possessions and added pieces he acquired in the Valley. In 1965, construction of a federal dam on the creek behind his property, forced the condemnation of his Pennsylvania "Home on the Range". He returned to Texas, choosing to live in Dallas, in the home his mother had built there in 1920, when she left West Texas. Guion lived in the home on Monticello Drive until his death in 1981, at the age of eighty-eight. His collection of music, recordings, furniture, art objects and memorabilia are permanently housed in the Guion Room in the Festival Concert Hall and in the Festival-Institute's historic Menke House.

"The significant fact for us is that the Southwest is the very center of American native music. It has all the sources of our folk music; and we have them as no other section has... The opportunity is preeminently ours to give appreciation and assistance to what is and will come to be recognized as the music of America."

David Guion
The Texas Monthly
October, 1929