It is not an easy task to reconstruct the library and music collection of a composer, whose homes – from Hungary through some European cities and South America to the United States – cannot be counted on the fingers of both hands. This paper investigates the story of Ernő Dohnányi's music collection and music library: summarizes the stages of Dohnányi's life, where he stayed for a longer period of time, therefore makes it possible to round up a considerable library and also discusses the lists, which give account of the items of the composer’s books and scores. These lists preserved about the content of Dohnányi’s previous Hungarian books and music collections of the Széher út villa, the music collection on Városmajor utca (the house of Dohnányi’s sister), and about the library and music collection of the Dohnányis' Tallahassee home. The author of this paper could use the items of Dohnányi’s books and scores, which the composer possessed in the final decade of his lifetime, too. At present, these documents, Dohnányi’s American Estate is in the care of the Archives for 20th–21st Century Hungarian Music of the Institute for Musicology, Research Centre for Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest. Beside the lists, the correspondence between Dohnányi and his sister, Mici, also contains information about the story of Dohnányi’s libraries and music collections. This overview follows Dohnányi’s collection even during the American years when he wanted to receive volumes of his former library, and understandably wanted to establish as rich a library as he had in his previous homes.
Listen to music from Ernő Dohnányi like Pastorale (Hungarian Christmas Song), Winterreigen, and images from Ernő Dohnányi. Dohnányi’s approach is deeply rooted in the strongest traditions of European classical music, and particularly bears the imprint of Johannes Brahms. However, he also absorbed diverse other influences, including that of American folk music and jazz.

Ernő Dohnányi, also known as Ernst von Dohnányi or Dohnányi Ernő (July 27, 1877 – February 9, 1960) was a Hungarian conductor, composer, and pianist. Dohnányi’s compositional style was eclectic. Although he drew upon influences from Hungarian folk music, he is not considered a nationalistic composer. His music, Classical MP3 download, Classical Music Downloads - Download music compositions from legal, well-ordered mp3 content web-site Classicalm.com.

Ernő married Elisabeth Kunwald, who was also a pianist. In 1902, their first son, Hans von Dohnányi, was born. Hans later distinguished himself as a leader of the anti-Nazi resistance in Germany and was a friend and collaborator of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (his brother-in-law). The Warren D. Allen Music Library at Florida State University’s College of Music holds a large archive of Dohnányi’s papers, manuscripts, and related materials.

Ernő von Dohnányi Collection
Collection Overview
- manuscript or facsimile scores and sketches (1 linear foot)
- 2 scrapbooks
- 2 binders of concert programs (1900-1960)
- 2 binders of correspondence (1948-1960)
- 3 binders of documents (1897-1960).

Ernst von Dohnányi (in Hungarian, Dohnányi Ernő) taught piano and composition at FSU from 1949 until his death in 1960. Born 1877 in what is now Bratislava, Hungary, Dohnányi found early musical success with both his compositions and his work as a pianist. His first serious composition, his Piano Quintet in C, op. 1 was highly praised by Brahms. By the time he came to FSU in 1949, he had an international reputation without peer.

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