Song cycles

From the *New Grove dictionary of music and musicians*:

Song cycle:

- a composite form of vocal music consisting of a group of individually complete songs
- for solo or ensemble voices
- with or without instrumental accompaniment
- may relate a series of events, or a series of impressions, or may simply be a group of songs unified by mood
- the texts may be by a single author or from several sources

**The form is stated explicitly in the title statement:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LC number</th>
<th>245 10</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89-751995</td>
<td>An Mauern hin : a <strong>song-cycle</strong> based on the poetry by G. Trakl / Christoph Campestrini.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>88-751683</td>
<td>--and waken green : a <strong>cycle of songs</strong> for medium voice and piano / seven poems by Douglas Worth ; music by David Ward-Steinman.</td>
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<tr>
<td>86-750135</td>
<td>Arcobaleno : a <strong>cycle of seven songs</strong> for bass / Rocco DiGiovanni ; poetry by Nicola Rossi-Lemeni.</td>
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<tr>
<td>94-702002</td>
<td>A <strong>cycle</strong> for voice and percussion / words by Emily Dickinson ; music by Dawn LaBuy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>92-757398</td>
<td>Aftonland : <strong>sangszyklus</strong> til dikt av Pär Lagerkvist : for soprano (or tenor) and chamber ensemble / Arne Nordheim.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>95-702430</td>
<td>Concertino pre flautu a slá?. orchester ; Ako padajú hviezdy : <strong>cyklus piesni</strong> na slová P. Koyša, op. 31 ;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The form is not stated in the title statement:

When the word "cycle" or phrase "song cycle" or an equivalent is not stated in the title, generally LC adds a note to that effect and a corresponding subject heading.

84-760395
245 10 Five lyrics of Louise Bogan : for mezzo-soprano and flute / Warren Benson.
500 Song cycle.

92-753987
245 14 The Auden poems : for voice, violin, cello, and piano / Ned Rorem.
500 Song cycle.

92-753900
245 10 Between two worlds / [words by] Robert Bly and Jacob Boehme ; [music by] John Harbison.
500 Song cycle for soprano, 2 violoncellos, and 2 pianos.

97-701931
245 10 Afscheid van een landschap : voor stem en (bas-)klarinet (1994) / Alex Manassen.
500 Song cycle for high voice and piano.

When the title a publisher has given to a collection of songs by one composer implies or states that it is a song cycle and it was not the intent of the composer for the songs to form a song cycle, do not use the subject heading "Song cycles."

93-722531
100 1 Rooth, Anna-Greta, 1901-1993.
240 10 Songs. Selections
245 10 4 sånger till dikter av Gabriela Mistral : röst och piano / Anna-Greta Rooth ; [tolkning, Hjalmar Gullberg].
650 0 Songs (Medium voice) with piano.

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Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/song-cycles

Links