Descriptive Summary
Title: Martha Raye papers
Date (inclusive): 1916-2000
Date (bulk): 1936-1992
Collection number: 1310
Creator: Raye, Martha
Extent: 50 linear feet of papers. 8 linear feet of photographs.
Repository: Margaret Herrick Library. Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
Languages: English
Access
Available by appointment only.
Publication rights
Property rights to the physical object belong to the Margaret Herrick Library. Researchers are responsible for obtaining all necessary rights, licenses, or permissions from the appropriate companies or individuals before quoting from or publishing materials obtained from the library.
Preferred Citation
Martha Raye papers, Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
Acquisition Information
Gift of Mark Harris, 2007
Biography
Martha Raye was an American actress, singer, comedienne, and humanitarian. She was active in film from 1936 to 1979. Raye was married seven times and her husbands include makeup artist Bud Westmore, arranger David Rose, tap dancer Nick Condos, dancer Edward T. Begley, and Mark Harris. Raye maintained a lifelong relationship with the United Services Organization (USO), performing for soldiers from World War II through Vietnam. She received the 1968 Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award.
Collection Scope and Content Summary
The Martha Raye papers span the years 1916-2000 (bulk 1936-1992) and encompass approximately 58 linear feet. Raye's film career is primarily documented through clippings, with some correspondence, reviews, and publicity material. There is script material for unproduced films from the 1970s and 1980s. There is some material for "The Martha Raye Show" (1953-1956), including clippings, correspondence, and programs. Raye's stage career is documented by clippings, correspondence, publicity, and programs. There is professional and personal correspondence. There are clippings, correspondence, and programs related to her USO activities and military artifacts, such as hats and medals. There are eight scrapbooks, photographs, and photograph albums. The photograph series consists of motion picture production, stage production, television production, biography, and subject photographs.
Arrangement
Indexing Terms
actresses