Finding Aid for the Mary Servoss Papers, 1910-1968

Collection number: 543

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Mary Servoss Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1910-1968
Collection number: 543
Creator: Servoss, Mary, 1881-1968
Extent: 5 boxes (2.5 linear ft.)
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Dept. of Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Mary Servoss (1881-1968) was an actress. She appeared on stage in Chicago, New York and London. The collection consists of correspondence, photographs, books, scrapbooks, and printed materials related to Servoss' life and career.

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Language: English.

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Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Mary Servoss Papers (Collection 543). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
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Biography
Servoss was born in Chicago, Illinois; her first stage appearance was at the Grand Opera House in Chicago playing a small part in Lorna Doone, 1905; her first appearance on the New York stage was the following year at the Fourteenth Street Theatre as Alice in Bedford's hope; she appeared as Portia in Shakespeare's The merchant of Venice with David Warfield at the Lyceum, 1922; her first appearance on the London stage was at the Duke of York's Theatre as the title character in De luxe Annie, 1925; managed summer stock companies in Michigan and Ohio playing Ophelia, Juliet, Beatrice, and Rosalind, 1911-16; died in 1968.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence, photographs, books, scrapbooks, and printed materials related to the life and career of actress Mary Servoss. Includes correspondence and approximately 100 telegrams (1922-24) from David Belasco. Also includes 81 personal photographs, 111 professional photographs, 3 scrapbooks, and an annotated script for Servoss' role as Portia in *The merchant of Venice*.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Servoss, Mary, 1881-1968--Archives.
Belasco, David, 1853-1931--Correspondence.
Actresses--United States--Archival resources.
Photographs.

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**Box 1**

**Letters from various persons to Mary Servoss. v.p., v.d.**

Scope and Content Note

Includes letters from:

Belasco, David, 1859-1931. 23 items.
Browne, Maurice, 1881-1955. 1 item.

**Box 1**

2 contracts between David Belasco and Mary Servos, 1921.

**Photographs, personal.**

Physical Description: 81 items.

**Box 1**

Photographs, professional.

Physical Description: 111 items.

**Box 1**

Assorted periodicals and pamphlets.

**Box 1**

Scrapbook containing clippings on the play *Tobacco Road*, ca. 1936.

**Box 1**

Newspaper clippings. v.d.

**Box 1**

Theatre programs of various plays in which Mary Servoss appeared.

Physical Description: 10 items.

**Box 2**

Engraved copper plate for calling card: Miss Mary Servoss.

**Box 2**

Script for Mary Servoss's part as Portia in *the Merchant of Venice*.

Physical Description: Typescript with holograph notes. 40 leaves.

**Box 3**

Telegrams from David Belasco to Mary Servoss, 1922-1924.

Physical Description: ca. 100 items.

**Box 3**

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, telegrams, and Christmas cards. ca. 1914-1924.

**Box 3**

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings and theatre programs on Leslie Howard's *Hamlet*, 1936-1937.

**Box 3**

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mary Servoss's Street Scene. 1929-1930.

**Books (Dedication Copies):**

**Box 2**


Creator/Collector: Ride, Elmer

**Box 2**


Creator/Collector: Rice, Elmer

**Box 2**

Plays produced under the stage direction of David Belasco. New York, 1925.

Creator/Collector: Belasco, David
Box 2  
*The hypocrites, a play in four acts.* London: Chiswick Press, 1906.  
Creator/Collector: Jones, Henry Arthur.

Box 2  
*Mary goes first, a comedy in three acts and an epilogue.* London: G. Bell and Sons, Limited, 1913.  
Creator/Collector: Jones, Henry Arthur

Box 2  
Creator/Collector: Gerstenberg, Alice

Box 2  
*Young Woodley.* New York: Simon and Schuster, 1926.  
Creator/Collector: Van Druten, John

Box 2  
*The Ben Greet Shakespeare for young readers and amateur players; As you like it.* Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1912.  
Creator/Collector: Shakespeare, William.

Box 4  
Creator/Collector: Odets, Clifford

Box 4  
Creator/Collector: Hammond, Natalie Hays

Box 4  
*Jason and Medea.* Philadelphia: George Barrie and Son, 1902.  
Creator/Collector: Appollonius

Box 4  
Creator/Collector: Belasco, David

Box 4  
*The merchant of Venice,* “a comedy by William Shakespeare, as arranged for the contemporary stage by David Belasco, and acted under his direction at the Lyceum Theatre, New York with David Warfield ...” New York: privately printed, 1922.  
Creator/Collector: Shakespeare, William

Box 5  
Creator/Collector: Blum, Daniel

Box 5  
Creator/Collector: Winter, William.  
Physical Description: 2 vol.