Finding Aid for the University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Theater Arts records UARC.0016

UCLA Library Special Collections
Online finding aid last updated 2019 March 19.
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
spec-coll@library.ucla.edu
URL: https://www.library.ucla.edu/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Title: University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Theater Arts records
Creator: University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Theater Arts
Identifier/Call Number: UARC.0016
Physical Description: 6.2 Linear Feet (3 boxes and 5 cartons)
Date (inclusive): 1918-2002
Abstract: Record Series 16 contains the minutes of meetings, publications, and promotional materials for theatrical productions generated by the Theater Arts Department at the University of California, Los Angeles. Also included are 16 bound volumes of Greek plays directed by Evalyn Ann Thomas, a member of the Los Angeles State Normal School faculty in Reading and UCLA faculty in English.
Language of Material: Materials are in English.
Stored off-site. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.
Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: Open for research. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.
Conditions Governing Use
Copyright to portions of this collection has been assigned to the UCLA Library Special Collections. The library can grant permission to publish for materials to which it holds the copyright. Commercial use may require additional rights that must be determined and obtained by the researcher. All requests for copyright permission to publish must be submitted in writing to Library Special Collections. Credit shall be given as follows: The Regents of the University of California on behalf of the UCLA Library Special Collections.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Theater Arts records (University Archives Record Series 16). UCLA Library Special Collections, University Archives University of California, Los Angeles.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Processing Information
Processed by University Archives staff, 1988 February; further revisions by University Archives staff, 2011; Katharine A. Lawrie, 2013 March. Reprocessing, including enhanced description and further arrangement, by Dylan Karlsson in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT) under the supervision of Lori Dedeyan, 2019.
Record Series 16 includes the contents of former University Archives record series 124, 633, and 729, which were retired after their contents were merged into this record series in February 2019.
UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 3520522
Biographical / Historical
The Theater Arts Department at UCLA was founded in 1947, with William Melnitz serving as chair. In 1961, the department merged with the Department of Motion Pictures, Television and Radio to form the UCLA College of Fine Arts, offering undergraduate study across three divisions: Theater, Motion Pictures, and Radio. Melnitz served as the College's founding dean. After the College of Fine Arts was dissolved in 1987, the then-named Theater Department reemerged in the School of Theater, Film and Television, which was created in 1990 with Gilbert Cates as the founding dean. Prior to the founding of the Theater Arts Department, theatrical productions at UCLA were presented by the student body. Starting in 1918, classical Greek plays were presented by the student government ASUCLA annually in the spring. They were directed by Evalyn Ann Thomas, a member of the Los Angeles State Normal School faculty in Reading, and later in the UCLA faculty in English.
Scope and Contents
Record Series 16 contains minutes of meetings, programs, and promotional materials for theatrical productions and one-act plays by student and non-student theater groups within the Department of Theater. This record series also contains 16 bound volumes of Greek plays presented by students of the Los Angeles State Normal school (and later UCLA) between 1919 and 1938 and directed by Evalyn Ann Thomas.
Note: Some production photographs in Subseries 4.3. contain depictions of blackface.

**Arrangement**

This collection has been arranged in the following series:

- Series 1: Meeting minutes, 1946-1950
- Series 2: Greek plays presented to Evalyn Ann Thomas, 1919-1938
- Series 3: Programs and publicity, 1918-2002
  - Sub-series 3.1: Student productions, 1918-2002
  - Sub-series 3.2: One-act plays, 1933-2001
  - Sub-series 3.3: Professional productions, 1959-1998
- Series 4: Promotional materials, 1941-1998
  - Sub-series 4.1: Announcements and reports, 1941-1990
  - Sub-series 4.3: Photographs, 1950-1989

Materials in Series 1 are arranged alphabetically by subject. Materials in Series 2, 3, and 4 are arranged chronologically.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- College theater -- California -- Los Angeles
- Theater programs
- Greek drama
- Drama in education -- California -- Los Angeles
- University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Theater Arts -- Archives.

---

**Series 1. Meeting minutes 1946-1950**

**Scope and Contents**

Series 1 contains minutes from various departmental, staff, and committee meetings.

- box 1, folder 1: Curriculum Committee meetings 1948-1950
- box 1, folder 2: Faculty and staff meetings 1946-1948
- box 1, folder 3: Graduate Committee meetings 1948-1950
- box 1, folder 4: Guidance Committee meetings 1947-1950
- box 1, folder 5: Motion Picture Division meetings 1948-1949
- box 1, folder 6: Radio Division meetings 1948-1950
- box 1, folder 7: Theater Arts Department meetings 1947-1949
- box 1, folder 8: Theater Division meetings 1948-1950

**Series 2. Greek plays presented to Evalyn Ann Thomas 1919-1938**

**Scope and Contents**

Series 2 contains 16 bound volumes of Greek plays presented by students of the Los Angeles State Normal school (and later UCLA) and directed by Evalyn Ann Thomas. Some covers are marked as presentation copies to Thomas from her students (class of 1924, 1925, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1938). The volumes contain bound playbills, as well as photographs, newspaper clippings, and letters to Thomas, which are pasted within the book. Some volumes also include annotations.

- box 2, folder 1: Bound Greek plays 1919, 1924, 1925
  - Scope and Contents
  - The Trojan of Euripides (1919); Oedipus, King of Thebes (1924); Antigone (1925)

- box 2, folder 2: Bound Greek plays 1926, 1927, 1928
  - Scope and Contents
  - The Alcestis of Euripides (1926); Ajax of Sophocles (1927); Hippolytus (1928)
Series 2. Greek plays presented to Evalyn Ann Thomas 1919-1938

box 2, folder 3  Bound Greek plays 1929, 1930, 1931
Scope and Contents
Electra (1929); Iphigenia in Tauris (1930); The Medea of Euripides (1931). In Electra there is an announcement that the same play was directed by Thomas in 1922.

box 2, folder 4  Bound Greek plays 1932, 1933, 1934
Scope and Contents
The Agamemnon of Aeschylus (1932); The Choephoroe (libation-bearers) of Aeschylus (1933); The Eumenides (the Furies) of Aeschylus (1934)

box 2, folder 5  Bound Greek plays 1935, 1937
Scope and Contents
Helen of Egypt (1935); The Persians: the Historical Drama of Aeschylus (1935); Antigone (1937)

box 2, folder 6  Bound Greek plays 1938
Scope and Contents
Oedipus, King of Thebes (1938)

Series 3. Programs and publicity 1918-2002
Scope and Contents
Series 3 includes programs, fliers, posters, and other materials relating to full-length and one-act plays featuring student casts (one-act plays also featured student production and writing), and for professional productions staged by groups including the Theater Group and the UCLA Resident Theater Company. Many programs for productions through the mid-1930s are present as photocopies.

Subseries 3.1. Student productions 1918-2002
Scope and Contents
This subseries contains programs and posters for student theatrical productions, as well as announcements of and promotional materials for theater seasons, often accompanied by ticket order forms. Some programs may only be included as reproductions.

box 3, folder 1  Student production programs 1918-1925
Scope and Contents
Includes The Persians (1918 June), Pygmalion and Galatea (1919 February-March), The Trojan Women (1919 June), Helen In Egypt (1920 June), The Witching Hour (1920 April), Iphigenia In Tauris (1921 June), Sherlock Holmes (1921 December), The Electra of Euripides (1922 May), Secret Service (1922 December), The Agamemnon of Aeschylus (1923 May), Festival of St. John's Eve (1923 May), Benefit program (1923 February), Beau Brummel (1924 December), An Ideal Husband (1924 January), Oedipus King of Thebes (1924 June), Antigone (1925 May), Delta Tau Mu's music production (1925).
Student production programs 1926-1930

Scope and Contents
Includes The Alcestis of Euripides (1926 May), The Electra of Sophocles (1926 July), L'Aiglon (1926 February), Ajax of Sophocles (1927 May), Expressing Willie (1928 November), Hippolytos (1928 May), The Imaginary Invalid (1928 April), untitled program in German (1928 April), The Bourgeois Gentleman (1929 April), Cock Robin (1929 November), Electra (1929 May), Hay Fever (1929 April), The Injustice (1929 November), Richard III (1929 December), Los Intereses Creados(?) (1929 May), Cyrano de Bergerac (1930 April), Die versunkene Glocke (1930 March), The Golden Youth (1930 December), Iphigenia in Tauris (1930 May), Las De Cain (1930 April), Le Medecin Malgre Lui (1930 November), The Royal Family (1930 April), Campus Capers productions (1930 March and November, unknown and third editions).

Student production programs 1931-1935

Scope and Contents
Includes Berkeley Square (1931 November), Jedermann (1931 April), Marco Millions (1931 March), Medea (1931 May), Campus Capers production (1931 November, fifth edition of Campus Capers), The Agamemnon of Aeschylus (1932 May), The Beaux' Stratagem (1932 July), Faust (1932 May), The Highroad (1932 December), Les Precieuses Ridicules; Hakuroy (1932 November), Campus Capers productions (1932 April and November, fifth and seventh editions), Adam The Creator (1933 April), The Cheetah, or the Vengeance of Orestes (1933 May), Le Gendre de Monsieur Poirier (1933 May), March Hares (1933 November), Sueno de una noche de Agosto (1933 November), Twelfth Night (1933 December), Campus Capers production (1933 April, eighth edition), Beggar on Horseback; A Kiss In Sariano (1934 November), Elizabeth the Queen (1934 April), The Eumenides (1934 May), One Hundred Years For A Day (1934 June), Campus Capers production (1934 May, tenth edition), Oedipus King of Thebes (1935 May), Yellow Jack (1935 April), Campus Capers productions (1935, eleventh and twelfth editions).

Student production programs 1936-1940

Scope and Contents
Includes Alcestis (1936 May), A Bill of Divorcement (1936 March), The Devil Passes (1936 October, presented by the Federal Theatre Project, a division of the Works Progress Administration, or WPA), La Farce de Maitre Pathelin (1936 April), A program of dances (1936 May), Antigone (1937 May), Comus (1937 December), Ethan Frome (1937 July), The Masque of Kings (1937), Judgment Day (1938), Julius Caesar (1938 March), Oedipus King of Thebes (1938 May), Myra Kinch and group, in concert of modern dance (1938 August, presented by the Federal Theatre Project, a division of the Works Progress Administration, or WPA), A program of dances (1938 May), Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme (1939 November), Playboy of the Western World (1939 May 03-05, directed by Ralph Freud), Playboy of the Western World (1939 May 05-18), The Tempest (1939 April, contains a typed rehearsal schedule), A program of dances (1939 April), A program of dances (1939 May), Bury the Dead (1940 March), The Importance of Being Earnest (1940), Improvisations on an American Theme; Radio Show (1940), Love's Labour's Lost (1940 November), Of Thee I Sing (1940 March), Our Town (1940 May), See How They Run (1940), Uncle Tom's Cabin (1940), Yes, My Darling Daughter (1940), Dance recital (1940 May).
Student production programs 1941-1942

Scope and Contents
Includes Improvisations on an American Theme/Alaska Trail (1941 July-August), Ah! Wilderness (1941 October), Beggar On Horseback (1941 June), Blind Alley (1941 April), Dr. Faustus (1941 March), Green Grow The Lilacs (1941 July), Knickerbocker Holiday (1941 April), Our Town (1941), The Rivals (1941 November), Spontaneous Confusion (1941 May), The Warrior's Husband (1941), Dance recital (1941 May), Around The World In Eighty Days (1942 November), The Beautiful People (1942 November), Engaged (1942 November), A Feather In Your Hat (1942 May, includes newspaper clipping of "Dance Event Outstanding", Los Angeles Times review of the production), The Great American Family (1942 September), The Knight of the Burning Pestle (1942 May), Ladies In Retirement (1942 March), Once In A Lifetime (1942 March), Rope (1942 January), Revolutionary War to Civil War; Civil War to World War I (1942 July), Yellow Jack (1942 April).

Student production programs 1943-1944

Scope and Contents
Includes The Wookey (1943 January), Babes in Boyland (1943 April-May), Electra (1943 January), Family Portrait (1943 May), Goodbye Again (1943 March), Volpone (1943 April), Dance recital (1943 October), Women's Place Is In ... (1943 May), Alison's House (1944 April), The Dover Road (1944 August-September), Four by Corwin (1944 July, four plays by Norman Corwin: The Odyssey of Runyon Jones, Psalm For A Dark Year, Mary and the Fairy, Seems Radio Is Here To Stay), The Male Animal (1944 February), Three Sisters (1944 December), Yellow Jacket (1944 March), Dance recital (1944 May).

Student production programs 1945-1946

Scope and Contents
Includes A Gay 90's Revue or "With Finals Only A Week Away What In the Hell Are You Doing Here Tonight" (1945 February), The Gentle People (1945 August), The Imaginary Invalid (1945 January), Night Over Taos (1945 April), Rose of the Rancho (1945 May), Skin Of Our Teeth (1945 November), Time Of Your Life (1945 March), Tonight At 8:30 (1945 July), Both Your Houses (1946 November), Candlelight (1946 May), A case of mistaken identity (1946 March), The Cherry Orchard (1946 July), Henry IV, Part One (1946 January), Jim Dandy; Alice In Wonderland (1946 December), Lady In The Dark (1946 April), Man and Superman (1946 November), On The Sunny Side; Encore (1946 September), Romeo and Juliet (1946 July), Shadow and Substance (1946 February), The Shoemaker's Holiday (1946 May), That's politics (1946 October).

Student production programs 1947-1948

Scope and Contents
Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents
Includes Candida (1951 October-November), The Circle (1951 March), Dark of the Moon (1951 May), Fashion (1951 December), The Green Cockatoo; Literature (1951 April), House In A Sea (1951 November-December), The Late Christopher Bean (1951 February-March), Sing Ho For A Prince (1951 July), The Spider (1951 July), The Young and Fair (1951 July).

Student production programs 1952
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1953
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1954
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1955
Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1956
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1957
Scope and Contents
Includes All The King's Men (1957 July), Annabelle Broom, The Unhappy Witch (1957 March), Detective Story (1957 November-December), The Flowering Peach (1957 July-August), The Glass Menagerie (1957 March), Henry IV, Part One (1957 April), The Lady's Not For Burning (1957 October-November), Marco Polo (1957, includes a one-page brochure promoting this children's show), The Playboy of the Western World (1957 May), The Tavern (1957 July), Tiger At The Gates (1957 June), Volpone (1957 November).

Student production programs 1958
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1959
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1960
Scope and Contents
Includes All Rooms Face The Ocean (1960 May), The Cocktail Party (1960 March-April), The Good Woman of Setzuan (1960 May), The Hunters and the Henwife (1960), The Island of Goats (1960 October-November), Of Thee I Sing (1960 April), She Stoops To Conquer (1960 December), A Touch Of The Poet (1960 November-December).

Student production programs 1961
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1962
Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1963

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1964

Scope and Contents
Includes Carousel (1964, includes programs for productions performed on campus and on tour sponsored by the American Educational Theater Association (AETA) and United Service Organizations (USO)), Coriolanus (1964 October-November), The House of Bernarda Alba (1964 November), Lazarus Laughed (1964 March), Night Shift (1964 January), Period of Adjustment (1964 July-August), Red Roses For Me (1964 May), Tartuffe (1964 December), The Thirteen Clocks (1964 April), A Thurber Carnival (1964 July), The Visit (1964 July), The Winter’s Tale (1964 April-May).

Student production programs 1965

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1966

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1967

Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1968
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1969
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1970
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1971
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1972
Scope and Contents
Includes Best Friends (1972 October, an original musical based on the early years of the Department of Theater Arts at UCLA), Cabaret (1972 May-June), Celebration (1972 July), Don’t Go Walking Around Nakes; Madam's Late Mother (1972 July), The Man Who Came To Dinner (1972 February), The Mystery Of The Passion Of Our Lord; The Women At The Tomb (1972 March-April), No Place To Be Somebody (1972 November-December), The Rimmers of Eldritch (1972 July), The Serpent (1972 July), Sleight of Hand (1972 April-May), Stop The World, I Want To Get Off (1972 November), Under Milk Wood (1972 March).
Student production programs 1973
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1974
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1975
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1976
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1977
Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1978

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1979

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1980

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1981

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1982

Scope and Contents
**Student production programs 1983**
Scope and Contents

**Student production programs 1984**
Scope and Contents

**Student production programs 1985**
Scope and Contents

**Student production programs 1986**
Scope and Contents

**Student production programs 1987**
Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1988
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1989
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1990
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1991
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1992
Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1993

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1994

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1995

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1996

Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1997

Scope and Contents
Student production programs 1998
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 1999
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 2000
Scope and Contents

Student production programs 2001
Scope and Contents

Subseries 3.2. One-act plays 1933-2001
Scope and Content
This subseries includes programs and other promotional materials for one-act plays written, produced, and performed by students.

Subseries 3.3. Professional productions 1959-1998
Scope and Contents
This subseries includes materials from the Theater Group, other non-student production programs, theater arts festivals, and the Annual Hugh O'Brian Acting Awards.

The Theater Group productions - programs 1959-1969
UCLA Resident Theater Company productions - programs 1978-1980
Series 3. Programs and publicity 1918-2002
Subseries 3.3. Professional productions 1959-1998

- Other professional productions/events - programs and posters 1975-1993

- Annual Hugh O’Brian Acting Awards programs 1966-1986
  Scope and Contents
  Includes announcements and the Fall 1983 issue of Ambassador, The Hugh O’Brian Youth Foundation paper; also includes an announcement for the first Lucille Ball Awards in Dramatic Writing, 1972.


Scope and Contents
Series 4 materials include brochures, fliers, publications, photographs, and other materials regarding the academic and theatrical offerings of the Theater Department and related entities. Also included are materials regarding student films, the First Southern California Conference of Education Theatre Workers, and announcements in the department.

Subseries 4.1. Announcements and reports 1941-1990
Scope and Content
This subseries includes materials regarding academic training programs offered by the Theater Arts Department, as well as student films, a report on the First Southern California Conference of Education Theatre Workers, and announcements in the department.

- Theater Department course and workshop offerings 1941-1989
- Announcement of the College of Fine Arts, Fall and Spring semesters 1961-1968
- Report of the First Southern California Conference of Education Theatre Workers 1940, 1947
- Student film materials 1965-1970

Scope and Contents
This subseries includes programs and magazines produced for professional productions such as The Playgoer, The Performing Arts at UCLA, Los Angeles Theater Magazine, and Performing Arts.

  Scope and Contents
  Includes Associated Students UCLA, UCLA Theater Arts Alumni Campus Theater Spotlight; POV, the Official Newsletter of the MP/TV Students’ Association.

- "The Playgoer" (program/magazine) 1961-1966
- "The Performing Arts at UCLA"/"Music Magazine" (Playgoer publications) 1967-1971
- "UCLA Center for the Performing Arts" magazine 1981-1984
- "Los Angeles Theatre Magazine" 1982
- "Performing Arts" magazine 1985-1994
- "Performing Arts" magazine 1994-1998
Subseries 4.3. **Photographs 1950-1989**

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains black-and-white production stills, color slides, and program reproductions. Some cast members and photographers are identified.

- **Shadow Of A Prince** 1950 June 1-3
- **Monty O'Brien** 1951
- **The Late Christopher Bean** 1951 February-March
- **House in a Sea** 1951 November
- **Fashion** 1951 December

Scope and Contents

Materials in this folder contain depictions of blackface.

- **Lower Depths** 1952 March
- **The Philadelphia Story** 1952 April
- **Yerma** 1979 July
- **Dear Liar** 1985 May
- **The Admirable Crichton** (color slides, no program) 1989
- **Unknown productions** undated