Guide to the Dame Judith Anderson Collection, ca. 1915-1980s

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Collection number: PA Mss 6

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Processors:
Preliminary arrangement and description by David C. Tambo
Date Completed:
4/23/98
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Dame Judith Anderson Collection,

Date (inclusive): ca. 1915-1980s

Collection number: PA Mss 6

Creator: Anderson, Dame Judith

Extent: 20 lin. ft. (49 boxes and 2 artifacts)

Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Shelf location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Abstract: The collection includes papers of the Australian born actress noted for her stage, radio, and television work, particularly her Shakespearean roles. The collection includes scripts, photographs, scrapbooks, and correspondence.

Language: English.

Provenance
[see coll. files.]

Restrictions
None.

Publication Rights
Use Restrictions: None.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Dame Judith Anderson Collection, PA Mss 6, Department of Special Collections, University Libraries, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Biography
[from Independent obituary] "Born Frances Margaret Anderson-Anderson, in Adelaide, South Australia, on February 10, 1898, she made her first appearance on stage in 1915. She soon began touring with Australian companies and made her..."
first New York debut in 1918. After small parts at first, by 1921 she was playing leading roles in stock companies in Boston and Albany. After a decade of continuous work, including three plays in Australia, Anderson succeeded Lynn Fontaine as Nina Leeds in Strange Interludes. In 1932 she toured with the Eugene O'Neill trilogy Mourning Becomes Electra, which opened at New York’s Alvin Theatre.

The list of roles is long and impressive in its challenge and diversity. From O'Neill to her incomparable Lady Macbeth and Medea to the matriarch in NBC’s soap Santa Barbara, Anderson brought her unique presence and force to the stage. Her striking looks and demeanor were unforgettable images to stage and screen audiences. Probably her best-known part, that of Mrs. Danvers, the deranged housekeeper in Hitchcock’s 1940 classic Rebecca, forever typecast her in the minds of the viewing public ...

After 45 years on stage and in films, Anderson was given the title of Dame Commander of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II in 1950.

Dame Judith lived quietly in Santa Barbara for almost 50 years, making a significant and generous contribution to the local theater community during that time. In her long relationship with the Lobero Theatre Foundation, Anderson performed numerous times at the theater...

She died January 3, 1991, in her home on San Ysidro Road in Montecito.
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Container List

Untitled
Box 22-25 Television
Box 26-29 Theatre
Box 30 Unsorted
Box 31-35 Clippings
Miscellany
Box 36-38 General and Unsorted
Magazines
Box 39 Musical and Theatre
Box 40 Other
Box 41-42 Programs (not Anderson performances)
Photographs
Box 43 Early and Family
Box 44-45 Production
Box 46 Publicity, Public Appearances, Celebrity Shots (includes photos with Lotte Lehmann, Robinson Jeffers)
Box 47 Unsorted
Box 48 Tapes and Films
Oversize 49 Oversize (Scrapbooks and Photos)
Artifacts
Emmys (2)