Santa Cruz County Theatre collection

Collection number: MS 108

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Santa Cruz, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Santa Cruz County Theatre Collection
Dates: 1955-2003
Collection number: MS 108
Collector: Sheaffer, David L.
Collection Size: 19 boxes
Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections and Archives
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Abstract: Actor and writer David Sheaffer's collection of documents and memorabilia related to theater in Santa Cruz County, California, especially the Bear Republic Theater.

Physical location: Stored offsite at NRLF: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
Collection open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information
Gift of David Sheaffer, 1985, and Bertha Kennedy, 2002.

Biography
David Shaeffer was an actor and writer. He started in local theater as soon as he arrived in Santa Cruz, in 1954. He was a charter member of the Santa Cruz Community Players, the seminal theater group in Santa Cruz. As the Community Players splintered and other companies started up, Sheaffer moved from production to production, company to company. He worked building sets, designing programs, writing reviews and as an actor on stage and later in movies filmed in Santa Cruz.

Scope and Content of Collection
This collection contains actor and writer David Sheaffer's collection of documents and memorabilia related to theater in Santa Cruz County, California.

Series 1 contains albums documenting Sheaffer's acting career, as well as local reviews about his acting and reviews written by Sheaffer about performances for the local newspapers.
Series 2 contains material on the Bear Republic Theater [BRT], especially the performances, photographs and oversize material.

Series 3 contains performance materials, programs, photographs and posters from other theater companies mostly in Santa Cruz County.

**Indexing Terms**

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

Shaeffer, David L.--Archives

Bear Republic Theater

Cabrillo College

Theater--California--Santa Cruz County

**Series 1  David Shaeffer albums 1974-1979**

- **Physical Description:** 2 boxes
- **Scope and Content Note**
  This series contains Shaeffer's personal albums documenting his acting career, his roles and involvement in the local theaters in Santa Cruz. Included are his reviews of performances written for local newspapers.

  - box 1:2  "Bear Republic Theater", ca. 1975-1979
  - box 1:3  "Cabrillo Players", va. 1975-1979
  - box 2:1  "Cabrillo Summer Theatre", 1975-1978
  - box 2:2-5  **Writings,**
    - box 2:2  Drafts of reviews written by David Shaeffer, undated
    - box 2:3  *Good Times* - reviews by Shaeffer, ca. 1975-1976
    - box 2:4  *Santa Cruz independent* - reviews by Shaeffer, ca. 1977-1978
    - box 2:5  Local Newspaper reviews by Shaeffer, ca. 1976-1979


    - **Physical Description:** 13 boxes
    - **Scope and Content Note**
      The Bear Republic Theater was a company of professional directors, actors, educators and technicians, which since 1974, presented high quality performing arts programs to the residents of the Monterey Bay region. They achieved state, national and international acclaim with tours of their original creations, *Signals* and *Wanderings*. Their community programs, designed to research often-neglected populations, were commended by local and state officials.

  - box-folder 3:1-17, 19:1  **History 1973-1985**

    - **Physical Description:** 17 folders

      - box 3:1  History, 1976
      - box 3:3  Correspondence, 1973-1979
      - box 3:5  Newsletters, ca. 1973-1978
      - box 3:6  Video projects, & Permissions, 1975-1977
      - box 3:7  Staff meeting minutes, ca. 1981
      - box 3:8  Performance Logs, 1974-1983
      - box 3:9  Studio workshops, ca. July 1981
      - box 3:10  Publicity, ca. 1980-1985
      - box 3:11  Clippings, ca. 1973-1985
Performances 1974-1985

Physical Description: 4 boxes, 2 folders

Scope and Content Note

This series contains performances either given by or sponsored by the Bear Republic Theater. The dates represent the performance dates.

- "Iz She Izzy or Iz He Ain't'zy or Iz They Both" 9/20-22; 27-29/1974
- "Something from Nothing . . . And even more" May 1975
- "Christopher Columbus" & "West Coast" 8/29-31; 9/5-21/1975
- "Doradus": Spanish Classical/Flamenco Music & Dance" 8/6/1977
- "Signals" 1975-1978
- "Balloon Faces" Jan 1976
- "The Hostage" 8/1 - 8/22/1976
- "Fuente Ovejuna" 9/2-5, 9-12, 16-19, 23-26/1976
- "Wanderings" - notebook ca. 1976-1977
- "Wanderings" 5/26-27, 31 - 6/1/1977
- Tom Hunter, folksinger/songwriter 7/14/1978
- "Daddies" 7/21 - 8/6/1978
- "Trifles & Portraits: A Woman's Perspective" 8/11-20/1978
- "New Roots" 1/27/1979
- "An Evening with Brecht" 8/10 - 9/2/1979
- Flying Karamazov Brothers 9/16/1979
- "Wolves" 10/12-11/4/1979
- "Embrace Tiger - Return to Mountain" 6/12-29/1980
- "To See the Elephant" 7/10 - 8/3/1980
- "Misalliance" 8/14 - 9/7/1980
- "Pizza/Trespasso" 10/30/1980
- "Into the Mouth of the Dragon: Theatrical Edgework" 2/13-15/1981
- "Smokescreens" 3/5-8, 13-15/1981
- "Puertas Disimuladas (Trap Doors)" 4/27 - 5/1/1981
- "Wings" 6/18-21, 25-28 - 7/2-5, 9-12/1981
- "Moonlight Madness"" - Summer Season 6/26 - 9/19/1981
- "The Time of Your Life" 7/23-26 - 8/2, 6-9, 13-16/1981
- "Sizwe Bansi is Dead" 10/22 - 11/15/1981
- "Tracers" 8/21-23/1981
- "The Woods" 1/11-28/1982
- "Moonlight Madness" 2/19-27/1982
- "Arms and the Man" 3/4-28/1982
Series 2 Bear Republic Theater 1973-1985
Performances 1974-1985

box 6:4 Poncho Poorman 3/19-21, 26-28/1982
box 6:5 "Factwino Meets the Moral Majority" 4/7-8/1982
box 6:6 "Dos Lesbos" 4/9 - 5/2/1982
box 6:7 "Now that's Santa Cruz" 4/23-24, 30 - 5/2/1982
box 6:8 8th Summer Season 6/17 - 9/19/1982
box 6:10 "This One Thing I Do" 7/22 - 8/15/1982
box 6:11 "The Club" 8/26 - 9/19/1982
box 6:12 "The Elephant Man" 11/4-28/1982
box 6:13 La Peña 1983-1984
box 6:14 "Waiting for Godot" 1/27 - 2/20/1983
box 6:15 Playwriting Competition 2/7 - 12/31/1983
box 6:17 "P.S. Your Cat is Dead" 3/17 - 4/17/1983
box 6:18 Playreading Series 4/2/1983; 5/2/1983
box 6:19 "Americans, or Last Tango in Huahuatenago" 4/7/1983; 6/6/1983
box 7:2 9th Summer Season 6/16 - 9/20/1983
box 7:3 "Bernabe" 6/13/1983
box 7:4 "The Cradle Will Rock" 6/16 - 7/10/1983
box 7:5 "Goin for Broke" 7/14-17,21-23,28-31/1983
box 7:6 "Division Street" 7/22 - 8/14/1983
box 7:7 "Sister Mary Ignatius" 8/31 - 9/8/1983
box 7:8 "Death's Angel" 9/9 - 10/2/1983
box 7:9 "Theatricalities & Costumes Show" 10/2 - 11/30/1983
box 7:10 "A Haunted House" 10/22-30/1983
box 7:11 "The Fabulous Life & Death Adventures of Don Juan Tenorio" 11/16/1983
box 7:12 10th Anniversary Season 2/2 - 9/23/1984
box 7:13 "Female Transport" 2/2 - 3/4/1984
box 7:15 "Tales of Tevuba" 5/1 - 6/1/1984
box 7:16 "Cloud Nine" 7/26 - 8/19/1984
box 7:17 "A Haunted House" 10/24 - 10/31/1984
box 7:18 "Rodeo Drive" 3/25 - 4/14/1982
box 7:19 "EgoTrip" 8/12-15/1982

box 9-12 Photographs 1974-1985

Physical Description: 4 boxes
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains publicity photographs of most the performances of BRT.
Arrangement
The material is arranged by performance when possible.
box-folder 10:4  "Guns" 1976-1977
box-folder 10:5  "Wanderings" 5/26-27, 31 - 6/1/1977
box-folder 10:7  "Happy Haven" 8/12 - 9/4/1977
box-folder 10:8  "California Youth Authority" 1978
box-folder 10:9  "Dancing Bear Revue" 1978
box-folder 10:13  Photographs El Sol Y La Tierra 8/25/1978
box-folder 10:14  "Coming from a Great Distance" 6/22-30/1979; 1/18/1980
box-folder 10:15  "Santa Cruz Shuffle" 7/6-29/1979
box-folder 10:16  "An Evening with Brecht" 8/10 - 9/2/1979
box-folder 10:17  "The Exception and the Rule" 8/10 - 9/2/1979
box-folder 10:18  "Wolves" 10/12-11/4/1979
box-folder 11:1  "Sacrifices" 1979-1980
box-folder 11:3  "Embrace Tiger, Return to Mountain" 6/12-29/1980
box-folder 11:5  "The Time of Your Life" 7/31 - 8/1, 7-8, 14-15/1981
box-folder 12:2  "Arms and the Man" 3/4-28/1982
box-folder 12:3  "Dos Lesbos" 4/9 - 5/2/1982
box-folder 12:11  "EgoTrip" 8/12-15/1982
box-folder 12:12  "The Club" 8/26 - 9/19/1982
box-folder 12:14  "Waiting for Godot" 1/27 - 2/20/1983
box-folder 12:15  "P.S. Your Cat is Dead" 3/17 - 4/17/1983
box-folder 12:16  "Sister Mary Ignacious" 8/31 - 9/18/1983
box-folder 12:17  "The Cradle will Rock" 6/16 - 7/10/1983
box-folder 12:18  "Going for Broke" 7/14-17,21-23,28-31/1983
box-folder 12:19  "Division Street" 7/22 - 8/14/1983
Series 2 Bear Republic Theater 1973-1985
Photographs 1974-1985

box-folder 12:22  "Tom Paine" 6/21-7/15/1984

box 13:3-4  Programs 1980-1984
Physical Description: 2 folders
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains programs for some of the BRT performances.

box-folder 13:3  1980-1982

box 17-18  Scrapbooks 1974-1985
Physical Description: 2 boxes
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains scrapbooks about the Bear Republic Theater.

box-folder 17:1  1974-1978
box-folder 17:2  1979-1981
box-folder 18:1  1978-1979

box 19:2-4  Oversize 1974-1985
Physical Description: 4 folders
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains oversize scrapbook pages, posters, newspaper articles for some of the BRT performances.

box-folder 19:2  BRT Newspaper, 1976-1982
box-folder 19:3  Posters, ca. 1973-1985
Physical Description: 7 boxes
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains performance materials, programs and posters from other theater companies in Santa Cruz County.

box 7:18, 21; 8:1-13  Performances ca. 1955-1983
Physical Description: 15 folders
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains a collection of performance materials (flyers, photographs) from other theater companies in Santa Cruz County.

box-folder 7:18  Pacific Coast Productions, 1983
box-folder 7:21  Santa Cruz Shakespeare Festival, 1982
box-folder 8:1  Santa Cruz Community Players, 1955
box-folder 8:2  Santa Cruz Civic Light Opera Association, 1959-1962
box-folder 8:3-4  Pasatiempo Productions, 1969
box-folder 8:5-12  Santa Cruz Civic Theater, 1958-1961
box-folder 8:13  Misc & unidentified productions, ca. 1965-1985
Programs 1955-2003

Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains an incomplete collection of programs from other theater companies in Santa Cruz County.


box-folder 13:1-2, 5-9; 14-16

box-folder 13:5
Behind the Times Theater; Baby Jane Productions undated

box-folder 13:6
Broadway Playhouse undated

box-folder 13:7-9, 14:1
Cabrillo College Theater undated

box-folder 14:2
Central Coast Theater Works undated, 1994-1997

box-folder 14:3

box-folder 14:4
Duck Island Theater undated

box-folder 14:5
Friends of Gus undated

box-folder 14:6
Hit & Run Theatre Company undated

box-folder 14:7
Lyric Theater of Santa Cruz undated

box-folder 14:8
Monterey Bay Repertory Theatre undated

box-folder 14:9-11
Mountain Community Theater undated

box-folder 15:1
Netless Theatre undated

box-folder 15:2
None of the Above undated

box-folder 15:3
Pisces Moon Productions undated

box-folder 15:4
REPA; Rainbow Ensemble for the Performing Arts undated

box-folder 15:5
Santa Cruz Art League [includes Public Theatre of Santa Cruz; Twice Struck by Lightning; Art League] undated

box-folder 15:6
Santa Cruz Bay City Opera Inc. undated

box-folder 15:7
Santa Cruz County Actor’s Theatre undated

box-folder 15:8
Santa Cruz Civic Light Opera undated

box-folder 15:9
Santa Cruz Civic Theatre undated

box-folder 15:10
Santa Cruz Community Players undated

box-folder 15:11
Santa Cruz Repertory Theatre Company undated

box-folder 15:12
Staircase Theatre undated

box-folder 15:13
Storefront Theater undated

box-folder 15:14
Shakespeare Santa Cruz undated

box-folder 15:15
Soquel Creek Community Theater undated

box-folder 16:1
Tandy Beal and Company undated

box-folder 16:2
Theater 303 undated

box-folder 16:3
Temple Beth El Players; Temple Bel El Truminikehs undated

box-folder 16:4
Watsonville Theatre Company undated

box-folder 16:5
West Abby Productions undated

box-folder 16:6-7
Western Stage undated

box-folder 16:8
Misc. Theater Companies, A-R undated

box-folder 16:9
Misc. Theater Companies, S-Z undated

Oversize ca. 1974-1985

box 19:5-6

Physical Description: 2 folders
Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains oversize materials from other theater companies in Santa Cruz County.

box-folder 19:5
Cabrillo College - posters 1974-1985

box-folder 19:6
Miscellaneous Theater Companies - Posters ca. 1975-1985

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