Finding Aid of the Theater playbills 0104

Finding aid prepared by Rebecca Hirsch and Sarah Guidas
The processing of this collection and the creation of this finding aid was funded by the generous support of the National Historic Publications and Records Commission.

USC Libraries Special Collections
Doheny Memorial Library 206
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Los Angeles, California, 90089-0189
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2010
Title: Theater playbills

Collection number: 0104

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 14.67 Linear feet15 boxes

Date (bulk): Bulk, 1890-1980

Date (inclusive): 1866-1999

Language of Materials: Most of the materials in this collection are in English; however, there are also programs in Spanish, German and French.

Abstract: This collection primarily consists of twentieth century theater programs from New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and London. However, it also includes nineteenth century prompt books, souvenir programs, and theater programs from the Midwest (especially Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota).

Historical Note
The programs and playbills in the Theater playbills demonstrate the evolution of one-sheet playbills into modern, multi-page theater programs.

Scope and Content
The Theater playbills consists primarily of theater programs and other printed ephemera from twentieth century New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and London. Also included are late nineteenth and early twentieth century theater programs from the Midwestern United States, scrapbooks of playbills and annotated prompt books from the same time period, and souvenir programs. A few miscellaneous publications (mostly related to the theater) are also present in this collection. It appears as though the collection was created through the combination of a number of smaller collections with differing provenances, including ones put together by Constance McCormick, Milton Lewis, and William J. Williams.

Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE. Advance notice required for access.

Preferred Citation
[Box/folder# or item name], Theater playbills, Collection no. 0104, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Conditions Governing Use
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Related Archival Materials
Other special collections at USC that contain theater materials include Collection no. 0242, the Robert Richardson collection on Southern California Theater, and Collection no. 0116, the Federal Theatre Project scripts.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Los Angeles (Calif.)--Social life and customs--Archival resources
Playbills
Playbills--Collections
Printed ephemera
Programs
Prompt books
Scrapbooks
Souvenir programs
Theater--California--Los Angeles--Archival resources
Theater--England--London--Archival resources
Theater--Illinois--Chicago--Archival resources
Theater--New York (State)--New York--Archival resources
Theaters--California--Los Angeles--Archival resources
Theaters--England--London--Archival resources
Theaters--Illinois--Chicago--Archival resources
Theaters--New York (State)--New York--Archival resources

**Theater Programs and Ephemera**

**Arrangement**
The programs in this series are arranged by state and then alphabetically by the name of the theater. Miscellaneous files are found at the end of a subseries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>United States (Other than CA, WA, IL or NY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>London and Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Foreign (Other than Great Britain)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Periodical and Book Publications**

**Scope and Content**
Series contains a few miscellaneous issues of theater periodicals and an assortment of small books, most of which are on subjects related to the theater.

**Other Printed Ephemera and Clippings**

**Scope and Content**
Series contains magazine and newspaper clippings and printed ephemera not directly related to a specific theater.

**Souvenir Programs**

**Scope and Content**
Series contains oversized souvenir programs for twentieth century musicals, plays, and ballets.

**William J. Williams**

**Scope and Content**
Series contains scrapbooks, photographs, and programs collected by William J. Williams, a musical theater and play actor, over the course of his career.
Box 11  
**Scrapbooks**

**Scope and Content**
Series contains seven scrapbooks of programs, playbills, and clippings from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

**Prompt Books**

**Scope and Content**
The prompt books in this series were published in the second half of the nineteenth century.

**Arrangement Note**
These prompt books are arranged in alphabetical order by the title of the play.

- **Box 14, Volume 1**  
  Stirling, E. *Aline or the Rose of Killarney* (Clyde: A.D Ames).

- **Box 14, Volume 2**  

- **Box 14, Volume 3**  
  Archer, Thomas. *Asmodeus or The Little Devil's Share* (Chicago: McNally & Co.).

- **Box 14, Volume 4**  

- **Box 14, Volume 5**  

- **Box 14, Volume 6**  

- **Box 14, Volume 7**  

- **Box 14, Volume 8**  
  Almar, George. *Charcoal Burner or Dropping Well of Knaresborough* (Chicago: McNally & Co.).

- **Box 14, Volume 9**  

- **Box 14, Volume 10**  

- **Box 14, Volume 11**  

- **Box 14, Volume 12**  

- **Box 14, Volume 13**  

- **Box 14, Volume 14**  
  Banim, John. *Damon And Pytheas* (New York: Samuel French & Son). (3 copies)

- **Box 14, Volume 15**  

- **Box 14, Volume 16**  

- **Box 14, Volume 17**  

- **Box 14, Volume 18**  

- **Box 14, Volume 19**  

- **Box 14, Volume 20**  

- **Box 14, Volume 21**  

- **Box 14, Volume 22**  
  Baker, Geo. M. *Enlisted for the War or The Home-Guard* (Boston: Geo. M. Baker & Co.).

- **Box 14, Volume 23**  

- **Box 14, Volume 24**  

- **Box 14, Volume 25**  

Webster, Benjamin. *Giraldia or The Miller’s Wife* (New York: Burton & Co.).


Lovell, Maria. *Ingomar, the Barbarian* (Chicago: M.J. McGrath & Co.’s Western Dramatic Agency).

Lovell, Maria. *Ingomar, the Barbarian* (New York: William Taylor & Co.).

Lovell, Maria. *Ingomar, the Barbarian* (New York: Samuel French).


Higbie, Thomas. *Laid up in Port! or Sharks Along Shore!* (New York: Burton & Co.).


Bouricacault, Dion L. *London Assurance* (New York: Samuel French & Son)


Weston, J.M. *Lucretia Borgia* (New York: Samuel French & Son). (2 Copies)


Taylor, Tom and Reade, Charles. *Masks and Faces or Before and Behind the Curtain* (New York: Samuel French).

Craven, H.T. *Meg’s Diversion* (New York: Samuel French & Son). (2 copies)
Box 14, Volume 56


Raymond, R.J. *Mr. & Mrs. Peter White* (New York: Samuel French & Son).


Dalrymple, J.S. *The Naiad Queen or The Revolt of the Naiads* (New York: Burnton & Co.).

Pettitt, Henry and Conquest, Geo. *Neck or Nothing* (New York: Burnton & Co.).


Jones, J.S. *The People's Lawyer* (New York: Samuel French & Son). (2 Copies)

Kemble, Charles. *Personatino or Fairly Taken In* (New York: Samuel French & Son).


Pocock, I. *Rob Roy or Auld Lang Syne* (New York: Burnton & Co.).


Johnstone, J.B. *The Sailor France or The Republicans of Brest* (Chicago: McNally & Co.).


Robertson, T.W. *The Sea of Ice or A Thirst for Gold and the Wild Flower of Mexico* (New York: Burton & Co.).


Rice, Charles. *The Three Guardsmen or The Queen, the Cardinal, and the Adventurer* (New York: Burnton & Co.).


Williams, Thomas J. *Turn Him Out* (New York: De Witt).

Williams, Thomas J. *Turn Him Out* (Chicago: T.S. Denison).


Aiken, George L. *Uncle Tom's Cabin or Life Among the Lowly* (New York: Samuel French & Son). (2 Copies)

Whalen, E.C. *Under the Spell* (Chicago: T.S. Denison). (4 copies)


Buckstone, John Baldwin. *Victorine or "I'll Sleep On It"* (New York: Burnto's).

Williams, T.J. *Who is Who? or All in a Fog!* (Clyde: A.D. Ames).

