

Guide to the Souvenir Performance Program Collection

YCAL MSS 260



by Susan Brady

July 2007

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 260

TITLE: Souvenir performance program collection

DATES: 1840-1950

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4.63 linear feet (9 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of souvenir performance programs, the majority of which document anniversary or other special performances of individual actors, theatrical productions, theatres, and theatrical production companies in the United States and Great Britain.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.souvprograms>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.souvprograms>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the Yale Drama Library in 2007.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Souvenir Performance Program Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of souvenir performance programs, the majority of which document anniversary or other special performances of individual actors, theatrical productions, theatres, and theatrical production companies in the United States and Great Britain. There are several souvenir programs documenting dance performances and films. Some of the programs are accompanied by additional related brochures, serial issues, broadsides, etc. The program formats include single sheet programs on paper, die-cut paper board, and silk. Multi-page publications include photographs, narrative biographies and histories of individuals, theatres, and plays, and reproductions of sets and costume designs. In addition to the souvenir programs, there are a small number of programs documenting recitals and dramatic readings; school performances; religious dramas; church services and concerts; and miscellaneous meetings, ceremonies, and exhibitions. The majority of the material dates from the late-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century.

Arrangement

Material is organized into eight series: Actors; Plays; Theatres; Theatre Companies; Dance Performances; Films; Recitals and Amateur Performances; and Ceremonies, Meetings, and Exhibitions.

Collection Contents

Series I: Actors, 1880-1925

1.83 linear feet (2 boxes)

This series consists of programs documenting anniversary, testimonial, benefit, and memorial performances and celebrations of individual actors. City, venue, and date of performance are provided when available, but since souvenir programs were often published for actors on tour to several cities they do not always identify city and venue.

Material is arranged alphabetically.

Adams, Maude		
b. 1, f. 1	in <i>The Little Minister</i> (2 programs)	1898, 1899
b. 1, f. 2	in <i>Quality Street</i>	1901
Allen, Viola		
b. 1, f. 3	in <i>The Eternal City</i>	1902
b. 1, f. 4	in <i>In the Palace of the King</i>	1902
b. 1, f. 5	in <i>Twelfth Night</i>	1903-1904
b. 1, f. 6	Bellew, Kyrle; in <i>A Gentleman of France</i> , with portfolio of performance photograph reproductions	1902
Bernhardt, Sarah		
b. 1, f. 7	Catalog of paintings and sculpture by and of Bernhardt	1880
b. 1, f. 8	Bernhardt's London Coliseum season, London	1911
b. 1, f. 9	Bernhardt's London Coliseum season, London	1912
b. 1, f. 10	Billington, Mrs. John; "Programme of the special performance given by her brother and sister artists on the occasion of her farewell to the stage," Lyceum Theatre, London	1899 November 28
b. 1, f. 11	Bingham, Amelia; stock company, Bijou Theatre, New York	1901
b. 1, f. 12	Dauvray, Helen; 50th performance of Dauvray in <i>One of Our Girls</i> , Lyceum Theatre, New York	1885 December 26
b. 1, f. 13	Drew, John; in the one-hundredth performance of <i>The Masked Ball</i> , Standard Theatre, New York	1992 December 28
b. 1, f. 14	Duse, Elenora; American tour	1902-1903
b. 1, f. 15	Eldridge, Louisa (Aunt Louisa); testimonial, Academy of Music, New York	1893 April
b. 1, f. 16	Forbes-Robertson, J.; "A Motto for Every Day of the Month" from <i>The Passing of the Third Floor Back</i> (2 copies)	1910
b. 1, f. 17	Fiske, Mrs.; in <i>Mary of Magdala</i>	1903

b. 1, f. 18	Gillette, William; in <i>Sherlock Holmes</i> , Garrick Theatre, New York	1900
	Hackett, James K.	
b. 1, f. 19	in <i>The Crisis</i>	1901
b. 1, f. 20	in <i>Don Caesar</i>	1901
b. 1, f. 21	Hampden, Walter, "Proem"	undated
b. 1, f. 22	Harned, Virginia; in <i>Alice of Old Vincennes</i>	1902
b. 1, f. 23	Holland, Joseph Jefferson; Testimonial, Metropolitan Opera House, New York	1905 March 24
	Irving, Henry	
b. 2, f. 24	in <i>Becket</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London (two copies)	1893 February 6
b. 2, f. 25	in <i>Dead Heart</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London	1889 September 28
b. 2, f. 26	in <i>Eugene Aram</i> ; publication entitled: <i>The Henry Irving Dream of Eugene Aram</i> by F. Drummond Niblett (1887)	1887
b. 2, f. 27	in <i>Faust</i> ; publication entitled: <i>The Lyceum "Faust"</i> by Joseph Hatton	[1887?]
b. 2, f. 28	in <i>King Arthur</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London	1895 January 12
b. 2, f. 29	in <i>King Lear</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London	1892 November 10
b. 2, f. 30	in <i>Macbeth</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London	1888 December 29
b. 2, f. 31	in <i>Madame Sans-Gêne</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London (two copies)	1897 April 10
b. 2, f. 32	in <i>Ravenswood</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London	1890 September 20
b. 2, f. 33	Mackay, John A.; "Remembrance Programme. Testimonial by the co-workers and friends of the late John A. MacKay," New Park Theatre, New York	1891 April 17
b. 2, f. 34	Proctor, Joseph; "Fiftieth Year of Joseph Proctor's Appearance Upon the Dramatic Stage," and performance in <i>Nick of the Woods</i> , Howard Athenaeum, [Boston]	1883
b. 2, f. 35	Rich, Charles J.; Benefit performance of Oliver Byron in <i>The Inside Track</i> , Howard Athenaeum, Boston	1885 May 11
b. 2, f. 36	Russell, Annie; in <i>A Royal Family</i> , Lyceum Theatre, New York (2 copies)	1900
	Sothorn, E. H.	
b. 2, f. 37	in <i>Accused</i>	1925
b. 2, f. 38	in <i>If I Were King</i>	1901
b. 2, f. 39	in <i>Our American Cousin</i> , Belasco Theatre, Washington D.C., accompanied by pamphlet containing production history of the play	1907

b. 2, f. 40	Thompson, Lydia; "Programme of the special performance given by her brother and sister artists...on the occasion of her farewell to the stage," Lyceum Theatre, London	1899 May 2
b. 2, f. 41	Toler, Sidney; 100th performance with the Academy Players, Academy of Music, Halifax	1913 January 15
b. 2, f. 42	Tree, Herbert Beerbohm; "Souvenir of the visit of H. Beerbohm Tree and His Majesty's Theatre company to Berlin," New Royal Opera Theatre	1907 April
b. 2, f. 43	Vincent, Mrs. J. R.; "Testimonial to Mrs. J. R. Vincent in observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of her adoption of the stage," Boston Museum, Boston	1885 April 25
b. 2, f. 44	Warren, William; "Testimonial to Mr. William Warren in observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of his adoption of the stage," Boston Museum, Boston	1882 October 28
b. 2, f. 45	Weber and Fields; "A Pictorial Souvenir"	1901

Series II: Plays, 1883-1950*0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)*

This series consists of programs for specific productions, the majority of which document anniversary performances of a production. The city, venue, and date of performance are provided when available.

Arranged alphabetically by name of production.

	<i>Adonis</i> , 600th performance, Bijou Opera House, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 131	1886 April 15
b. 3, f. 46	<i>Anne of a Thousand Days</i> , produced by the Playwright's Company	1948-1949
	<i>Ben-Hur</i> , a Klaw and Erlanger production, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 132	1900
b. 3, f. 47	<i>A Chinese Honeymoon</i> , 500th performance, Strand Theatre, London	1902 December 29
b. 3, f. 48	<i>The Common Glory</i> , annual performance at Matoaka Lake Amphitheatre, Williamsburg, Virginia	1948, 1949, 1950
b. 3, f. 49	<i>The Corsair</i> , 100th consecutive performance, Bijou Opera House, New York	1888 January 9
b. 3, f. 50	<i>The County Chairman</i> , 237th performance, memento of the closing night of the season of 1903-1904, Wallack's, New York	1904 June 4
b. 3, f. 51	<i>David Garrick</i> , Criterion Theatre, London	undated
	<i>Erminie</i> , 450th representation, Casino, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 133	1887 July 21
	<i>Evangeline</i> , 200th consecutive performance, 14th St. Theatre, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 134	1886 March 26
	<i>Evangeline</i> , 250th consecutive performance, 14th St. Theatre, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 135	1886 April 30
b. 3, f. 52	<i>Evangeline</i> , 1000th performance and complimentary testimonial to Edward E. Rice, Boston Theatre, Boston	1880 June 30
	<i>The Freiburg Passion Play</i> , New York Hippodrome, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 136	1929
b. 3, f. 53	<i>Fresh, the American</i> , with Mr. John T. Raymond	undated
b. 3, f. 54	<i>The Girl I Left Behind Me</i> , 100th performance, Empire Theatre, New York	undated
b. 3, f. 55	<i>Hamlet</i> , performed by the "leading Players of America in honor of Lester Wallack," Metropolitan Opera House, New York	1888 May 21
b. 3, f. 56	Hamlet, with "Maurice Evans in his new production"	1945-1946
b. 3, f. 57	<i>Hamlet</i> , Robert Breen's production performed at the Hamlet Festival at Elsinore, Kronborg Castle, Elsinore, Denmark	1949 June 17-27
b. 3, f. 58	<i>Iolanthe</i> , 100th performance, Bijou Theatre, Boston	1883 March 3
b. 3, f. 59	<i>Iolanthe</i> , 150th performance, Bijou Theatre, Boston	1883 April 18

b. 3, f. 60	<i>Kismet</i> ; magazine issues dedicated to the 1911 production of the play at the Garrick Theatre: <i>The Play Pictorial</i> , Vol. XVIII, no. 106 [1911]; <i>The Playgoer and Society Illustrated</i> , Vol. IV. no. 20 [1911], and <i>L'illustration Théâtrale</i> , No. 232 (1913 Feb 1)	1911-1913
b. 3, f. 61	<i>A Legal Wreck</i> , 50th performance, Madison Square Theatre, New York	1888 October 1
b. 3, f. 62	<i>The Little Minister</i> , Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London	1897 November 6
b. 3, f. 63	<i>Matinée...in aid of the fund for the sufferers from the disaster to the White Star Liner Titanic</i> , London Hippodrome, London	1912 April 30
b. 3, f. 64	<i>The Mission Play</i> , Mission Playhouse at the old San Gabriel Mission, California	1923
b. 3, f. 65	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> , St. James Theatre, London	1898
b. 3, f. 66	<i>The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith</i> , 50th performance, Royalty Theatre, London	1901 April 15
	<i>The Only Way</i> , Lyceum Theatre, London Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 137	1899
	<i>Peter Ibbetson</i> , "a Matinee in aid of the Allied Forces' Base Hospital," His Majesty's Theatre, London Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 138	1915 July 23
	<i>Pickwick</i> , Empire Theatre, New York Stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 139	1927
b. 4, f. 67	<i>Pounce & Co.</i> , 50th consecutive performance, Bijou Theatre, Boston	1883 June 1
b. 4, f. 68	<i>La Poupée</i> , Christmas souvenir, Prince of Wales' Theatre, London	1897
b. 4, f. 69	<i>The Professor</i> , 350th presentation, Madison Square Theatre Company, Haverly's 14th Street Theatre, New York	1882 May 17
b. 4, f. 70	<i>The Rivals</i> , testimonial for C. W. Couldock, Fifth Avenue theatre, New York	1895 May 31
b. 4, f. 71	<i>The Rivals</i> , Jefferson-Florence Comedy Company, Arch Street Theatre, Philadelphia	1889 December 2
b. 4, f. 72	<i>Rose Michel</i> , 100th performance, Union Square Theatre, New York	1876 February 28
b. 4, f. 73	<i>Sign of the Cross</i> , Lyric Theatre, London	1896 January 4
b. 4, f. 74	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , [Broadway production], New York	[circa 1948]
b. 4, f. 75	<i>The Whip</i> , The Drury Lane Company of America, Manhattan Opera House, New York	1912
b. 4, f. 76	<i>Yoshe Kalb</i> , Yiddish Art Theatre, New York	[circa 1933]

Series III: Theatres, 1883-1929*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

This series contains programs and other materials relating to openings, closings, anniversaries and other events of specific theatres.

Arranged alphabetically by theatre name.

b. 5, f. 77	Boston Museum, "Final Week May 25th to 30th prior to its demolition sixty second and last season 1902-1903," Boston	1903 May 25-30
b. 5, f. 78	Drottningholm Theatre, Sweden	1927
b. 5, f. 79	Earl Carroll Theatre, <i>Fioretta</i> , Boston	1929
b. 5, f. 80	Eden Musée, monthly catalogue, New York	1900 May
b. 5, f. 81	McKee Rankin's Theatre, souvenir of the opening, Joseph Jefferson performing in <i>Rip Van Winkle</i> , New York	1883 September 3
	Park Theatre, Boston	
b. 5, f. 82	Fourth anniversary and final performances of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence in <i>An Old Stager; or, that Angel Mac</i>	1883 April 14
b. 5, f. 83	Sixth anniversary; Union Square Theatre Company in <i>A Prisoner for Life</i>	1885 April 4
b. 5, f. 84	Park Theatre, Thirteenth anniversary; Richard Mansfield in <i>A Paris Romance</i> , Brooklyn, New York	1888 February 1
b. 5, f. 85	Stratford Shakespearean Festival, Stratford, Ontario, Canada; souvenir photograph booklet	undated
b. 5, f. 86	Wallack's, closing performance, New York	1915 May 1
b. 5, f. 87	Ziegfeld Theatre, New York	[1927?]

Series IV: Theatre Companies, 1898-1935*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

This series consists of programs and other materials relating to the productions of specific theatre companies.

Arranged alphabetically by name of theatre company.

b. 6, f. 88	American Shakespeare Foundation; Shakespeare Celebration for the benefit of the American Shakespeare Memorial Fund, Metropolitan Opera House, New York	1928 January 29
b. 6, f. 89-90	Balieff's Chauve-Souris American tour	1928, undated
b. 6, f. 91	The Civic Repertory Theatre (two different publications), New York	1933, undated
b. 6, f. 92	Greenwich Village Theatre, invitation to performance of first bill, New York	1917 Nov 14
b. 6, f. 93	The Group Theatre, production of <i>Men in White</i> , New York	[1933]
b. 6, f. 94	Jushny's Theater, production of revue <i>The Blue Bird</i> , Cort Theatre, New York	1932
b. 6, f. 95	The Lambs, The Lambs' Star Gambol Programme, New York, Boston, Springfield, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburgh, Chicago	1898 May
b. 6, f. 96	Louis Jouvet Compagnie Dramatique Française, American tour sponsored by The American National Theatre and Academy	[circa 1951]
b. 6, f. 97	Mei Lan-Fang and company, Chinese Drama, first American tour	[193?]
b. 6, f. 98	The Moscow Art Theatre, first American tour; program accompanied by George Pierce Baker's personal copy of <i>The Moscow Art Theatre and Its Distinguishing Characteristics</i> , by A. L. Fovitzky (New York: A. Chernoff Publishing Co., 1922)	1922-23
	The Players, New York	
b. 6, f. 99	<i>The Rivals</i> , First Annual Classic Revival, Empire Theatre (two copies)	1922 June
b. 6, f. 100	<i>The School for Scandal</i> , Second Annual Classic Revival, Lyceum Theatre	1923 June
b. 6, f. 101	<i>She Stoops to Conquer</i> , Third Annual Classic Revival, Empire Theatre (two copies)	1924 June
b. 6, f. 102	<i>Trelawny of the "Wells"</i> , Fourth Annual Revival, Knickerbocker Theatre (two copies)	1925 June 1
b. 6, f. 103	<i>King Henry IV</i> , Fifth Annual Revival, Knickerbocker Theatre (two copies)	1926 May 31
b. 6, f. 104	<i>Julius Caesar</i> , Sixth Annual Classic Revival, New Amsterdam Theatre	1927 June 6
b. 6, f. 105	<i>The Beaux Stratagem</i> , Seventh Annual Classic Revival, Walter Hampden Theatre (two copies)	1928 June 4-9
b. 6, f. 106	<i>Becky Sharp</i> , Eighth Annual Revival, Knickerbocker Theatre	1929
b. 6, f. 107	<i>Milestones</i> and <i>The Little Father of the Wilderness</i> , Ninth Annual Revival, Empire Theatre	1930 June 2
b. 6, f. 108	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> , Twelfth Annual Revival, Alvin Theatre	1933 May 29

The Players, New York (continued)

b. 6, f. 109	<i>Seven Keys to Baldpate</i> , Thirteenth Annual Revival, National Theatre; Accompanied by offprint from <i>The Players Bulletin</i> (Winter, 1957), "The Founder's Night Address at the Players" by George Middletown	1935 May 27, 1957 January 6
b. 6, f. 110	Shakespeare Association of America production of <i>Ethel</i> and <i>Macbeth</i>	1935
b. 6, f. 111	Theatre Guild, production of <i>Back to Methuselah</i>	1922
b. 6, f. 112	Theatre Guild of Southern California, production of <i>Tonight at 8:30</i>	1940

Series V: Dance Performances, 1920-49*4 Folders*

This series consists of programs for dance performances.

Arranged alphabetically by name of dance company or performer.

b. 7, f. 113	<i>The Dionysian Magazine</i> , Vol. no. 1 [1924] containing souvenir program for the forthcoming season	1924
b. 7, f. 114	Jobs Ballet, Sixth American Tour in 1941/42	1941
b. 7, f. 115	Pavlova; three souvenir programs from two American tours, and various playbills from performances in New York and New Haven, Connecticut	[circa 1920]
b. 7, f. 116	Sadder's Wells Ballet, first American appearance	1949

Series VI: Films, 1926, 1948

3 Folders

This series consists of programs for motion-picture films.

Arranged alphabetically by film title.

b. 7, f. 117	<i>Ben-Hur</i>	1926
b. 7, f. 118	<i>The Red Shoes</i>	[1948]
b. 7, f. 119	<i>Tell It to the Marines</i> ; accompanied by a hand bill for the film from the Embassy Theatre, New York	1926

Series VII: Recitals and Amateur Performances, 1849-1932**4 Folders**

This series consists of materials relating to theatrical and musical performances in church, school and amateur venues.

Arranged alphabetically by type of performance.

b. 8, f. 120	Church services and concerts, various New York and New England venues	1849-1931
b. 8, f. 121	Dramatic readings and recitals, various New York, New England, and European venues	1865-1932
	Religious drama, various New York, Boston, Chicago, etc. venues Stored in: Oversize: Box 9, folder 140	1925-1930, undated
b. 8, f. 122	School and amateur performances held in various U.S. (predominantly Massachusetts) venues	1896-1932

Series VIII: Ceremonies, Meetings and Exhibitions, 1852-1932

7 Folders

This series consists of programs, announcements, catalogues, brochures, and ephemera documenting a variety of events.

Arranged alphabetically by organization name or subject of event.

b. 8, f. 123	Actor's Fund Fair, Madison Square Garden, New York Also stored in: Oversize, Box 9, folder 141	1892
b. 8, f. 124	Centennial Souvenir of the Inauguration of George Washington, New York	1889
b. 8, f. 125	Memorial Tribute to Moss Hart, Music Box Theatre, New York	1962 January 9
b. 8, f. 126	Miscellaneous meetings and ceremonies held in various New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut venues	1875-1928
b. 8, f. 127	Royal Institution Soiree, Liverpool	1852 April 22
b. 8, f. 128	Stage design exhibition catalogs, brochures, and publicity materials, including those for exhibitions of the "new stagecraft"	1914-26, undated
b. 8, f. 129	Theatre association and magazine brochures, flyers, etc., including Theatre Arts Magazine, Drama League of America, Equity Players, New York Drama League, and the Independent Theatre Association of America	1923, 1925, undated
b. 8, f. 130	Twelfth Night Club, Inc., "Golden Jubilee Revel," New York	1940
b. 8, f. 131	U.S. speech association programs and brochures	1925-1932

Oversize*0.92 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 9, f. 132	<i>Adonis</i> (Series II)	1886
b. 9, f. 133	<i>Ben-Hur</i> (Series II)	1900
b. 9, f. 134	<i>Erminie</i> (Series II)	1887 July 21
b. 9, f. 135	<i>Evangeline</i> (Series II)	1886 March 26
b. 9, f. 136	<i>Evangeline</i> (Series II)	1886 April 30
b. 9, f. 137	<i>The Freiburg Passion Play</i> (Series II)	1929
b. 9, f. 138	<i>The Only Way</i> (Series II)	1899
b. 9, f. 139	<i>Peter Ibbetson</i> (Series II)	1915
b. 9, f. 140	<i>Pickwick</i> (Series II)	1927
b. 9, f. 141	Religious Drama (Series VII)	1925-1930, undated
b. 9, f. 142	Actor's Fund Fair (Series VIII)	1892

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Actors -- Great Britain
Actors -- United States
Concert programs
Theater -- Great Britain
Theater programs
Theater -- United States

Genres / Formats

Souvenir programs