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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FINDING AID

Title: MS 447 Washington, D.C., Theater Collection, 1816-2010

Processor: John P. King; David G. Wood

Processed Date: May 1999; revised August 2005, September 2009, August 2010, March 2013 [Finding aid last updated 2015]

This collection documents the history of live theater and related performing arts, such as opera, ballet, and dance, in Washington, D.C., from the early 19th century to the early 21st century. It consists primarily of theater programs, ranging from single-page “handbills”—individual strips of paper listing the name of the play (or vaudeville or minstrel show, or light or grand opera), cast, and sequence of scenes—to multi-page booklets containing the information found in the handbills as well as advertisements, biographical information on the performers, and notices of coming attractions. The collection also contains newspaper advertisements, reviews, ticket stubs, photographs, and other memorabilia pertaining to specific shows, theaters, or production companies.

Theater and theater company histories:

Note: Researchers are also directed to the library’s vertical files, which contain material on a number of specific theaters/theater companies. Also, a comprehensive source of information on specific buildings that, in addition to presenting live theater, also exhibited motion pictures can be found in Headley, Robert K., Motion Picture Exhibition in Washington, D.C.; An Illustrated History of Parlors, Palaces, and Multiplexes in the Metropolitan Area, 1894-1997 (PN 1993.5.U79 H43).

Albaugh’s Grand Opera House was built on the northeast corner of 15th and C Streets, NW (1424 Pennsylvania Avenue). The theater was built by the Washington Light Infantry and included its armory in the building. It opened as Albaugh’s in 1884 and closed sixteen years later. It reopened as **Chase’s Grand Opera House** in 1900 and closed in 1912. A year later it opened as **Poli’s Theatre**. It remained an active theater until it was torn down in 1931.

Ganymede Arts began as the **Actors Theater of Washington**. The mission of GanymedeArts is to provide professional, high-quality theatre and art (dance and musical performances, poetry readings and

art shows) that fosters social and cultural awareness of and for the lesbian, gay, and transgendered community.

Arena Stage began in 1950 as a resident professional theater company, presenting plays in the former **Hippodrome Theater** (built in 1909 for motion picture exhibition) at 808 K Street NW. In 1956 the company moved to a new space in the old Heurich Brewery at 26th and D Streets NW, which came to be called the “old vat.” On October 30, 1961, Arena Stage opened its new building on Maine Avenue SW, where it has remained, with a production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*.

The **Avenue Theatre** at 1106 D Street, NW, opened in 1878, but was renamed the **Arlington** in 1880. It closed in 1891, but not before it was renamed **Capital Varieties** (1882), **Dime Museum** (1884), **Wonderland** (1888), and finally the **Globe** (1889).

The **Carter-Barron Amphitheater** in Rock Creek Park was planned as a 150th-anniversary memorial of Washington’s designation as the nation’s capital. Plans called for outfitting the amphitheatre with state-of-the-art technology including a communication system which allowed the stage manager to speak to any actor or stagehand from his desk and the best lighting and sound equipment available at the time. Built at a cost of over \$500,000, the amphitheater opened on August 5, 1950, with *Faith of Our Fathers*, a play commissioned in tribute to George Washington. The facility has remained a venue for concerts and theatrical productions.

The **Casino Theatre** at 628-638 F. Street, NW, was one of two theaters with the same name. This Casino Theatre opened in 1911, and closed in 1917. It was reborn in 1918 as the **Shubert-Garrick Theatre**, but again closed in 1924. Harry Crandall opened another **Casino Theatre** in 1910, but this theater only offered 159 seats. Located at 401 East Capital Street, SE, Crandall’s Casino Theatre closed in 1914.

P. B. Chase was about to name his soon-to-open theater **Chases’s Polite Vaudeville Theatre** in 1912. He changed his mind when his daughter married Benjamin Franklin Keith (1846-1914). B. F. Keith and his partner Edward F. Albee developed the vaudeville circuit in the 1880s and established a successful chain of theaters. Chase opened his new theater, located at 619-621 15th Street, NW, under the name **B. F. Keith’s** in 1913. The theater survived until 1978.

George Christy’s Opera House at 511 10th Street, NW, was originally built as the 10th Street Baptist Church. The theater opened in 1861 but closed the following year. It was remodeled by John T. Ford in 1862 and reopened as **Ford’s Atheneum**, although a fire destroyed the theater later in the same year. The rebuilt **Ford’s Theatre** opened in 1863. After John Wilkes Booth’s assassination of Abraham Lincoln in April 1865, public outcry forced Ford to close the theater as a theatrical venue. The building was purchased by the federal government and converted into an office building. Tragedy again struck Ford’s in 1893 when the building partially collapsed, killing 22 people. After many years of serving as a Lincoln Museum, the building was restored in the 1960s to its 1865 appearance as a Victorian-styled theater, including Mr. Lincoln’s flag-draped box. Operated by the National Park Service, **Ford’s Theatre** remains today both a national historic site and an active theater.

The **District of Columbia Arts Center (DCAC)**, a nonprofit organization located in the Adams Morgan neighborhood, was started in 1989 as an alternative center to serve local artists. DCAC supports emerging artists who are trying to get a foothold in the public arena. Renovations completed in 1993 created a theater for staged productions.

The **Earle**, an ornate “palace” at 501 13th Street NW, opened in December 1927 as a vaudeville and motion picture theater seating 2,240. It was acquired by Warner Bros. in 1928 and renamed the **Warner Theatre** in 1947. In 1953 the theater was remodeled and the seating reduced to 1,290. In 1977, the stage was extended to accommodate legitimate stage shows and concerts. A 1992 renovation restored box seats that had been removed in 1953, and refurbished much of the theater’s historic interior. It remains a venue for touring shows and concerts.

The **Eisenhower Theater**, located within the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, opened in 1971. The theater seats about 1,163 and is named for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who signed into law the National Cultural Center Act (authorizing what was subsequently named the Kennedy Center) on September 2, 1958. It hosts primarily plays and musicals, smaller-scale operas, ballet and contemporary dance. The theater contains an orchestra pit for up to 35 musicians that is convertible to a forestage or additional seating space.

The **Folger Library’s Elizabethan Theatre** on East Capitol Street was originally used mainly for lectures and tours. Beginning in 1970, it was transformed into a functioning playhouse, and the newly formed Folger Theatre Group began mounting productions there. That group dissolved in early 1985 and later that year reincorporated as The Shakespeare Theatre at the Folger, an independent entity that remained at the Folger six more years before moving to larger quarters downtown (see **Shakespeare Theatre** below). The Elizabethan Theatre continued to offer a mix of concerts, plays, and lectures, leading in the mid-1990s to the formation of a producing company called the Folger Theatre. While Shakespeare is central to its mission, the Folger Theatre has produced a variety of other classical works, as well as new plays related to or inspired by Shakespeare.

The **Fox** at 1328 F Street, NW, opened in 1927 as a concert hall and movie house within the National Press Building. It was the **Capitol Theatre** (also known as **Lowe’s Capitol Theatre**) between 1937 and 1961. The following year it closed; the ornate theater was demolished, and the space was converted to offices.

The **Gayety** at 513 9th Street N.W. was built in 1907 as a burlesque theater, and operated primarily as such until January 1950. It then began an eight-year run as a legitimate theater, opening with *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* on March 6, 1950. In 1952, the name was changed to the **Sam S. Shubert Theatre** (the name “Gayety” was transferred to the former “Central” a block south on 9th Street.) After a fire on January 28, 1959, the theater closed and was torn down within two years.

The **Kennedy Center Opera House**, part of the John. F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, opened in 1971. The theater seats about 2,300, and its interior features a distinctive red and gold silk

curtain—a gift from Japan—and Lobmeyr crystal chandeliers given by Austria. It is the major opera, ballet, and large-scale musical venue of the Center.

Lafayette Square Opera House opened on the site of the former Rogers/Seward/Blaine house at 17 Madison Place, NW, in 1895, and closed eleven years later. It was known as the **Belasco Theatre** from 1905 until 1919, when it was renamed the **Shubert-Belasco**. It was converted to a movie theater in 1935. In 1937, the **Belasco** reopened as a legitimate theater once again and continued to present plays until 1940. The federal government bought the theater when it became the **USO Stage Door Canteen** during World War II. The building was torn down in 1962 to make way for the U.S. Court of Claims building.

Lincoln Hall opened in 1869 on the northeast corner of 9th and D Streets, NW, and closed sixteen years later. (The building also housed the YMCA and the Grand Army of Republic organizations) Renamed **Herzog's 9th Street Opera House**, the theater reopened in 1884, but was destroyed by fire in 1886. Rebuilt again in 1906, it was renamed the **Academy of Music** and then the **New Academy of Music** in 1908. It operated under this name until it closed in 1914. It reopened as the **Orpheum** for a year and then named the **Strand**. The building was razed in 1952.

Metzerott's Music Hall on 1112 F Street, NW, opened in 1891. The hall closed in 1896, but was subsequently was rebuilt and renamed as Metzerott's Columbia Theatre. It closed as the Columbia Theatre in 1959.

The National Theatre first opened at 1317-1325 E Street, NW, in 1835, and burned down ten years later. The theater was rebuilt as the **National Hall** for Jenny Lind's 1850 concert, but the structure partially collapsed during a circus performance in 1851 and had to be torn down. Although rebuilt the same year, the National was again destroyed by fire in 1857. It was replaced in 1861 by **King's Amphitheatre**, a crude structure used for circus performances, which was razed the following year. A rebuilt **Grover's National Theatre** opened at the same location and remained in operation until 1873, when fire consumed yet another theater. Immediately rebuilt and called the **National Theatre**, this too burned in 1885. Fire likewise felled the **New National Theater**, which had been rebuilt in 1885. Rebuilt again as the **National Theatre** in 1922, this structure has managed to escape the flames and continues to operate as an active theater. The National Theatre was dark for several years in the mid-twentieth century, however, while the theater's management refused to desegregate the facility.

New Playwrights Theater operated from 1972 until 1988, when it changed to the American Playwrights Theater, as a non-profit company that also offered a theater school. Located at 1742 Church Street NW, it ceased operations in 1990.

The theater on 9th and C Streets, NW, was originally built as a coach factory in 1846. It was converted to **Oxford Hall** in 1865 and closed the following year. The theater opened and closed a dozen times. It was **Canterbury Hall** in 1866, and **Wall's Opera House** in 1867. It burned down in 1871 and rebuilt as **Wall's New Opera House** in 1873. It closed in 1876. The theater reopened that same year as **Ford's Grand Opera House** and remained as such until it too closed in 1885. It became **Folly Burlesque**

Theatre for a year and then operated as the **Bijou Theatre** for the next twenty years. It later became the **Majestic**, the **Gayety**, the **Majestic** again and finally the **Bijou** once more before it was torn down in 1931.

The fraternal order known as the Odd Fellows had two concert halls, one on 7th Street and another near the Navy Yard. Both were called, not surprisingly, **Odd Fellows Hall**.

Scena Theatre was founded in 1987 to bring international theatre to DC and stimulate cultural exchange between local and international theatre artists. Scena produces an annual season of plays, a Workshop Series aimed at developing new work from around the world, special events, and the Washington International Theatre Festival, staged each year at venues throughout the city.

The **Shakespeare Theatre** was founded in 1985, presenting primarily Shakespeare plays and other classic theater works, first at the Folger Library's Elizabethan Theater and then, beginning in 1991, at a new theater in the Lansburgh Building at 7th and E Streets NW. In 2007, the company opened a second theater—Sidney Harman Hall—at 6th and F Streets NW. Collectively, the two venues are known as the Harman Center for the Arts.

Source Theatre Company was founded in 1977 to promote Washington actors, directors, designers, technicians, and playwrights. It presented plays at a variety of venues before establishing a home at 1835 14th Street NW. It ceased theater productions about 2006; the space has subsequently been used as a venue for productions by other companies.

There have been at least two theaters named "**Studio**" in Washington. In 1956, the **Studio Theater** presented its inaugural production—Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde*—in the Hippodrome Theater that had recently been vacated by Arena Stage. The present **Studio Theatre** was founded in 1978 as a venue for contemporary theatre; located at 14th and P Streets NW, it occupies buildings that originally housed an automobile showroom.

The **Terrace Theater**, located within the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, opened in 1979. The theater, on the Roof Terrace level, is a Bicentennial gift from the people of Japan to the United States. It seats 513 for intimate performances of chamber music, ballet and contemporary dance, theater, and family performances.

The 75-seat **Theatre Lobby** was located at 17 St. Matthew's Court NW, near the intersection of Connecticut and Rhode Island Avenues. Beginning about 1950, it presented plays through at least 1970.

The first theater built in Washington, D.C., was erected on the north side of E Street between 7th and 8th Streets, NW, in 1800. The **United States Theatre** occupied part of Blodgett's Hotel, which was designed by White House architect James Hoban. Although it was the only public building the British did not torch when they invaded Washington in 1814, fire destroyed the theater in 1836.

There were at least two different theaters named Washington. A **Washington Theatre** opened in 1804 on 11th and C Streets, NW, and burned down sixteen years later. Rebuilt as **Washington Assembly Rooms** (also known as **Carusi's Saloon**) in 1822, it remained open until 1857. After being again named the Washington Theatre in 1858, it closed in 1871. It reopened as the **Washington Theatre Comique** the following year, but closed in 1885 as just the **Theatre Comique**. The theater was then remodeled and reopened in 1886 as **Kernan's Washington Theatre**. It was remodeled again in 1901 and opened as **Kernan's Lyceum Theatre**, which closed in 1920. It later became the **Capitol Theatre**, and then the **President**. It was razed in 1931 to make way for Federal office buildings. In 1821, a **Washington Theatre** opened on the south side of Louisiana Avenue, NW (now Indiana Avenue), east of 6th Street. It closed fifteen years later. For a year (1834) it was called the **American Theatre**. It was then used as assembly halls for the next twenty years. In reopened as **Canterbury Hall** in 1861, closed in 1865, and the building was destroyed by fire in 1869.

Founded in May 1986 as a professional company of theatre artists dedicated to producing literate, challenging works in a collegial and supportive atmosphere, **Washington Stage Guild** first performed in one of Washington's oldest theatres, Historic Carroll Hall at 924 G Street, NW. Subsequently performing at various venues, the company has specialized in presenting the plays of George Bernard Shaw and, as part of its artistic mission, has been a proponent of non-traditional casting.

The **Washington Theater Club**, a resident production company, started in 1960 in a former carriage house at 1632 O Street NW with a production of Thornton Wilder's *The Matchmaker*. During its 1969-1970 season, the company moved to a former church, in space redesigned by Washington architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen, at 23rd and L Streets NW.

The **Woolly Mammoth Theatre** company opened its first season in 1980 with performances in a church hall near Metro Center. In the late 1980s, the company moved to a former warehouse near 14th and Church Streets NW. In May 2005, after more than four years of performing in other venues, Woolly Mammoth opened its first permanent home — a new 265-seat, courtyard-style theatre in the 600 block of E Street NW.

Scope and Content: The Washington Theater Collection, 1816-2006 documents the history of live theater in Washington, D.C., from its beginnings, and related performing arts presentations. Consisting primarily of handbills and program booklets, the collection also includes newspaper and magazine clippings, photographs of actors and actresses, scrapbooks, and theater ephemera. The genre of performances contained in these materials consists of plays, musicals, minstrel shows, burlesque, grand and light operas, operettas, musical concerts, and a few film programs. The collection also contains a reproduction handbill from a performance at the United States Theatre in 1800, the contents of which precede the span dates of original documents in the collection. The materials in this collection are applicable to topics in both the performing arts and business history.

The collection is arranged in five series:

SERIES I: WASHINGTON, D.C., THEATER MEMORABILIA, 1816-2006, contains programs and related material chronicling a variety of staged entertainments—including straight plays; vaudeville and minstrel shows; musical plays, operettas and grand operas; and dance programs—generally presented in commercial theaters. It is arranged by theater (venue)/theater company, listed alphabetically by name; within that framework, documents are organized chronologically. The descriptions of folder contents include references to oversize materials (in Container 11) where relevant, and also note some items of special interest.

SERIES II: WASHINGTON, D.C., THEATER SCRAPBOOKS, 1887-1923, contains scrapbooks from the Kluge, Hibbs, Ballock, Mullott, Press, and Proctor collections. The Series is arranged in seven subseries, as follows:

Subseries II.A, the Anna A. Kluge collection, includes theater programs, ticket stubs, personal correspondence, and news clippings. [In 2015 these were reprocessed as a separate collection. See MS 0835]

Subseries II.B, the Helen Blake Hibbs collection, includes concert and theater programs, ticket stubs, and manuscript notations, including critiques of performances. The programs are mostly from Washington theaters, but there are some from New York City and Philadelphia.

Subseries II.C, the Agnes McGrew Ballock collection, contains theater programs, photogravure, and news clippings.

Subseries II.D, the Daisy Mullott collection, includes pages from theater programs, photogravure, and manuscript notations on performances.

Subseries II.E, the William H. Press scrapbooks, include programs of local and non-D.C. theaters and local theater critics' reviews.

Subseries II.F, the John Clagett Proctor collection, contains newspaper clippings and photographs of individual actors and actresses, arranged alphabetically.

Subseries II.G, anonymous scrapbook containing clippings from newspapers about actors, actresses, and shows, and some programs, 1853-1874.

SERIES III: COLLEGIATE THEATERS IN WASHINGTON, 1946 – 1984, contains material pertaining to theatrical productions of primarily American University (Woods-Brown Amphitheater, Clendenen Theater) and Catholic University (Hartke Theatre). There are also miscellaneous programs from Georgetown University and Howard University. It is arranged alphabetically by college name and therein chronologically.

SERIES IV: PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTATIONS, 1952 – 2009, contains programs and other items pertaining to presentations of opera, ballet, dance, orchestras (other than the National Symphony

Orchestra), and musical artists in a variety of Washington, D.C., venues. The series is arranged in two subseries:

Subseries IV.A: Washington D.C. Organizations contains material chronicling presentations by Washington, D.C., organizations and institutions including the Library of Congress; the National Gallery of Art; the Opera Society of Washington (later the Washington Opera and Washington National Opera); and the Washington Performing Arts Society (WPAS), established in 1965 as one of the nation's first non-profit, independent, professional arts organizations. (From 1957 to 1962, concerts presented by WPAS' predecessor were co-sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club, whose archives are arranged in a separate collection, MS 0655). The subseries also includes several 1950s radio programming guides from WGMS, a classical music station that promoted performing arts presentations. Because these organizations presented works in a variety of venues, the subseries is arranged alphabetically by organization and therein chronologically.

Subseries IV.B: Performing Arts Venues contains material chronicling presentations other than those programmed by organizations covered in Subseries A. It includes primarily musical programs, including orchestras, solo artists, dance companies, chamber ensembles, and visiting opera and ballet companies. The venues include the Carter-Barron Amphitheater and the auditoriums of the Kennedy Center. The subseries is arranged alphabetically by venue and therein chronologically.

SERIES V: PHOTOGRAPHS, includes loose photographs from the John Clagett Proctor collection, and photographs whose origins are unknown. This series also includes a few items of ephemera related to actors and actresses included in the photograph collection, although the items themselves were not necessarily produced or distributed in Washington, D.C.

Donors: Jim Baxter, 2011.043; Leo Bernstein Family Foundation, 2010.067; Henry Bond, 1988.092; Estate of Maud Proctor Callis, 1959 (Proctor scrapbooks and photographs); Linda D. Derrick, 2001.092; Edward Gerber, 1980; Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 1990.062; John F. Jameson, 1993.079; Mary Kalfatovic, 2010.080; David M. Keifer, 2005.053; Kenneth Kenyon, 1991.045; Richard Kidwell, 2000.094, 2000.114, 2001.038, and 2002.096; Harold D. Langley, 2000.117; Frances Laut, 2004.144; Louis Ludlow, Jr., 1990.069; Joan G. Lyon, 1986; Jerry McCoy, 1987; A.M. Pierce, 2013.004; William H. Press, 1974.001; Harry P. Seebach, 1983; Suzanne Smith, 1989.019 (Mullott scrapbook); Don Spaight (Hibbs scrapbook); William Waters, 1992.017; Betty Weaver, 1972; Max Woodward, 2009.100, 2009.106.

Size: 14 cubic ft. (17 containers)

Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research

Use Restrictions: Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to

determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

Preferred citation: [Identified item], *Washington, D.C., Theater Collection*. The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Related materials:

MS 449, Lafayette Square Opera House Records 1894 – 1905, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

MS 276, A. J. Mudd to James F. Hood, 1901, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

MS 655, The Records of The Friday Morning Music Club and Foundation, 1886 – 2000, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

MS 742, The Helen Hayes Awards Collection, 1983 – 2009, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Container List

Container 1

SERIES I: WASHINGTON, D.C., THEATER MEMORABILIA, 1816-2000

Folder 1: Academy of Music, 1891-1900, 1907, 1913. SEE ALSO Folder 124 (oversize).

Folder 1A: Actors Theatre of Washington, 1995, 1996 (2 programs)

Folder 2: Albaugh's Grand Opera House, 1885-1895. Photo negative of a program cover, handwritten pass for two signed by actor Fanny Davenport in "Fedora," dated Dec 26, 1887, pass signed by actor Ada Blanche Chapman, dated Mar. 18, 1870, Autograph (pass?) signed by I.I. (or J.J.) Hayes dated Feb. 7, 1870, autograph (pass?) signed by Julia Marlowe, dated May 1892.

Folder 3: Albaugh's Grand Opera House concerts, 1892, and undated. SEE ALSO Folder 124 (oversize).

Folder 3A: Arena Stage, misc. dates 1953-1960

Folder 3B: Arena Stage, misc. dates 1961-1965

Folder 3C: Arena Stage, misc. dates 1966-May 1970

Folder 3D: Arena Stage, misc. dates October 1970 – May 1979

Folder 3E: Arena Stage, misc. dates October 1979 – 1985

Folder 3F: Arena Stage, misc. dates 1986 - 1991

Folder 3G: Arena Stage, misc. dates 1993 - 1997

Folder 3H: Arena Stage, misc. dates 2003 - 2009

Folder 4: Arlington Theatre, 1879, 1880, and undated.

Folder 5: Avenue Varieties, 1877, and undated.

Folder 6: Belasco Theatre, 1905-1916. (SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 14.)

Folder 7: Belasco Theatre, 1912.

Folder 8: Belasco Theatre, 1913-1925, and undated.

Folder 9: Belasco Theatre concerts, 1915-1920, 1922, and undated.

Folder 10: Bijou Theatre, 1891, and undated. SEE ALSO Folder 124 (oversize).

Folder 11: Carroll Institute Hall, 1890, 1907.

Folder 12: Carroll Institute Hall concerts, 1886.

Folder 13: Carusi's Saloon (Washington Assembly Rooms) Concerts, 1856, 1857.

Folder 13A: Casino Theater, ca. 1910-1917.

Folder 14: Chase's Theatre (Grand Opera House and Theatre plays) 1895-1913.

Folder 15: Chase's Theatre concerts, 1904, 1905.

Folder 16: Columbia Theatre, 1896-1904. Souvenir booklet of 1896-97 season. SEE ALSO Folder 125 (oversize).

Columbia Theatre, 1901-1916. (SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 14.)

Folder 17: Columbia Theatre, 1906-1937. Includes program for "Little Lord Fauntleroy" starring Helen Hayes, July 17, 1911.

Folder 18: Columbia Theatre Concerts (Metzerott's Music Hall), 1892-1913.

Folder 18A: D.C. Arts Center (nd)

Folder 19: Earle Theatre, 1925, 1927. Programs from combination of vaudeville performances and photoplays. Also Warner Theatre, programs from miscellaneous attractions, 1979-1980.

Container 2

Folder 19A: Eisenhower Theatre, September 1972 – January 1973.

Folder 19B: Eisenhower Theatre, February 1973 – December 1973.

Folder 19C: Eisenhower Theatre, January 1974 – August 1978.

Folder 19D: Eisenhower Theatre, January – December 1979.

Folder 19E: Eisenhower Theatre, January - December 1980.

Folder 19F: Eisenhower Theatre, June 1982 – December 1982.

Folder 19G: Eisenhower Theatre, April 1983 – April 1986

Folder 19H: Eisenhower Theatre, March 1987 – November 1989

Folder 19I: Eisenhower Theatre, October 2000 – April 2010

Folder 19J: Folger Theater Group, miscellaneous dates 1975-1980.

Folder 19K: Folger Theater, miscellaneous dates 1996-2007

Folder 20: Ford's Atheneum Theatre, 1862.

Folder 21: Ford's Theatre, 1865. Facsimile of assassination performance. SEE ALSO Folder 126 (oversize).

Folder 22: Ford's Opera House, 1876, 1877, and undated. SEE ALSO Folder 126 (oversize).

Folder 23: Ford's Opera House, 1878. SEE ALSO Folder 126 (oversize).

Folder 24: Ford's Opera House, 1879.

Folder 25: Ford's Opera House, 1880, 1885, 1901. Handwritten pass for two dated April 16, 1885 and signed by the actor Dion Boucicault.

Folder 26: Ford's Opera House concerts and ephemera, 1878, and undated.

Folder 26A: Ford's Theatre, misc. dates, 1968-2001 and nd

Folder 27: Fox Theatre, 1927, 1931. Programs and a brief history of the theater.

Folder 27A: Gayety Theatre, 1950.

Folder 27B: Gayety Theatre, 1951.

Folder 27C: Gayety Theatre, Jan.– May 1952.

Note: Gayety (New Gayety) was renamed the Sam Schubert Theater at beginning of 1952-1953 season.

Folder 27D: Sam Schubert Theatre, Oct. – Dec. 1952. Includes “agents information sheet” about the theater and a commemorative program, printed on silk, of opening night, October 13, 1952.

Folder 27E: Sam Schubert Theatre, 1953.

Folder 27F: Sam Schubert Theatre, 1954.

Folder 27G: Sam Schubert Theatre, 1955.

Container 3

Folder 27H: Sam Schubert Theatre, 1956-1957.

Folder 27I: Sam Schubert Theatre, 1958-1959.

Folder 28: B.F. Keith's Theatre, 1913-1928. SEE ALSO Folder 127.

Folder 28A: Kennedy Center Opera House, misc. dates March 1973 – January 1981

Folder 28B: Kennedy Center Opera House, misc. dates March 1982 – September 1987

Folder 28C: Kennedy Center Opera House, misc. dates April 1993 – July 2008

Folder 29: Kernan's Lyceum Theatre, 1901. SEE ALSO Folder 127 (oversize).

Folder 30: Kernan's Washington Theatre, 1888, 1889. Program (photostat), dated June 3, 1889 for "Champion Heel and Toe Walk" with handwritten grocery list on back.

Folder 31: Lafayette Square Opera House, Oct. 7 to Nov. 18, 1895. Souvenir for opening night, Sept. 30, 1895.

Folder 32: Lafayette Square Opera House, Jan 3 to March 11 1896.

Folder 33: Lafayette Square Opera House, March 18 to May 9, 1896.

Folder 34: Lafayette Square Opera House, Sept. 21 to Oct. 26, 1896.

Folder 35: Lafayette Square Opera House, Oct. 26 to Dec. 21, 1896.

Folder 36: Lafayette Square Opera House, Jan. 4 to Dec. 20, 1897.

Folder 37: Lafayette Square Opera House, Jan 17, 1898 to Jan. 4, 1903; June 20, 1904;1899-1905. (SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 14.)

Folder 38: Lincoln Hall, 1881, 1890.

Folder 39: Lincoln Hall Concerts, 1876-1889.

Folder 40: National Theatre, 1885. Booklet on the History of the New National Theatre.

Folder 41: National Theatre, 1842,1866-1868,1875-1878. Handwritten pass for two signed and dated Oct. 30, 1875; handwritten ticket dated Mar. 27, 1876; handwritten ticket dated Feb. 9, 1877, signed by the actor Dion Boucicault. For materials dating from the 1840s, and 1876-1877, researchers should use reference photocopies instead of original documents (see container 9). SEE ALSO Folders 128 and 129 (oversize).

Folder 42: National Theatre, 1879, 1881.

Folder 43: National Theatre, 1882-1883. Bound programs dated from Sept. 4, 1882 to May 28, 1883, photo negative of program page dated Oct. 2 1882. [Original stored in Container 10]

Folder 44: National Theatre, 1883-1884. Bound programs dated Sept. 2, 1883 to May 26, 1884. [Original stored in Container 10] Also, two copies of "Madame Piper" by Woolson Morse, including an advertisement for the National Theatre on the back cover.

Folder 45: National Theatre, 1885, 1886. "This row reserved" card with handwritten note about the fire that destroyed the theater with date of "Feb. 26, 1885 20 minutes past one o'clock."

Folder 46: National Theatre, 1887, 1888. Handwritten pass signed by an actor in the play, handwritten pass for "3 ladies" dated Jan. 2, 1888.

Folder 47: National Theatre, 1889, 1890.

Folder 48: National Theatre, 1891.

Folder 49: National Theatre, 1892.

Folder 50: National Theatre, 1893.

Folder 51: National Theatre, 1894, 1895. Small poster of members of the "New National Stock Comedy Company-Summer 1895."

Folder 52: National Theatre, 1895-1896. Bound scrapbook. [Original stored in Container 10]

Folder 53: National Theatre, 1896.

Folder 54: National Theatre, 1897, 1898. Pass dated Nov.12, 1897 and signed by Francis Wilson (actor in the play).

Note: for National Theatre, 1899-1916, SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 15.

Folder 55: National Theatre, 1899, 1900. Newsclips of Sarah Bernhardt, Maude Adams, et al.

Folder 56: National Theatre, 1901. Newsclips of Sarah Bernhardt, Maude Adams, et al.

Folder 57: National Theatre, 1902, 1903.

Folder 58: National Theatre, 1904-1908.

Folder 59: National Theatre, 1909, 1910. Bound programs from Sept. 10, 1909 to June 27, 1910, unbound.

Folder 60: National Theatre, 1911.

Container 4

Folder 61: National Theatre, 1912, 1913.

Folder 62: National Theatre, 1914-1916.

Folder 63: National Theatre, 1917.

Folder 64: National Theatre, 1918-1920.

Folder 65: National Theatre, 1921.

Folder 66: National Theatre, 1922-1923.

Folder 67: National Theatre, 1924.

Folder 68: National Theatre, 1925. Ticket stub dated Sept. 28, 1925.

Folder 69: National Theatre, 1925-1926. Bound programs from Sept. 7, 1925 to Sept. 13, 1926.

Folder 70: National Theatre, 1926.

Folder 71: National Theatre, 1927. Handbills used as props for the musical, "Show Boat."

Folder 72: National Theatre, 1928.

Folder 73: National Theatre, 1928-1929. Bound programs from Sept. 16, 1928 to June 23, 1929.

Folder 74: National Theatre, 1929-1930.

Folder 75: National Theatre, 1931.

Folder 76: National Theatre, 1932.

Folder 77: National Theatre, 1933.

Folder 78: National Theatre, 1934.

Folder 79: National Theatre, 1935.

Folder 80: National Theatre, 1936.

Container 5

Folder 81: National Theatre, 1937.

Folder 82: National Theatre, 1938.

Folder 83: National Theatre, 1939-1940.

Folder 84: National Theatre, 1941.

Folder 84A: National Theatre, 1942.

Folder 85: National Theatre, 1943.

Folder 85A: National Theatre, 1944.

Folder 86: National Theatre, 1945.

Folder 86A: National Theatre, Jan. – Sept. 1946.

Folder 86B: National Theatre, Oct. – Dec. 1946.

Folder 86C: National Theatre, Jan. – June, 1947.

Folder 86D: National Theatre, July. – Dec., 1947.

Folder 86E: National Theatre, Jan. – May, 1948.

Note: The National closed at this point and was dark for 4 years.

Folder 86F: National Theatre, May – Dec., 1952.

Folder 86G: National Theatre, 1953.

Folder 86H: National Theatre, 1954.

Folder 86I: National Theatre, 1955.

Folder 86J: National Theatre, 1956.

Folder 86K: National Theatre, 1957.

Container 6

Folder 86L: National Theatre, 1958-1959.

Folder 86M: National Theatre, 1960.

Folder 86N: National Theatre, 1961.

Folder 86O: National Theatre, 1962.

Folder 86P: National Theatre, 1963-1964.

Folder 86Q: National Theatre, misc. dates, 1966-1979.

Folder 86R: National Theatre, misc. dates, 1980-1998.

Folder 87: National Theatre, undated. Ticket stub signed "F. S. Champion."

Folder 88: National Theatre concerts, 1888-1914, and undated. Includes program for "La Traviata" and "Carmen" from San Carlos Opera Company.

Folder 89: National Theatre concerts, 1921-1936, and undated.

Folder 90: National Theatre ephemera, 1888-1940.

Folder 90A: New Playwrights Theater, misc. dates, 1980s.

Folder 91: Odd Fellow's Hall (Seventh Street Hall and Navy Yard Hall), 1874, 1878, 1885.

Folder 92: Odd Fellow's Hall concerts and film, 1865.

Poli's Theatre, 1912-1916. (SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 15.)

Folder 93: Poli's Theatre, 1913-1923.

Folder 94: Poli's Theatre, 1924, 1925. SEE ALSO Folder 130 (oversize).

Folder 95: Poli's Theatre, 1926, 1927.

Folder 96: Poli's Theatre, 1928.

Folder 97: Poli's Theatre, 1929, 1930.

Folder 98: Poli's Theatre, 1919-1930. Photostats of programs (originals not in the collection).

Folder 99: Poli's Theatre concerts and films, 1920-1927.

Folder 100: Poli's Theatre concerts and films, 1928-1929.

Container 7

Folder 100A: President's Theatre, 1927.

Folder 100B: Shakespeare Theatre, 1991, 1995.

Folder 101: Shubert Belasco Theatre, 1918-1924.

Schubert Belasco Theatre, 1919. (SEE ALSO Press scrapbooks, Container 15.)

Folder 102: Shubert Belasco Theatre, 1925-1927.

Folder 103: Shubert Belasco Theatre, 1928-34.

Folder 104: Shubert Garrick Theatre, 1919-1924, and undated.

Folder 104B: Source Theater, misc. dates, 1989-2003.

Folder 104C: Studio Theater. Program from 1955 "Studio" at former Hippodrome Theater

Folder 104D: Studio Theater, misc. dates 1982-1999

Folder 104E: Studio Theater, misc. dates 2006-2010 and nd

Folder 104F: Shakespeare Theatre, misc. dates 1985-1992

Folder 104G: Shakespeare Theatre, misc. dates 1992-1996

Folder 104H: Shakespeare Theatre, misc. dates 1996-2007

Folder 104I: Shakespeare Theatre, misc. dates 2007-2010

Folder 105: Tallmadge Hall, 1878.

Folder 105A: Terrace Theater (Kennedy Center), misc. dates 1982-2010

Folder 106: Theatre Comique, ca. mid-to-late 1870's and undated.

Folder 107: Theatre Comique, ca. 1870s-early 1880s.

Folder 108: Theatre Comique, ca. 1874-1875.

Folder 109: Theatre Comique, 1877, 1878.

Folder 110: Theatre Comique, ca. 1878-1879.

Folder 111: Theatre Comique, Jan. 1879-August 1879.

Folder 112: Theatre Comique, Sept. 1879-Dec. 1879.

Folder 113: Theatre Comique, 1879.

Folder 114: Theatre Comique, Jan. 1880-April 1880.

Folder 115: Theatre Comique, May 1880-Dec. 1880.

Folder 116: Theatre Comique, 1881-1882.

Folder 116A: Theatre Lobby, miscellaneous dates, ca. 1950 – 1970.

Folder 117: Wall's Opera House, 1869. SEE ALSO Folder 171.

Folder 117A: Washington Stage Guild, misc. dates 1987-2006 and nd

Folder 118: Washington Theatre (New), 1821-1834. Includes printed request for payment of subscription to the "New Theatre" (1821). For materials dating from 1832-1877, researchers should use reference photocopies instead of original documents (see container 9.) SEE ALSO Folder 131 (oversize).

Folder 119: Washington Theatre (New), Jan. 2, 1835-Oct. 10, 1835.

Folder 120: Washington Theatre (New), Oct. 12, 1835-Nov. 23, 1835.

Folder 121: Washington Theatre, 1860, 1861, 1864, 1865, and undated. Includes Artemus Ward's "Mormon Entertainment" (1865).

Container 8

Folder 121A: Washington Theater Club, 1961-1968 and undated.

Folder 121B: Washington Theater Club, Jan. – Feb. 1969.

Folder 121C: Washington Theater Club, April – Dec. 1969

Folder 121D: Washington Theater Club, 1970.

Folder 121E: Washington Theater Club, 1971.

Folder 121F: Washington Theater Club, 1972.

Folder 121G: Washington Theater Club, 1973.

Folder 121H: Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, misc. dates 1986-2006

Folder 122: Assorted Washington, D.C., theaters, concerts and ephemera, 1874-1932, and undated. Venues include Abner's Hall, Allen's Grand Opera House, Curtis Hall, East Washington Assembly, King-Smith Roadside (Barn) Theatre, Lichtman Theatres, McCauley's Hall, Metropolitan Theatre, Pierce Hall, Redmen's Hall, Wardman Park Theatre, and Willard's Hall. Folder also contains materials for Haverly's Minstrels, and Wilson's Jubilee Minstrels and Colored Concert Company, for which no venues are identified. Lichtman Theatres were a chain of African American theaters, and program in this file lists personnel of the theaters, including the Booker T., Broadway, Howard, Lincoln, and Rosalia Theatres in Washington, D.C. SEE ALSO Folder 171 for oversize handbills from Willard's Roof Music Hall.

Folder 122A: Programs and ephemera from miscellaneous theater companies and venues, 1980s – 2000s, including: St. Marks Players, Horizons Theatre, ZOA Drama Circle, Synetic Theater Company, Stanislavsky Theater Company, Theater J, the Washington Savoyards, Trinity Players, GALA Hispanic Theater, Georgetown Classical Theater, Open Theatre, Rorschach Theatre Company, Foundry Players, New Arts Theater, Loft Repertory Company, and Off-the-Circle Theater Company.

Folder 122B: Single programs/ephemera from assorted Washington, D.C., theaters and theater companies, 1930s – 1980s and undated. Includes presentations by the Actors Company, 1742 Church Street NW; the Washington Civic Theater, performing at the Wardman Park Theater; the Pentagon Playhouse; the Lyric Theater Company performing at Georgetown's Market Playhouse; visiting

companies performing at the Library of Congress' Coolidge Auditorium and Constitution Hall; and the District of Columbia Recreation Department.

Container 9

Folder 122C: Programs and ephemera, unidentified theaters, 1895-1928.

Folder 122D: Programs and ephemera, unidentified theaters, undated.

Folder 122E: Programs accompanying motion picture screenings in various theaters: *Henry V* (1946, Little Theatre); *Gigi* (1958, Loew's Columbia Theatre); *La Dolce Vita* (1961, Town Theatre); *La Boheme* (undated; theater not indicated).

Folder 123: Ledger book, 1862-1866. Printing accounts with various Washington, D.C., theaters. Also contains a receipt dated 1870.

Folder 123A: Reference photocopies of National Theatre materials, 1840s.

Folder 123B: Reference photocopies of National Theatre materials, 1876-1877.

Folder 123C: Reference photocopies of Washington Theatre materials, 1832-1858.

Container 10

Folder 123D: Bound volume described in Folder 43.

Folder 123E: Bound volume described in Folder 44.

Folder 123F: Bound volume described in Folder 52.

Container 11 (oversized)

Folder 124: Academy of Music, undated. Albaugh's Grand Opera House, 1884, 1886, 1891. Alexandria Theatre, undated. Bijou Family Theater [?], undated.

Folder 125: Columbia Theatre, 1898, 1902. sketch from "The Hula Girl."

Folder 126: Ford's Theatre, 1865. Handbill (facsimile of assassination performance); Ford's Opera House, 1877, 1878, 1880.

Folder 127: B. F. Keith's, undated, advertising placard; Kernan's Lyceum Theatre, 1894, 1895, programs; Kernan's Washington Theatre, 1888, program. Lafayette Opera House, undated, advertising placard.

Folder 128: National Theatre, 1853, 1866, 1870-1876.

Folder 129: National Theatre, 1880-1887, and undated.

Folder 130: Poli's Theatre, 1925, 1926. Shubert Belasco Theatre, 1920-1928. Theatre Comique, 1880, 1881.

Folder 131: Washington Theatre (New), 1834, 1843, 1858. Washington Theatre (Old), 1816. United States Theatre, 1800. (facsimile of handbill).

Container 12

SERIES II: WASHINGTON, D.C., THEATER SCRAPBOOKS, 1887-1923

Subseries A: the Anna A. Kluge collection, 1902-1923

Folder 132: 1902-1908.

Folder 133: 1908-1912.

Folder 134: 1912-1914.

Folder 135: 1921-1923.

Folder 136: Photograph of John Philip Sousa (removed from folder 135)

Subseries B: the Helen Blake Hibbs collection, 1887-1917

Folder 137: 1887-1897.

Folder 138: 1895-1906.

Folder 139: 1897-1901.

Folder 140: 1902-1903.

Container 13

Folder 141: 1903-1905.

Folder 142: 1905-1906.

Folder 143: 1907-1908.

Folder 144: 1907-1917.

Subseries C: the Agnes McGrew Ballock collection, 1903-1905

Folder 145: 1903-1905.

Subseries D: the Daisy Mullott collection, 1890-1906

Folder 146: 1890-1893.

Folder 147: 1892-1901.

Folder 148: 1901-1906.

Subseries E: William H. Press collection, 1899-1919, 1928-1930

Container 14

Folder 148A: Scrapbook of Washington theater programs, 1899-1912. Book begins with 1908-1912. Second half of book includes programs for 1899-1908.

Folder 148B: Scrapbook of Washington theater programs, 1912-1916.

Folder 148C: Loose programs removed from scrapbook: Schubert Belasco, 1919.

Container 15

Folder 148D: Critical reviews of Washington, D.C., theater performances, 1928-1930. Most from review column "Gleanings and Screenings" by Andrew R. Keeley.

Subseries F: the John Clagett Proctor collection

Container 16

Folder 149: Scrapbook, A-B.

Folder 150: Scrapbook, C-D.

Folder 151: Scrapbook, E-H. See folder 161 for lithograph of W. J. Florence.

Folder 152: Scrapbook, I-May

Folder 153: Scrapbook, Meisslinger-R.

Folder 153A: Scrapbook, S-Y.

Subseries G: Anonymous Scrapbooks

Folder 154: Anonymous scrapbook containing theater clippings and programs, 1853-1874 (donated by Frances Laut.

SERIES III: COLLEGIATE THEATERS IN WASHINGTON, 1946 – 1984

Folder 154A: American University (Woods-Brown Amphitheater, Clendenen Theater), misc. dates, 1948 – 1969 and undated.

Folder 154B: Catholic University (Hartke Theater), 1946-1959

Folder 154C: Catholic University (Hartke Theater), 1960-1986

Folder 154D: Catholic University (Hartke Theater), 1987-2010

Folder 154E: Howard University, 1 program (1963); Georgetown University, 3 programs (two undated; one 1984)

SERIES IV: PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTATIONS, 1952 - 2009

Subseries A: Washington, D.C., Organizations, 1952 - 2009

Folder 155: Cosmos Club (Warneke Lounge), misc. dates 1988 – 1999

Folder 155A: Institute of Contemporary Arts, misc. dates, 1963-1965

Folder 155B: Library of Congress, 1965

Folder 155C: National Ballet, 1964 and undated; Washington Ballet, 2009

Folder 155D: National Gallery of Art, 1956 (one program)

Folder 155E: Opera Society of Washington, misc. dates 1960 - 1964

Folder 155F: Washington Civic Opera, 1969

Folder 155G: Washington National Cathedral, 1964-1965

Folder 155H: Washington Opera, misc. dates 1977 – 1986

Folder 155I: Washington Performing Arts Society, misc. dates 1952 - 1970

Folder 155J: Washington Performing Arts Society, misc. dates 1973 – 1977

Folder 155K: Washington Performing Arts Society, misc. dates 1978 - 2009

Subseries B: Performing Arts Venues, 1956 - 2009

Folder 156: Carter-Barron Amphitheater, misc. dates, 1956 – 1968 and undated.

Folder 156A: Kennedy Center Concert Hall, misc. dates, 1974-1981

Container 17

Folder 156B: Kennedy Center Opera House, misc. dates, 1975-1976

Folder 156C: Kennedy Center Opera House, misc. dates, 1977-2008

SERIES V: PHOTOGRAPHS

Folder 157: Proctor photographs, A-J. Marks on photographs were made by John Clagett Proctor in preparation for publication.

Folder 157A: Proctor photographs, L-W. Includes a few stereoscopes, carte de visite signed by Adelina Patti, and a series of images of Lizzie Macnichol.

Folder 157B: Proctor photographs, group photographs and unknown actresses. Includes a few stereoscopes of New York opera singers.

Folder 158: Photographs of actresses. Includes images of May Irwin, Maud Jeffries, Laura Keane, Jenny Lind, Ada Rehan, Lillian Russell, and an unknown actress (possibly Anna Held).

Folder 159: Carte de visites of performers, surnames A-N. Arranged alphabetically. Includes Mary Anderson, Lawrence Barrett, Maurice Barrymore, Digby Bell, Sarah Bernhardt, John Drew, Emma Eames, Maxine Elliott, Jane Hading, Agnes Huntington, Marie Jansen, Lilly Langtry, Elsie Leslie, Julia Marlow, Edna May, and Christine Nilsson.

Folder 160: Carte de visites of performers, surnames O-Z, and unknown. Includes Ada Rehan, Sara Stafford, Ellen Terry, and Harriett Whiting.

Folder 161: Lithographs and other images. Includes Maud Adams, Eugenie Blair, Rose Coghlan, Robert Downing, Miss Maddern, E. H. Sothern, Julia Marlow Taber, and Rosina Volkes.