

# Guide to Minor Latham Playhouse/ Brinckerhoff Theatre Records BC13.53

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

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New York, NY 10027

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URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Barnard Archives and Special Collections
<b>Creator:</b>	Barnard College. Department of Theatre
<b>Creator:</b>	Barnard College. Minor Latham Playhouse
<b>Title:</b>	Minor Latham Playhouse/Brinckerhoff Theatre Records
<b>ID:</b>	BC13.53
<b>ID [aspace_uri]:</b>	/repositories/2/resources/178
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1897-2005
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8.59 Linear Feet 5 document boxes, 2 flat file drawers
<b>Physical Location:</b>	This collection is located in the Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection consists of scripts; song lyrics; sketches for posters, programs, costumes, and set design; lists of plays presented; programs; news clippings; press releases; and correspondence relating to plays and workshops presented in the Brinckerhoff Theatre and the Minor Latham Playhouse.

### Preferred Citation

Minor Latham Playhouse/Brinckerhoff Theatre records, 1897-2005; Box and Folder; Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College.

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## Historical Background

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Originally named Brinckerhoff Theatre, the Minor Latham Playhouse located in Milbank Hall was renamed in 1953 after Professor Minor White Latham. Professor Latham was a member of the English Department from 1914-1948. Her theatre classes and productions inspired devotion

from students including: Helen Gahagan, Jane Wyatt, Ruth Gordon, Vera Allen and others. The long-running off-broadway musical , *The Fantasticks*, debuted at the Minor Latham Playhouse in 1959.

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## Collection Scope and Content Summary

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This collection consists of materials from productions presented at the Brinckerhoff Theatre/ Minor Latham Playhouse between 1897 and 2005. These materials include programs, posters, scripts, sketches for costumes and set designs, and correspondence. The organizations that produced these shows include: Wigs and Cues, The Barnard College Theatre Company, Associate Alumnae of Barnard College, Undergraduate Association, Philolexian Society, and Barnard Drama Workshop and Summer Theatre. Programs from the 1959 world premiere of *The Fantasicks* at the Minor Latham Playhouse are included in the material from the Barnard Drama Workshop and Summer Theatre.

The collection also includes programs from plays performed in the Marion Victor Studio, a small performance space in the same building as the Minor Latham Playhouse designed for informal and experimental work.

Administrative materials and materials from exhibits sponsored by the theatre are also in this collection. Of note are the papers of Kenneth Janes, English professor and director of Minor Latham between 1962 and 1983. He founded the Barnard College Theatre Company.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged into five series:

- Series 1, Productions, 1897-2005
- Series 2, Kenneth Janes Papers, 1974-1985
- Series 3, Administrative Records, 1977
- Series 4, Minor Latham Scrapbook, 1970-1976
- Series 5, Exhibits, 1973; 1990

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

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URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

### Access

This collection has no restrictions.

### Publication Rights

Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Barnard Archives and Special Collections. The Barnard Archives and Special Collections approves permission to publish that which it physically owns; the responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

### Acquisition Information

Crew Show material transferred in 1985. The acquisition date and source of the rest of the material is unknown.

### Accruals

Additions are expected.

### Processing History

This collection was processed and the finding aid written by Alice Griffin in July 2015.

Descriptive Rules Used: Finding aid adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Encoding: Machine readable finding aid encoded in EAD 2002.

Finding aid written in English.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Theaters -- stage-setting and scenery
- Universities and colleges -- Departments
- Performing arts
- Press releases
- Clippings
- Dance
- Barnard College. Dance Uptown, 1967-1989.
- Correspondence
- Costume
- College theater -- New York (State) -- New York

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## Collection Inventory

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<b>Productions</b>		
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Societas Classica Play, 1908	box 1	
Undergraduate Association Plays, 1897-1913	box 1-2	drawer 9
Wigs and Cues Plays, 1913-1966	box 1-2	drawer 8-9
Scene from <i>The Portrait of a Lady</i> , undated	box 1	
Crew Shows, circa 1960s	box 1	
<b>Historical Background</b>		
Crew shows were a Barnard tradition where the students who worked backstage (i.e. stage managers, sound and lighting technicians, stage hands) would write and perform their own play.		
<i>Bury the Dead</i> stage manager's script, 1971	box 1	
<i>The Winter's Tale</i> stage manager's script, undated	box 1	
Lists and Announcements of Productions, 1949-2003	box 1, 5	
Sketches for unidentified poster or program, undated	box 2	
Costume designs for unidentified play, undated	box 2	

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<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> , 1903	box 2	
Associate Alumnae of Barnard College Plays, 1904-1905	box 2	
Deutscher Kreis Plays, 1908	box 2	
Graduate Dramatic Association of Columbia University Plays, 1912-1913	box 2	
Philoexian Society Plays, 1922-1923	box 2	
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , 1945	box 2	
<i>Secret Love</i> , 1949	box 2	
The Barnard Drama Workshop and Summer Theatre, 1959-1965	box 2	drawer 9
<i>Ring Round the Moon</i> set design, 1960	box 2	
The Barnard College Theatre Company, 1966-1983	box 2-5	drawer 8-9
Barnard College Theatre Program, 1984-1986	box 3, 5	drawer 8-9
Theatre at Barnard, 1987-1994	box 5	drawer 9
Dance Uptown, 1969-1985	box 2-3	
Barnard College Music Department, 1977	box 2	
Barnard Gilbert & Sullivan Society, 1961-1992	box 2-3	
Festival of the Arts, 1964-1967	box 2	
Nigerian Student Theatre Group, 1964	box 2	
Composers Circle, 1964	box 2	
Student Theatre at Barnard, 1991-1995	box 3, 5	
Barnard Theatre Department, 1992-2005	box 3, 5	drawer 9
Barnard Dance Department, 1990-1991	box 3	
Ancient Greek Drama Group, 1987	box 3	
<i>The Trip</i> , 1985	box 3	
Barnard Center for Research on Women, 1985	box 3	
Winter Festival, 1975; 1985	box 3, 5	
<i>Drama for Strings</i> , 1985	box 3	
Old Plays for a New Europe, 1990	box 3	
Black Theatre and Performing Arts Ensemble, 1991	box 3	
Mask Theatre, 1991	box 3	
Playhouse News, 1990	box 3	
Opera Uptown, 1984; 1986	box 3	

Theatre Uptown, 1977	box 4
Musical Ensemble Theater, 1978-1979	box 4
<i>Trick or Treat</i> , 1993	box 5
<i>Female Parts</i> , 1998	box 5
<i>Billy &amp; Han</i> , 2001	box 5
Barnard Dance Theater Workshop, undated	box 4
Program in the Arts, undated	box 4
<i>Les Fetes Galantes</i> , 1974	box 2
The Daykarhanova Actors Company, 1974	box 2
<i>In Good Company</i> , undated	box 4
Columbia University Shakespearean Players, undated	box 4
<i>The Man of Mode</i> , circa 1953	drawer 8
<i>Wharf Edge</i> sheet music, 1964	drawer 8
<i>Strangers/USA</i> , undated	drawer 9

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**Kenneth Janes Papers, 1974-1985** box 3-4

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**Administrative Records,, 1977** box 5

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**Minor Latham Playhouse Scrapbook, 1975-1976** box 4

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**Exhibits, 1973; 1990** box 5

Title/Description	Instances
Bard at Barnard, 1990	
Brander Matthews Collection of Theatre Models, 1973	



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