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Gertrude Lawrence Papers 10720982

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English

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Lawrence, Gertrude
Title:	Gertrude Lawrence Papers
ID:	10720982
ID:	MS#1917
Date [inclusive]:	1925-1986
Date [bulk]:	1925-1952
Physical Description:	1.68 linear feet 4 document boxes and 5 oversized folders
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection contains documents relating to Broadway actress Gertrude Lawrence (1898-1952), a British-born international star of musical theatre and film. The collection primarily consists of correspondences, and also includes manuscripts, photographs, diaries, and a notebook from her position teaching an acting course at Columbia University.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Gertrude Lawrence Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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History

Gertrude Lawrence (1898-1952), born Gertrud Alexandra Dagmar Lawrence Klasen, was a British theatrical performer remembered as one of the first international superstars. She had a successful career both in London and on Broadway, earning her adoring fans on both sides of the Atlantic. She performed in plays, musicals, and movies, having roles created for her by the Gershwins, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Noel Coward, and Cole Porter. Her most notable performances include the role of Kay in the Gershwins' *Oh, Kay!* (1926) and Anna Leonowens in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The King and I* (1951). Her 1952 death from undetected liver

cancer brought on the first dimming of theatre lights both on Broadway and in the West End. In that same year, Lawrence also taught a course on acting at Columbia University.

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History

She had one child, Pamela Howley (1918-2005), with her first husband, Francis Gordon-Howley. She later married theatrical producer Richard S. Aldrich in 1940, who served in World War II as Lawrence toured with the Entertainments National Service Association (E.N.S.A.). Professionally, she is known for her long-term friendship with Noel Coward, with whom she performed in many notable productions such as *Private Lives* (1931) and *Tonight at 8:30* (1935).

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History

After her death, Lawrence was memorialized in a biography by Aldrich, *Gertrude Lawrence as Mrs. A: An Intimate Biography of a Great Star* (1955), as well as in the film *Star!* (1968) featuring Julie Andrews as Gertrude Lawrence.

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Summary

This collection consists primarily of correspondences between Lawrence and her husband Richard S. Aldrich, as well as letters to and from notables of the theatre world including Brooks Atkinson, P.G. Wodehouse, Michael Arlen, Noël Coward, Somerset Maugham, Peter Arno, Beverly Nichols, and Charles B. Cochran. It also includes several manuscripts of articles and poems, two of Lawrence's diaries, and a notebook detailing her experience teaching an acting course at Columbia University in 1951-1952.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in six series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. XML document instance created by Catherine C. Ricciardi Updated record after processing. CCR. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2018-08-22 2018-08-27 2018-07-02 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Papers: Method of acquisition--Purchase. Source of Acquisition: Ken Karmiole. Date of acquisition--2014 March 21. Accession number--2013-2014-M176.

Custodial History

The collection was assembled by collector Doris Harris of Los Angeles, California, likely in the 1980s. It is not known how Harris acquired the collection. She imposed an order on the collection and created tables of contents and inventory lists for each box, which are now located in Series VI. She also included transcriptions with key letters and manuscripts, which remain with the original documents. In 1986, publisher David Copley of La Jolla, California purchased the collection from Doris Harris and held it privately until his death in 2012. At that point, the collection was purchased by bookseller Ken Karmiole of Santa Monica, California, who later sold it to Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library in 2014.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Emily A. Hawk (GSAS 2022).

Processing Information

Finding aid written by Emily A. Hawk (GSAS 2022) in June 2018.

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Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Gertrude Lawrence Papers, 1910-1952](#), New York Public Library

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Gertrude Lawrence Scrapbook, 1952-1953](#), New York Public Library

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Controlled Access Headings

- Motion picture acting
- Correspondence
- Actors
- Actresses -- Great Britain
- Musical theater
- Diaries
- Photographs
- Lawrence, Gertrude
- Aldrich, Richard Stoddard, 1902-1986
- Cochran, C. B (Charles Blake), 1872-1951
- Coward, Noel, 1899-1973
- Fairbanks, Douglas, Jr., 1909-2000
- Matthews, Jessie
- Wodehouse, P. G (Pelham Grenville), 1881-1975
- Columbia University. School of General Studies

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondences, 1926-1952

Scope and Contents

This series contains over 150 individual letters, telegrams, and other forms of correspondence both to and from Gertrude Lawrence. Some letters include transcriptions created by the original collector, Doris Harris, which are arranged adjacent to the original documents. Most letters also have annotations from Harris of dates and correspondents' names, written in pencil on the original documents.

Subseries I.1: Correspondence between Lawrence and her husband Richard Aldrich, 1939-1948

Scope and Contents

This subseries of correspondences between Gertrude Lawrence and her husband, Richard Aldrich, consists of letters, postmarked envelopes, telegrams, and notes. The correspondences are arranged chronologically, if dated. Many of them date to the 1940s, while Aldrich was serving in World War II and Lawrence was traveling with the Entertainments National Service Association (E.N.S.A.). A majority of these correspondences are written by Lawrence to Aldrich, signed "Mrs. A.," and are penned

on letterhead from hotels throughout the United States. Slips of paper with annotations from Doris Harris accompany some letters in this subseries.

Title/Description	Instances	
Aldrich, Richard, 1939	box 1	folder 1
Aldrich, Richard, 1940 July	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents		
1940 July 31 letter includes transcription		
Aldrich, Richard, 1940 August	box 1	folder 3
Aldrich, Richard, 1940 September	box 1	folder 4
Aldrich, Richard, 1940 October-December	box 1	folder 5
Aldrich, Richard, 1942	box 1	folder 6
Scope and Contents		
1942 December 29 letter includes transcription		
Aldrich, Richard, 1943 January-August	box 1	folder 7
Scope and Contents		
1943 card includes transcription		
Aldrich, Richard, 1943 October-November	box 1	folder 8
Scope and Contents		
Series of 12 autograph notes on personal notepaper, called "Lawrence One-a-day vitamins" for Aldrich to open during a sea voyage.		
Aldrich, Richard, 1944	box 1	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Includes a newspaper clipping from 1944 February 2 issue of <i>Variety</i> about Lawrence		
Aldrich, Richard, 1945 February-March	box 1	folder 10
Aldrich, Richard, 1945 April-December	box 1	folder 11
Aldrich, Richard, 1946	box 1	folder 12
Aldrich, Richard, 1948	box 1	folder 13
Scope and Contents		
Telegram contains Lawrence's commentary on the Marshall Plan		
Aldrich, Richard, undated	box 1	folder 14

Scope and Contents

Some letters include transcription

Subseries I.2: Letters from Lawrence to others, 1945-1952**Scope and Contents**

This subseries includes several folders of letters from Gertrude Lawrence to others, which are arranged alphabetically by name of recipient. Some letters are accompanied by separate slips of paper with annotations from Doris Harris. Highlights of this subseries include two letters to Lawrence's agent Fanny Holtzmann, in which Lawrence comments on the ending of World War II, and two letters to the King of Thailand, in which Lawrence defends the portrayal of the Siamese monarchy in *The King and I*.

Title/Description	Instances	
Corballis, Helen, 1951	box 1	folder 15
Scope and Contents		
Letter to Richard Aldrich's first wife. Includes transcription.		
Harris, Julie, 1952	box 1	folder 16
Holtzmann, David, 1946	box 1	folder 17
Holtzmann, Fanny, 1945	box 1	folder 18
Scope and Contents		
Letter to Lawrence's agent. Includes transcription for two letters		
King of Thailand and his Secretary, 1951	box 1	folder 19
Scope and Contents		
Includes typed and handwritten copies of letters to the King of Thailand about <i>The King and I</i> .		
Lodge, Francesca, 1952	box 1	folder 20
Scope and Contents		
Undated letter includes transcription		
MacArthur, Charles, 1928	box 1	folder 21
Miller, Gilbert, undated	box 1	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
Includes transcription		

Subseries I.3: Letters to Lawrence, 1926-1946

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes approximately 150 letters addressed to Gertrude Lawrence from 133 identified correspondents, most of whom are involved in the British and American theatre industry as actors, producers, writers, or critics. The letters are arranged alphabetically by name of recipient. While the collection contains multiple letters from some correspondents, it only contains a single letter for most correspondents. Many letters are undated, although some include the month and day of the week that the letter was written. Most letters praise Lawrence on a recent performance. Other topics include thanking Lawrence for an invitation to a show, declining an invitation to a performance, offering her a role in an upcoming production, and sending Christmas and New Year's greetings. Notable correspondents include Brooks Atkinson, Jack Buchanan, Charles B. Cochran, Noël Coward and his secretary Lorn Loraine, James Laver, Jessie Matthews, Muriel du Maurier, Will Rogers, G.B. Stern, May Whitty, and P.G. Wodehouse.

Title/Description	Instances	
Madame Albanesi, 1934	box 1	folder 23
Allen, Adrienne, undated	box 1	folder 24
Andrews, Bobbie, undated	box 1	folder 25
Arlen, Michael, undated	box 1	folder 26
Arno, Peter, undated	box 1	folder 27
Atkinson, Brooks, undated	box 1	folder 28
Scope and Contents		
Includes transcription		
Bagnall, Stephen, undated	box 1	folder 29
Scope and Contents		
Letter written in the form of a poem about Lawrence		
Banks, Leslie, undated	box 1	folder 30
Barlow, Samuel, undated	box 1	folder 31
Barker, Eric, 1935	box 1	folder 32
Barnes, Kenneth, 1935	box 1	folder 33
Beaumont, Binkie, 1934	box 1	folder 34
Beltran-Masses, Federico, 1933	box 1	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
Letter is in French		
Bergner, Elizabeth, undated	box 1	folder 36
Bernstein, Sidney, 1931	box 1	folder 37
Bland, Roger, 1933	box 1	folder 38
Bolton, Guy, 1926	box 1	folder 39

Brent, Romney, 1933	box 1	folder 40
Bromasite, Harold Freeman, 1933	box 1	folder 41
Brown, W. Graham, 1936	box 1	folder 42
Bruce, Violet "Bunny", 1932	box 1	folder 43
Buchanan, Jack, undated	box 1	folder 44
Calthrop, Gladys, undated	box 1	folder 45
Carisbrooke, Irene, undated	box 1	folder 46
Cavendish, Charles & Adile, undated	box 1	folder 47
Scope and Contents		
Includes Christmas card with photograph of Lismore Castle		
Chevalier, Maurice, 1931	box 1	folder 48
Clare, Mary, 1935	box 1	folder 49
Clarkson, Willy, 1931	box 1	folder 50
Cochran, Chas. B., 1932-1935	box 1	folder 51
Scope and Contents		
Letters from Lawrence's producer discussing her casting in Nymph Errant and urging her to consider performing in Anything Goes.		
Cochran, Evelyn A., undated	box 1	folder 52
Colefax, Sybil, undated	box 1	folder 53
Coward, Noël, 1933	box 1	folder 54
Scope and Contents		
See Box 2 Folder 30 for related letters from Coward's secretary, Lorn Loraine.		
Cromer, Lord and Lady Ruby, 1932-1935	box 1	folder 55
Dane, Clemence, undated	box 1	folder 56
Scope and Contents		
Signed "Winifred"		
Dare, Zena, undated	box 1	folder 57
Dean, Basil, 1928	box 1	folder 58

Scope and Contents

Letter offering Lawrence the role of "Helen" in The Private Life of Helen Troy.

de Lissa, Arthur, 1932	box 1	folder 59
Scope and Contents		
Christmas card with four photographs of Notre Dame de la Mer		
Dell, Jeffrey, undated	box 1	folder 60
Delysia, Alice, 1933	box 1	folder 61
d'Erlanger, Robin, undated	box 1	folder 62
Dillingham, Charles, 1933	box 1	folder 63
Draper, Ruth, undated	box 1	folder 64
Duff, Juliet, undated	box 1	folder 65
du Maurier, Muriel, undated	box 1	folder 66
Ellis, Mary, undated	box 1	folder 67
Etting, Emlen, 1932	box 1	folder 68
Farjon, Herbert, 1932	box 1	folder 69
Fontaine, Lynn, 1934	box 1	folder 70
Foyle, Christine, 1933	box 1	folder 71
Franckenstein, George, 1935	box 1	folder 72
Freeman-Thomas, Freeman, undated	box 1	folder 73
Furber, Douglas, 1933-1934	box 1	folder 74
Geddes, R. F., 1933	box 2	folder 1
Geraghty, Tom, 1934	box 2	folder 2
Glasnzer, Jules, undated	box 2	folder 3
Golding, Louis, 1935	box 2	folder 4
Scope and Contents		
Letter asking Lawrence to consider taking a role in his upcoming adaptation of a play called Ping Pong		
Green, Johnny, 1934	box 2	folder 5
Haddon, Peter, 1934	box 2	folder 6
Hammond, Aubrey, 1931	box 2	folder 7
Hampden, Walter, 1927	box 2	folder 8

Hannen, Nicholas, 1932	box 2	folder 9
Hargreaves, Reginald, 1931-1934	box 2	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
Includes a poetic ode to Lawrence written by Hargreaves		
Harris, Jed, 1933	box 2	folder 11
Hastings, Mary, 1933	box 2	folder 12
Hay Beith, Ian, 1934	box 2	folder 13
Scope and Contents		
Letter asking Lawrence to read A.P. Herbert's Holy Deadlock in the hopes of giving her the leading role in a play adaptation		
Hicks, Seymour, 1936	box 2	folder 14
Higham, Charles F., 1935	box 2	folder 15
Hume, Benita, undated	box 2	folder 16
Jeans, Isabel, 1933	box 2	folder 17
Scope and Contents		
Letter urging Lawrence to take the role of Dierdre in an unnamed play		
Jeans, Ronald, 1931	box 2	folder 18
Kupcinet, Irv, 1946	box 2	folder 19
Laver, James, 1932	box 2	folder 20
Lawton, Frank, undated	box 2	folder 21
Lee, Auriol, 1932	box 2	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
Memo asking Lawrence to read a play on behalf of Ernest Milton		
Lengyel, Melchior, 1933	box 2	folder 23
Scope and Contents		
Letter asking Lawrence to consider the title role in Lengyel's play Angel		
Leverton, William Henry (W.H.), 1931	box 2	folder 24
Levy, Benn, undated	box 2	folder 25
Liddell, Billy, 1931	box 2	folder 26

Linley, Margaret, 1933	box 2	folder 27
Scope and Contents		
Letter and telegram from casting director of the The Theatre Guild, Inc. discussing Lawrence's casting and salary		
Lockhart, Bruce, undated	box 2	folder 28
Lockhart, Freda, undated	box 2	folder 29
Lorraine, Lorn, 1930-1934	box 2	folder 30
Scope and Contents		
See Box 1 Folder 54 for related letters from Noël Coward.		
Loring, Norman, 1932	box 2	folder 31
Losch, Tilly, undated	box 2	folder 32
Lynn, Olga "Oggie", undated	box 2	folder 33
Scope and Contents		
Praise for Lawrence in Nymph Errant		
Massey, Raymond, 1933	box 2	folder 34
Matthews, Jessie, 1935	box 2	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
See Box 2 Folder 30 for a letter from Lorn Lorraine comparing Lawrence to Matthews		
Maugham, W. Somerset, 1932	box 2	folder 36
Mendl, Elsie, undated	box 2	folder 37
Menken, Helen, undated	box 2	folder 38
Messel, Oliver, 1933	box 2	folder 39
Middleton, Elizabeth, 1933	box 2	folder 40
Jah, Moazzam (of Hyderabad), undated	box 2	folder 41
Scope and Contents		
A poem titled "Ideas"		
Molyneux, Edward, undated	box 2	folder 42
Montefiore, Eade, 1932	box 2	folder 43
Moore, Eva, 1934	box 2	folder 44
Murray, Douglas, 1932	box 2	folder 45

Scope and Contents

Letter asking Lawrence to consider taking the role of Muriel Morrison in *Acquitted*

Nichols, Beverly, 1932-1933	box 2	folder 46
Scope and Contents		
Includes a letter from Nichols on behalf of Cyril Butcher, who wishes to write "a full-page study" of Lawrence		
Novello, Ivor, undated	box 2	folder 47
Phillipson, Hilton, 1933	box 2	folder 48
Pickford, Mary, 1931	box 2	folder 49
Ponsonby, Edward Gaspard, 1935	box 2	folder 50
Potter, Jack, 1931	box 2	folder 51
Scope and Contents		
Telegram asking Lawrence to consider a lead role in <i>Haymarket Granville Barker</i> comedy		
Rhys, Lady Anne, undated	box 2	folder 52
Roche, Arthur Somers, 1930	box 2	folder 53
Rogers, Will, 1927	box 2	folder 54
Rumsey, John, 1926	box 2	folder 55
Scope and Contents		
Letter from President of American Play Company, Inc. r/e a telegram from Flo Ziegfeld		
Seidl, Lea, undated	box 2	folder 56
Selwyn, Archibald, 1932	box 2	folder 57
Sevelode of Russia, 1929-1934	box 2	folder 58
Shipman, Samuel, 1928	box 2	folder 59
Stanley, Arthur, 1933	box 2	folder 60
Scope and Contents		
Letter from the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the British Red Cross Society thanking Lawrence for singing a song from <i>Nymph Errant</i> at the Red Cross Ball		
Stanson, John, 1935	box 2	folder 61
Stern, G.B., undated		

	box 2	folder 62
Stewart, Will, undated	box 2	folder 63
Stone, Christopher, undated	box 2	folder 64
Tatham, Edward, undated	box 2	folder 65
Tempest, Marie, 1934	box 2	folder 66
Thomas, Linda Lee, undated	box 2	folder 67
Thurston, E. Temple, undated	box 2	folder 68
Toye, Francis, undated	box 2	folder 69
Tree, Maud "Lady", undated	box 2	folder 70
Van Druten, John, 1932	box 2	folder 71
Scope and Contents		
Letter notifying Lawrence that van Druten plans to write a play for her, and another offering criticism on Lawrence's line delivery in a 1932 December performance		
von Major, Aranka, 1934	box 2	folder 72
Scope and Contents		
Letter telling Lawrence about a play performed in Budapest that von Major finds suitable for Lawrence and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.		
Walker, Betty Compton, undated	box 2	folder 73
Scope and Contents		
Letter offering congratulations on a performance of Nymph Errant		
Wakefield, Hugh, undated	box 2	folder 74
Ward, George, 1933	box 2	folder 75
Whitty, May, 1933-1934	box 2	folder 76
Wilson, Jack, undated	box 2	folder 77
Wimperis, Arthur, 1934	box 2	folder 78
Wodehouse, P.G., 1927	box 2	folder 79
Scope and Contents		
Letter of congratulations for a performance		
Wyndham, Howard, 1932	box 2	folder 80
Youmans, Vincent, undated	box 2	folder 81

Zinkeisen, Doris, 1933	box 2	folder 82
unidentified correspondents, 1930-1936	box 2	folder 83

Scope and Contents

Several letters include annotations of from Doris Harris with the names of potential correspondents

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Series II: Manuscripts, 1941-1951**Scope and Contents**

This series includes manuscripts by Gertrude Lawrence, including a poem, book chapter, undelivered speech, and several articles including one for *The New York Times*. Topics include "Women and Beauty," "Mother v. Career Woman," and a reflection on her acting career. Some manuscripts include a transcription by Doris Harris. The book chapter is accompanied by a letter from Lawrence's editor, Edward Stasheff, and a table of contents for the entire proposed book can be found in Series III at the front of Lawrence's Columbia notebook.

Title/Description	Instances	
Town Hall Speech, undated	box 2	folder 84
Scope and Contents		
Handwritten draft of a town hall speech, never delivered due to disapproval from Fanny Holtzmann		
"Kind Friends and Gentle People", 1941	box 2	folder 85
Scope and Contents		
Handwritten with edits and annotations		
"On Women and Beauty", undated	box 2	folder 86
Scope and Contents		
Handwritten draft with edits, includes transcription		
"Mother v. Career Woman", undated	box 2	folder 87
Scope and Contents		
Handwritten draft with edits, includes transcription		
Autograph Manuscript, 1946-1947	box 2	folder 88
Scope and Contents		
Handwritten draft on acting, plays, and Lawrence's career		
Poem - "A Guy Named Basil Dean", undated	box 2	folder 89

Scope and Contents

A handwritten poem about Basil Dean written "with Love to Dear Mr. Director"

Book Chapter Draft and Editor Letter, 1951	box 2	folder 90
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Scope and Contents

Typed draft of first chapter for Lawrence's book, with annotations and letter from editor Edward Stasheff. A table of Contents for the whole book are is located in Box 3 Folder 1.

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Series III: Columbia University, 1951-1952**Scope and Contents**

This series includes materials relating to Gertrude Lawrence's position teaching a course on acting at Columbia University during the 1951-1952 academic year. Documents include a letter inviting Lawrence to join the Women's Faculty Club, a list of students registered in Acting 107 and Acting 108, a list of assignments for scenes in Acting 107, and a letter from impresario André Charlot offering Lawrence his thoughts on the pedagogy of acting. The highlight of the series is Lawrence's personal notebook containing her professorial notes and the notebook's black zipper casing with Lawrence's name embossed in gold.

Title/Description**Instances**

Columbia University notebook cover, 1951-1952	box 3
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Scope and Contents

Binding is ripped. "Gertrude Lawrence" embossed in Gold.

Columbia University notebook, 1951-1952	box 3	folder 1
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Scope and Contents

First two pages contain table of contents for book. See Box 2 Folder 90 for draft of first chapter.

Columbia University documents, 1951-1952	box 3	folder 2
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Scope and Contents

Letter wolcoming Lawrence to the Columbia Women's Faculty Club, enrollment lists for Acting 107 and Acting 108, Scene assignments for Acting 107. Letter

from André Charlot in response to Lawrence's request for teaching advice.

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Series IV: Personal, 1925-1955

Scope and Contents

The series includes items and documents relating to Gertrude Lawrence's personal life. The first subseries contains two diaries from 1934 and 1945, and the second contains clippings, certificates, receipts, identification cards, and other miscellaneous documents from throughout her life.

Subseries IV.1: Diaries, 1934, 1945

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes two diaries belonging to Gertrude Lawrence. The first dates from 1934, is bound in floral paper, and is sealed with a lock. It contains twelve dividers separating the pages by month. The second diary dates from 1945 and chronicles Lawrence's time on the USO (United Service Organizations) Pacific Tour. The original composition book has been bound in green fabricoid by Doris Harris, who also created a partial transcription of the diary. The contents of Lawrence's 1945 diary are addressed to her husband, Richard Aldrich. Also included are newspaper clippings, a letter from the National War Finance Committee, a photograph, and a document detailing travel orders for the USO tour.

Title/Description	Instances
1934 Diary, 1934	box 3
Scope and Contents	
Diary covered in plastic, and equipped with a small lock. The lock was opened and disabled in 2021.	
USO Pacific Tour Diary, 1945	box 3
Scope and Contents	
Diary bound in green fabricoid. Includes partial transcription. Newspaper clippings, letters, and photographs wedged at the back of the diary.	

Subseries IV.2: Miscellaneous documents, 1925-1955

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains miscellaneous items pertaining to Lawrence's personal life. Highlights include Lawrence's baptism certificate, Immigrant Identification Card with photograph, X-rays of elbow and knee joints, and a 47-page horoscope by R. H. Naylor from 1931 predicting that Lawrence "will go far in your profession" and "have a musical or artistic genius."

Title/Description	Instances
Horoscope, 1931	box 4 folder 1

Scope and Contents

Typed booklet of horoscope reading by R. H. Naylor.

Misc. - Personal, 1925-1944

box 4

folder 2

Scope and Contents

Baptism certificate, immigration card, National Registration Card, and X-Rays.

Misc. - Broad sides, Clippings, Receipts, 1932-1955

box 4

folder 3

Scope and Contents

Receipts, programs, and clippings.

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Series V: Photographs, 1934-1951**Scope and Contents**

This series contains 52 photographs of Gertrude Lawrence, including headshots, performances stills, and personal photos. Most of the photos are undated, but some have a date on the reverse written in pencil or typed and pasted. Most publicity photos also have a copyright stamp on the reverse. Many performance stills have pencil annotations listing the title of the show. Photographs range in size from 3 ½" by 2 ½" to 13 ¼" x 10 ½". Five oversized photographs are located separately from the main collection, in Map Case 15-H-13.

Subseries V.1: Headshots and publicity photos, 1943, undated**Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains two folders of headshots of Gertrude Lawrence. All are undated but one, which is also signed. Three headshots are marked "publicity" on the reverse and display copyright stamps from Dorothy Wilding and Cannons of Hollywood. Two folders of oversized headshots are located in Map Case 15-H-13, Folders 1 and 2.

Title/Description	Instances	
Headshots, 1943	box 4	folder 4
Scope and Contents		
Includes headshot in Red Cross uniform, two signed headshots, and one dated 1943.		
Publicity photos, undated	box 4	folder 5
Scope and Contents		
Three photographs marked "publicity" on the reverse.		
Headshot, undated		

mapcase 15-
H-13

Headshots, undated

mapcase 15-
H-13**Scope and Contents**

Double-sided headshots of Lawrence in a black dress with pearls

Subseries V.2: Photos with Noël Coward, 1935-1948**Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains three folders of photos of Gertrude Lawrence with longtime friend and collaborator, Noël Coward, ranging in date from 1935 to 1948. Includes photos from Coward's plays *Tonight at 8:30*, *Red Peppers*, and *Family Album*, and at a press interview in 1947 and 1948.

Title/Description	Instances	
with Coward, Noël (Folder 1 of 3), undated	box 4	folder 6
Scope and Contents		
Includes photos from <i>Tonight at 8:30</i> (marked <i>Tonight at Seven Thirty</i>).		
with Coward, Noël (Folder 2 of 3), 1935	box 4	folder 7
Scope and Contents		
Photos have typed captions affixed to the reverse. Includes "Family Affairs" and "Red Peppers" from <i>Tonight at 8:30</i> .		
with Coward, Noël (Folder 3 of 3), 1947 or 1948	box 4	folder 8
Scope and Contents		
Three photos from a press interview, dated "1947 or 1948."		

Subseries V.3: Photos with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., 1934-1935**Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains two folders of photos of Gertrude Lawrence with actor Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., with whom she was romantically involved. The photos range from 1934-1935, and includes photos from 1934 production of Philip Leader's *The Winding Road* (listed as *The Winding Journey* on reverse of photo) and Clemence Dane's *Moonlight Silver*, as well as a photo of the couple on holiday to Cornwall in 1935.

Title/Description	Instances	
with Fairbanks, Douglas, Jr. (Folder 1 of 2), 1934	box 4	folder 9

Scope and Contents

Photos of Lawrence with Fairbanks in *The Winding Journey*. Photographs have typed captions affixed to the reverse.

with Fairbanks, Douglas, Jr. (Folder 2 of 2), 1934-1935 box 4 folder 10

Scope and Contents

Photos of Lawrence with Fairbanks in *Moonlight is Silver*. Photo of the couple on holiday at the beach with newspaper clipping affixed to the reverse.

Subseries V.4: Other performance photos, 1941-1951**Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains several photos, arranged chronologically when dated, of Gertrude Lawrence in performance. Shows with multiple photos, specifically *Lady in the Dark* (1941) and *The King and I* (1951), are arranged in separate folders. Other shows represented in this subseries are the 1946 revival of *Tonight at 8:30*, *Susan and God*, and *Pygmalion*. Copyright stamps include Will Rapport, Vandamm Studio, Daily Herald, Condé Nast, John Meredith, Holtzmann & Holtzmann, Talbot, and Lucas & Pritchard. Three folders of oversized photographs, one of Lawrence with Bea Lille and two of Lawrence in dresses for Condé Nast, are located in Map Case 15-H-13, Folders 3-5.

Title/Description	Instances	
Lady in the Dark, 1941	box 4	folder 11
Scope and Contents		
Photos of Lawrence as "Jenny" and with the stage crew of <i>Lady in the Dark</i> .		
Performance photos, 1946 and undated	box 4	folder 12
Scope and Contents		
Photos from <i>Tonight at 8:30</i> , <i>Pygmalion</i> , <i>Susan & God</i> , and singing at Selgridge's.		
The King and I, 1951	box 4	folder 13
Scope and Contents		
Two photos onstage with Yul Brynner, and one in Lawrence's dressing room with a chorus of children.		
Performance photos, undated	box 4	folder 14
Scope and Contents		
Unmarked photos of Lawrence in performance.		
With Bea Lille, undated	mapcase 15-H-13	
Condé Nast photo (Folder 1 of 2), undated		

mapcase 15-
H-13

Condé Nast photo (Folder 2 of 2), undated

mapcase 15-
H-13**Subseries V.5: Personal photos, 1933-1948****Scope and Contents**

The subseries contains one folder of personal photos relating to Gertrude Lawrence. Many have annotation on the reverse or are accompanied by a slip of paper with annotations, presumably by Doris Harris. Includes a photograph of Lawrence and her daughter Pamela.

Title/Description	Instances	
Personal, 1933-1948	box 4	folder 15

Scope and Contents

Includes photos of Lawrence cooking, on holiday, and with her daughter Pamela.

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Series VI: Collection materials, 1968-1986**Scope and Contents**

This series contains items compiled by the original owner of the collection, Doris Harris, after Gertrude Lawrence's death. Items include a series of letters responding to invitations to a screening of *Star!*, the 1968 film about Lawrence starring Julie Andrews, as well as two copies of journals from 1981 with an illustration of Gertrude Lawrence in *Charlot's Revue of 1926* on the cover. Also included are tables of contents and collection descriptions compiled by Doris Harris, printed on letterhead from Doris Harris Autographs.

Title/Description	Instances	
"Star!" Letters, circa 1968	box 4	folder 16

Scope and Contents

Four letters to Michael Kaplan, Esq., of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Co. responding to invitations for a screening of *Star!*, a film about Gertrude Lawrence starring Julie Andrews.

Journals and Photograph, 1981-1986	box 4	folder 17
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Scope and Contents

Includes a photograph of the Curran Theatre, and a copy of UCLA Librarian and The UCLA Monthly with an illustration of Lawrence on the covers.

Collector descriptions, circa 1980	box 4	folder 18
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Scope and Contents

Descriptions of the collection by Doris Harris of Doris Harris Autographs.

Tables of contents, circa 1980

box 4

folder 19

Scope and Contents

Tables of contents for the collection compiled by Doris Harris of Doris Harris Autographs. Tables do not account for every item in the collection.

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