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Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum records4078631

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum
Title:	Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum records
ID:	4078631
ID:	MS#0364
Date [inclusive]:	1910-1971
Physical Description:	7.5 linear feet 14 boxes, 4 card file boxes, 3 mapcase drawers, and 5 mapcase folders
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum records; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

When the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum was dispersed in 1971, its collections were divided among the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Office of Art Properties, Barnard's Minor Latham Theatre, the Barnard Library, and the Music Library. The Rare Book and Manuscript Library received manuscripts, historical recordings (78 rpm discs and tape), theatrical printed ephemera (including playbills, scrapbooks, and programs), engravings, paintings, portraits, and photographs.

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Summary

Office files consisting of correspondence, reports, memoranda, and other documents relating to the operation of the Museum. Included are numerous biographical and topical folders on the theatrical subjects such as David Belasco, Costumes, French stage models, Helen Hayes, etc. Masks and Puppets account for 29 folders.

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Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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Revision Description

Encoded finding aid created from PDF. yh/kws 2023-04-03

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum. Method of acquisition--Transfer; Date of acquisition--1971. Accession number--M-71.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the museum, 1971.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 05/05/1989.

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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.

Custodial History

When the Museum was dispersed in 1971, its collections were divided as follows: Rare Book and Manuscript Library: manuscripts, historical recordings (78 rpm discs and tapes), theatrical printed ephemera (i.e, playbills, scrapbooks, programs, etc.), engravings, paintings, portraits and photographs. Office of Art Properties: art objects such as puppets and masks. Barnard's Munar Latham Theatre: stage and theater models. Barnard Library: phonograph records (33 1/3 rpm). Music Library: music phonograph records.

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Related Materials

Related Archival Materials

The collections stemming from and relating to the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum are described and grouped under various collection names. The [Brander Matthews Papers, 1827-1967 \(MS#0854\)](#) also includes a number of separately cataloged items, such as bound volumes of correspondence with Theodore Roosevelt. The [Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum records, 1910-1971 \(MS#0364\)](#) (this collection) are the business records of the Dramatic Museum itself. The [Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum collection of documents relating to actors and theatrical managers, 1732-1995 \(MS#0365\)](#) is collection of letters, manuscripts, and documents of prominent actors, actresses, and theatrical managers. It consists largely of single, unrelated items. The [Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum collection of theatrical business records, 1864-1911 \(MS#0363\)](#) includes box office receipts, salaries, stage properties, and expenses, for American and English theaters and two American booking agents. The [Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum Ephemera, 1750-1970 \(MS#0366\)](#) contains a variety of formats dealing with the theater, chiefly American and English, in all its aspects including drama, opera, dance, movies, puppets, and spectacles. The majority of the material documents the 19th century and includes prints, photographs, pamphlets, clippings, playbills, and programs. This collection is divided into seven units: portrait file, subject file, program file, playbill file, scrapbooks, posters and lantern slides. The [Dramatic Museum Realia, 1700-1966 \(MS#0253\)](#) contains 391 puppets, 128 masks, and 30 stage models; Art and Theatrical Machinery are also part of this collection. The [Speech Recordings records, 1925-1965 \(MS#1182\)](#) contain sound recordings divided into four subunits--Speech Recordings Collection, Speech Laboratory Archives, Tape Recordings Collection, American Speech Recordings Collection. The [Edward B. Wisely music tape recordings, 1875-1940 \(MS#1364\)](#) Tape recordings of American, English, and Irish music hall and vaudeville stars. 1875-1940. 15 items. Individually cataloged books and codex manuscripts that form the [Brander Matthews Dramatic Library](#)

Related Archival Materials

The [Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum Theatre and Costume print collection, 1787-1966 \(Avery Library\)](#) contains primarily 19th-century published prints depicting British and French dramatic theatres, with a small representation of international theatres. Other materials from the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum at Columbia but not in the RBML are in the Office of Art Properties (art objects); Barnard's Minor Latham Theatre (stage and theater models); Barnard Library (phonograph records - 33 1/3 rpm); and the Music Library (music phonograph records).

Related Materials

Other RBML collections related by provenance include the [Brander Matthews papers, Columbia University](#), [Columbia Theatre Associates records](#), [Daly's Theatre, N.Y. Records](#), [Dirce St. Cyr papers](#), [James Woodman Thompson papers](#), [Roger Wheeler theatrical](#)

[memorabilia](#), [Katherine H. Parker papers](#), [Peter Gilsey Collection of Theatrical Admission Tokens and Medalets](#), [Charles Dickens papers](#), and the [Joseph Urban Papers, 1893-1998](#).

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Controlled Access Headings

- Museums -- New York (State) -- New York
- Theater
- Playbills
- Scrapbooks
- Engravings (prints)
- Paintings (visual works)
- Phonograph records
- Portraits
- Photographic prints
- Tape recordings
- Woodcuts (prints)
- Belasco, David, 1853-1931
- Hayes, Helen, 1900-1993

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Material base and configuration--Audio tapes

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Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Material base and configuration--Sound recordings

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