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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

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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 collection of documents

relating to actors and theatrical managers

**ID:** 4079692

**ID:** MS#0365

**Date [inclusive]:** 1732-1995

**Physical** 

18 linear feet ca.4500 items in boxes 29 flat folders 2 cartons

Description: Language of the

English.

Material:

# **Biographical / Historical**

Columbia University's Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum, 1910-1971, collected materials of a theatrical interest.

# **Summary**

A collection of letters, manuscripts, and documents of prominent actors, actresses, and theatrical managers. Many of these are single, unrelated items. The largest body of correspondence is from the American actress, Charlotte Cushman (14 letters). Another figure of major interest is William Charles Macready, partly because of Miss Cushman's relationship to him (she toured with him for several years) and also as there are several of his letters. Sir Henry Irving, Edwin Forrest and James Mowatt are each represented by a few letters. A group of 8 unsigned letters may have been written by the famous singer, actress, and manager, Eliza Vestris. One box contains manuscripts of Samuel Coit, Charlotte Cushman, Clyde Fitch, Wallace Gould, Henry von Heiseler, E.H. Sothern, and Lester Wallack. Six boxes contain Augustin Daly's check stubs and bank books for Daly's Theatre, New York, for 1872-1899. (For

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additional Augustin Daly business records, see description sheets for Daly's Theatre Collection, X810.128/D15& the Dramatic Library Collection shelf list).

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## **Summary**

GEOFFROY: 86 letters removed from the Charles Michel Geoffroy, NOUVELLE GALERIE DES ARTISTES DRAMATIQUES, which contains his engravings of theatrical personalities. 15 of these letters are to L'eon Monval, stage director of the Paris Gymnase Dramatique, 1832-1852, and were transferred to the Dram. Mus.\Monval Coll. This is a collection of letters, 1828-1892, from performers, authors, directors, and those seeking boxes for the evening's entertainment. Among these are Jacques Offenbach, Pauline Viardot, Delestre Poirson, Marguerite George, Mlle Person, Rachel F'elix, and Edouard Plouvier.

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## **Summary**

GILBERT: Misc. autographs and photographs collected by Anne J. Gilbert (Mrs George Henry).

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# Summary

IRELAND: 494 autograph letters, manuscripts, and documents concerning the New York and London theater world, 1750-1899, from Ireland's own collection, which were bound in William Hartman Woodin's extra-illustrated copy of Ireland's RECORDS OF THE NEW YORK STAGE. The other items bound in this set (portraits, original drawings, playbills, views of theaters and localities referred to) are still bound in the set (in the Dramatic Museum book collection).

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## **Summary**

MONVAL: 315 letters to L'eon Monval (see also GEOFFROY above).

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## **Summary**

MOORE: 8 letters & telegrams, along with photographs, clippings, programs, and other printed materials relating to the American operatic and film star, Grace Moore, collected by June Lord-Wood, an admirer and music student.

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## Arrangement

Selected materials cataloged; remainder arranged.

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# Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Ms Coll\Dram.Mus (25 boxes, 6 of which contain cataloged correspondence); II. Ms Coll\Dr.Mus.\Geoffroy (one box); III. Ms Coll\Dr.Mus.\Ireland (3 boxes); IV. Ms Coll\Dr.Mus.\Moore (one box). Alphabetical arrangement. Collection

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#### **Administrative Information**

#### **Publication Statement**

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#### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection is located on-site.

#### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--the Museum. Method of acquisition--Deposited; Accession number--M-1956.

#### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Letters & printed misc. re. Grace Moore: Source of acquisition--Lord-Wood, June. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--08/16/1991. Accession number--M-91-08-16.

#### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Schott vs. Prestige lawsuit papers: Source of acquisition--Asadorian, William. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--06/26/1992. Accession number--M-92-06-26.

#### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Engraving of C. Unger, inscribed: Source of acquisition--Sabine, W.H.W. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--07/06/1990. Accession number--M-90-07-06.

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

letter from Julie Harris: Source of acquisition--Ashton, Jean. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--06/--/1995. Accession number--M-95-06.

#### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

32 Noel Coward Letters: Source of acquisition--Schimmel, Herbert D. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--02/11/1998. Accession number--M-98-02-11.

# **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

7 H. Granville-Barker letters: Source of acquisition--6003B. Method of acquisition--Purchase; Date of acquisition--01/21/1998. Accession number--M-98-01-21.

## **Ownership and Custodial History**

Deposit by the Museum, 1956.

# Ownership and Custodial History

Gift of W.H.W. Sabine, 1990.

## **Ownership and Custodial History**

Gift of June Lord-Wood, 1991.

## **Ownership and Custodial History**

Gift of William Asadorian, 1992.

## **Processing Information**

Processed JLW 02/--/1988.

#### **Processing Information**

Letters & printed misc. re. Grace Moore Processed HR 12/19/1991.

#### **Processing Information**

Schott vs. Prestige lawsuit papers Cataloged HR 12/03/1992.

#### **Processing Information**

Engraving of C. Unger, inscribed Cataloged HR 07/20/1994.

#### **Processing Information**

letter from Julie Harris Cataloged HR 10/12/1998.

#### **Processing Information**

32 Noel Coward Letters Cataloged HR 07/14/2000.

#### **Processing Information**

7 H. Granville-Barker letters Cataloged HR 07/20/2000.

#### **Accruals**

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

#### **Related Materials**

#### **Related 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) 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) (this collection) 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

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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 <a href="mailto:Dramatic Museum Realia">Dramatic Museum Realia</a>, 1700-1966 (MS#0253) contains 391 puppets, 128 masks, and 30 stage models; Art and Theatrical Machinery are also part of this collection. The <a href="mailto:Speech Recordings records">Speech Recordings records</a>, 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 <a href="mailto:Edward B. Wisely music tape recordings">Edward B. Wisely music tape recordings</a>, 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 <a href="mailto:Brander Matthews Dramatic Library">Brander Matthews Dramatic Library</a>

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# **Controlled Access Headings**

- Actions and defenses
- Magic tricks
- Copyright
- Design protection
- Music-halls (Variety-theaters, cabarets, etc.)
- Opera
- Theater
- Theater management
- Affidavits
- Announcements
- Autographs (manuscripts)
- Bankbooks
- Certificates
- Check stubs
- Engravings (prints)
- Financial records
- Inscriptions
- Legal documents
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Photographs
- Photographic prints
- Playbills
- Portraits
- Posters
- Programs (documents)
- Summonses

- Actors
- Actresses
- Entertainers
- Magicians
- Singers
- Sopranos (Singers)
- Theatrical managers
- Theatrical producers and directors
- Women entertainers
- Women singers
- Bennett, Dorothy Cheston, -1977
- Cochran, C. B (Charles Blake), 1872-1951
- Coit, Samuel, 1872-1933
- Cornell, Katharine, 1893-1974
- Coward, Noel, 1899-1973
- Cushman, Charlotte, 1816-1876
- Daly, Augustin, 1838-1899
- Delestre-Poirson, C.-G (Charles-Gaspard), 1790-1859
- Donaldson, Thomas
- Rachel, 1821?-1858
- Fitch, Clyde, 1865-1909
- Forrest, Edwin, 1806-1872
- Frith, Walter
- Geoffroy, Charles Michel, 1819-1882
- George, Mademoiselle (Marguerite-Joséphine Weimer), 1787-1867
- Gilbert, Anne Hartley, 1821-1904
- Gould, Wallace
- Granville-Barker, Harley, 1877-1946
- Heiseler, Henry von, 1875-1928
- Ireland, W. H (William Henry), 1777-1835
- Irving, Henry, Sir, 1838-1905
- Lawrence, A. R (Abraham Riker), 1832-1917
- Lunt, Alfred
- McClintic, Guthrie, 1893-1961
- Macready, William Charles, 1793-1873
- Matthews, Brander, 1852-1929
- Maugham, Robin, 1916-1981
- Monval, L'eon
- Moore, Grace, 1898-1947
- Mowatt, James, -1851
- Offenbach, Jacques, 1819-1880
- Parsons, Geoffrey, 1879-1956
- Plouvier, Edouard, 1821-1876
- Prestige, Fanny
- Scaife, Roger Livingston, 1875-1951
- Schott, Angie
- Sothern, E. H (Edward Hugh), 1859-1933

- Unger, Caroline, 1803-1877
- Vestris, Lucia Elizabeth Bartolozzi, 1797-1856
- Viardot-Garcîa, Pauline, 1821-1910
- Wallack, Lester, 1820-1888
- Webb, Clifton, 1893-1966
- Wilcox, Herbert, 1891-1977
- Wilenski, R. H (Reginald Howard), 1887-1975
- Woodin, William H. (William Hartman), 1868-1934
- Young, Roland, 1887-1953
- Daly's Theatre (New York, N.Y.: 30th Street)
- Théâtre du gymnase-dramatique (Paris, France)
- Daly's Theatre (New York, N.Y.: 5th Avenue)