



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Helen Brown scrapbook

1926-1941

Sc MG 520

Compiled by Diana Lachatanere, 1987. Finding aid edited and adapted to digital form by Kay Menick in 2017.

Summary

Collector: Brown, Helen

Title: Helen Brown scrapbook

Date: 1926-1941

Size: 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Helen Brown, ca. 1977.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: The Helen Brown scrapbook contains programs and reviews of plays and concerts that took place in New York City between 1926 and 1941. Included are articles and reviews of musicians, singers, actors, writers, such as Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston, and artists, such as Jacob Lawrence, Augusta Savage and James L. Allen. The programs represent a variety of performances, among them those by the Negro Opera Company and Hall Johnson's groups (the Hall Johnson Singers, Hall Johnson Jubilee Singers, and Hall Johnson Negro Choir). Also included are programs for Roland Hayes, Richard B. Harrison, Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Hazel Harrison, Abbie Mitchell, Jules Beldsoe, and the Eva Jessye Choir. The lyrics to some songs can also be found in the scrapbook..

Preferred citation: [Item], Helen Brown scrapbook, Sc MG 520, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Compiled by Diana Lachatanere, 1987. Finding aid edited and adapted to digital form by Kay Menick in 2017.

Scope and Content Note

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Programs: The Negro Opera Company; Friends Amusement Guild; Hall Johnson Singers; Hall Johnson Jubilee Singers; Hall Johnson Negro Choir; Lincoln University Commencement, 1929 and Class Day Exercises; Langston Hughes; Ethel Anderson; Sonoma Talley, Roland Hayes; James Bell; Dock Snellings; Richard B. Harrison; Four Saints in Three Acts; Negro String Quartet; William Bowers; Marian Anderson; Paul Robeson; Gilpin Players in "Joy to My Soul" by L. Hughes; James H. Walker; Waldine Williams and Marcus d' Albert; Marguerite Avery; Hazel Harrison; Abbie Mitchell; Jules Bledsoe; Eva Jessye Choir, "Stevedore," The Sphinx League; Carl Diton; Frederick Douglass Hogan; "Drums of Haiti."

Clippings/Reviews: Hall Johnson; "The Emperor Jones;" Langston Hughes; Roland Hayes; James Bell; Abbie Mitchell; "Green Pastures," Sissieretta Jones "Black Patti;" Inez Clough; Charles Gilpin; Ira Aldridge; "Black Souls;" Bloodstream," "Four Saints in Three Acts;" "Stevedore;" Zora Neale Hurston ("Amsterdam News," 4/6/35); Ethel Waters in "As Thousands;" "Mulatto;" William Grant Still; Gandhi in Africa; "Porgy and Bess;" "Walk Together Chillun;" "How Come Lawd;" "Conjure Man Dies;" Augusta Savage;" Paul Robeson; Jacob Lawrence; Samuel Coleridge Taylor; Melville Charlton; "Singin' the Blues;" "Shuffle Along of 1933;" "Hummin' Sam."

Key Terms

Subjects

African American actors
African American actresses
African American artists
African American authors
African American choirs
African American entertainers
African American musicians
African American singers
African American women artists
African American women authors
African American women entertainers
African American women musicians
African American women singers
African Americans -- Music
African Americans in the performing arts

Names

Anderson, Marian, 1897-1993
Bledsoe, Jules, 1898-1943
Brown, Helen
Harrison, Richard B.
Hayes, Roland, 1887-1977
Jessye, Eva, 1895-1992
Johnson, Hall, 1888-1970

Mitchell, Abbie
Robeson, Paul, 1898-1976
Negro Grand Opera Company