



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

Guide to the

Adam Wade scrapbooks

1959-1998

Sc MG 637

Summary

Creator: Wade, Adam

Title: Adam Wade scrapbooks

Date: 1959-1998

Size: 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of Adam Wade, 1998.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: The three scrapbooks (ca. 1970s-1990s) in this collection document Adam Wade's career, including his directorial debut with *Miss Everlasting Joy* and his screenplay, *The Dancer*. The scrapbooks are comprised of printed matter on or about the singer/actor, reviews of plays, press releases, and photographs of family, friends, and fellow thespians. There are autographed photographs of Ernie Barnes, Anita Bryant, Nat King Cole, Sammy Davis, Jr. Roberta Flack, Bill Maddock, Johnny Mathis, and Pat Morita, among others.

Preferred citation: [Item], Adam Wade scrapbooks, Sc MG 637, 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: Accessioned by P. Williams, July 1998.

Creator History

Patrick Henry "Adam" Wade, singer and actor, began a career in the entertainment field after receiving both a Billboard and Cash Box award in 1960 for his two hit songs, "Tell Her for Me" and "Ruby". Adam Wade was born in 1935, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended Virginia State College (1925-1955) on a basketball scholarship. For two years prior to relocating to New York City (1960), Wade was employed as part of the polio virus research team for Dr. Jonas Salk. Wade came to New York in order to help his friend become a lyricist. After singing his friend's compositions, Wade was signed to a recording contract. He appeared in several television commercials, for Flic My Bic, Geritol, Totes, and

Campbell Soup; had a television special (1967); and was one of the first African Americans to host a game show, *Musical Chairs*, *A. M.* (1975).

Wade worked in television, Broadway and Off Broadway theaters, and films. His television program credits include: *Good Times*, *Kojak*, *Sanford and Son*, *The Sammy Davis, Jr. Show*, *Like It Is*, and *The Della Reese Show*, among others. Some of his theater productions include: *Hallelujah Baby*, *Same Time Next Year*, and *Staggerlee*. His film credits include *Shaft* (1971), *Across 110th Street* (1972), *Come Back Charleston Blue* (1972), *Gordon's War* (1973), and *The Education of Sonny Carson* (1974).

Wade received CLIO (advertising) awards for "Virgin Islands 50 Dollar Days", 1972, and "Baby Sitter Campbell Soup", 1973. In 1995, he graduated from Lehman College, City University of New York.

Scope and Content Note

The three scrapbooks (ca. 1970s-1990s) in this collection document Adam Wade's career, including his directorial debut with *Miss Everlasting Joy* and his screenplay, *The Dancer*. The scrapbooks are comprised of printed matter on or about the singer/actor, reviews of plays, press releases, and photographs of family, friends, and fellow thespians. There are autographed photographs of Ernie Barnes, Anita Bryant, Nat King Cole, Sammy Davis, Jr. Roberta Flack, Bill Maddock, Johnny Mathis, and Pat Morita, among others.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American actors
African American entertainers
African American singers
African American theater
African Americans in the motion picture industry
African Americans in the performing arts
Authors, Black

Names

Wade, Adam

Container List

- b. 1 1959-1979
Contents primarily refer to *Guys and Dolls*.
- b. 1 ca. 1959-1995
Includes autographed photographs; advertisements for his album; and promotional material for the *The Jefferson's*, *Musical Chairs*, and *Good Times*.
- b. 1 1960-1998
Includes promotional material for appearances at the Copacabana, his greatest hits album, and the shows *King Heroin*, *Staggerlee*, and *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, among others.