



The New York Public Library Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

L. Arnold Weissburger client files

1925-1981

*T-Mss 1995-014

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2015

Summary

Creator: Weissburger, L. Arnold

Title: L. Arnold Weissburger client files

Date: 1925-1981

Size: 1.1 linear feet (3 boxes)

Source: Donated by the Anna L. Weissburger Foundation, Ltd., 1995.

Abstract: L. Arnold Weissburger (circa 1906-1981) was a theatrical lawyer. The L. Arnold Weissburger client files, dating from 1925 to 1981, document his career through letters from and legal papers regarding his clients.

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at theatre@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: L. Arnold Weissburger client files, *T-Mss 1995-014. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2015

Creator History

L. Arnold Weissburger (circa 1906-1981) was a theatrical lawyer. Over the course of a career lasting more than five decades, he represented actors, writers, composers, and designers such as S.N. Behrman, Guy Bolton, Howard Dietz, Vernon Duke, Lehman Engel, Arthur Schwartz, John Houseman, Kay Swift, Hugh Wheeler, Alec Wilder, and Patricia Zipprodt.

Scope and Content Note

The L. Arnold Weissburger client files, dating from 1925 to 1981, document the lawyer's career through letters from and legal papers regarding his clients. These include the actors John Houseman, Louis

Calhern, Judith Evelyn, and Cyril Ritchard; the stage designer Patricia Zipprodt; the lyricists and composers Kay Swift, Alec Wilder, Vernon Duke, Lehman Engel, Leslie Bricusse, Howard Dietz, and Arthur Schwartz; and the writers S.N. Behrman, Guy Bolton, Maurice Valency, Jerome Weidman, and Hugh Wheeler.

Clients with the most content are Patricia Zipprodt, Vernon Duke, Cyril Ritchard, Judith Evelyn, and Maurice Valency. The Zipprodt files primarily contain business or legal letters and contracts, and are arranged by project. Most other clients were friends with Weissburger to a greater or lesser degree, and their letters tend to be more personal, though all clients discuss legal or business questions. The Guy Bolton letters mainly discuss his attempt to write a musical with Tim Rice based on Jeeves, the P.G. Wodehouse character.

The papers also contain a script for the musical *Seventh Heaven*, by Victor Young, Stella Unger, and Victor Wolfson.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged by client name or subject.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Contracts

Letters (correspondence)

Occupations

Lawyers

Subjects

Theater -- United States -- 20th century

Names

Duke, Vernon, 1903-1969

Evelyn, Judith, 1913-1967

Ritchard, Cyril, 1897-1977

Valency, Maurice, 1903-1996

Zipprodt, Patricia, 1925-1999

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Behrman, S.N 1964-1972
- b. 1 f. 2 Bolton, Guy 1933, 1956-1972, undated
- b. 1 f. 3 Bricusse, Leslie 1943-1967
- b. 1 f. 4 Calhern, Louis 1946-1956
- b. 1 f. 5 Dietz, Howard 1961-1978
- b. 1 f. 6-8 Duke, Vernon and Kay 1956-1979, undated
- b. 1 f. 9 Engel, Lehman 1948-1977
- b. 1 f. 10 Evelyn, Judith 1943-1965
- b. 1 f. 11 Gershe, Leonard 1944-1971
- b. 1 f. 12 Gingold, Hermione 1954-1970
- b. 2 f. 1 Harris, Sam 1925
- b. 2 f. 2 Herlihy, James Leo 1969
- b. 2 f. 3 Houseman, John 1964-1967, 1976
- b. 2 f. 4-5 Ritchard, Cyril 1951-1972
- b. 2 f. 6 Schwartz, Arthur 1961-1972
- b. 2 f. 7 *Seventh Heaven* 1955
- b. 2 f. 8 Swift, Kay 1953-1972
- b. 2 f. 9 Valency, Maurice 1948-1968
- b. 2 f. 10 Weidman, Jerome 1955-1974
- b. 2 f. 11 Wheeler, Hugh 1957-1968
- b. 2 f. 12 Wilder, Alec 1961-1968, undated
Zipprodt, Patricia
- b. 2 f. 13 1968-1976
- b. 3 f. 1 1976-1979
- b. 3 f. 2 Anne Bancroft Special 1969-1970
- b. 3 f. 3 *The Crucible* 1969
- b. 3 f. 4 *The Curse of Kulyenchikov* 1980-1981
- b. 3 f. 5 *Fiddler on the Roof* 1980
- b. 3 f. 6 *The Girl Upstairs* 1969
- b. 3 f. 7 *King of Hearts* 1978
- b. 3 f. 8 Metropolitan Opera 1976
- b. 3 f. 9 *One Night Stand* 1979-1980
- b. 3 f. 10 *Stages* 1978
- b. 3 f. 11 *Swing* 1979-1980
- b. 3 f. 12 Zoezatti, Ltd 1969