



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Johnson-Liff Associates casting files**

1976-2002

\*T-Mss 2007-003

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Johnson-Liff Associates

**Title:** Johnson-Liff Associates casting files

**Date:** 1976-2002

**Size:** 6.3 linear feet (15 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by Andrew Zerman, 2007.

**Abstract:** Johnson-Liff Associates was a New York-based casting agency active from 1975 to 2002. The Johnson-Liff Associates casting files (1976-2002) consist of casting records for theater productions and for a small number of television and film projects.

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**Preferred citation:** Johnson-Liff Associates casting files, \*T-Mss 2007-003. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014 Materials were removed from binders and placed in folders.

**Related Materials:**

Johnson-Liff Associates records, \*T-Mss 2003-011. Billy Rose Theatre Division, New York Public Library ( This collection was donated in 2003 by Geoffrey Johnson.).

## Creator History

Johnson-Liff Associates was a casting agency founded in 1975 by Geoffrey Johnson and Vincent Liff. Andrew Zerman became a partner in the 1980s, and for a time the firm was known as Johnson-Liff & Zerman. The company did casting for theater, television, and film.

Johnson-Liff Associates was responsible for casting Broadway productions such as *Amadeus* (1980),

Big (1996), City of Angels (1989), Indiscretions (1995), and Me and My Girl (1986). Johnson-Liff often worked with producer Cameron Mackintosh, casting the original Broadway productions of Cats (1982) and Les Misérables (1987), among others. In 1983, the company cast Chaplin, starring Anthony Newley. The company also cast national and international tours, and Off-Broadway and regional productions such as The Red Address (1996) and a Yale Repertory production of Betty's Summer Vacation (2002). Johnson-Liff was disbanded in 2002.

## **Custodial History**

The files were in the possession of Andrew Zerman after Johnson-Liff Associates closed in 2002. Before donation, the boxes were temporarily stored at the offices of Cindi Rush Casting.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Johnson-Liff Associates casting files (1976-2002) consist of casting records for theater productions and for a small number of television and film projects. The files are arranged by production and may include casting calls and character breakdowns, letters from agents submitting actors for consideration, audition notes, and other records such as clippings, programs, correspondence with producers, song scores, and excerpts of scripts. The records include one full script: a first draft of Jeremy Sams' revision of Waiting in the Wings by Noël Coward. For a number of the productions, the only records present are submission letters from agents.

Smaller casting files are grouped together as "Miscellaneous Projects" and are arranged in roughly chronological order. Miscellaneous Projects include stage productions such as Christopher Durang's Beyond Therapy (1982), Whistle Down the Wind (1998 London production), and A Wonderful Life (1999 New York State Theater Institute production), and film and television productions such as The 10th Kingdom (2000) and Big Momma's House (2000).

Further casting files for Amadeus can be found in the Johnson-Liff Associates records (\*T-Mss 2003-011).

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged alphabetically by production. Miscellaneous Projects are listed at the end of the container list and are arranged in roughly chronological order.

## **Key Terms**

### **Occupations**

Casting directors

### **Subjects**

Musical theater -- New York (State) -- New York

### **Names**

Johnson, Geoffrey, casting director

Liff, Vincent G.

Zerman, Andrew

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Advice from a Caterpillar 1990-1991
- b. 1 f. 2-3 Ain't Misbehavin' 1988
- b. 1 f. 4-6 Alice in Wonderland 1980-1983
- b. 2 f. 1-3 Amadeus 1980-1983
- b. 2 f. 4-6 Amadeus National Tour 1981-1983
- b. 3 f. 1-2 Betty's Summer Vacation 2001-2002
- b. 3 f. 3-4 Big 1995-1996
- b. 3 f. 5-6 Big--Submissions 1995
- b. 3 f. 7 Cats 1982-1988
- b. 4 f. 1-3 Cats--Submissions 1982-1984
- b. 4 f. 4-6 Chaplin 1982-1983, 1999  
City of Angels
- b. 5 f. 1-2 New York Replacements--Submissions 1990-1991
- b. 4 f. 7 New York Replacements--Submissions 1991, 1993
- b. 5 f. 3-5 Tour--Submissions 1990-1991
- b. 6 f. 1-4 Indiscretions 1994-1995
- b. 5 f. 6 Indiscretions New York Replacements 1995
- b. 6 f. 5-6 Jeffrey--Submissions 1992-1993
- b. 7 f. 1-3 Lettice and Lovage National Tour 1991-1993
- b. 7 f. 4-5 Little Gloria... Happy at Last Submissions 1982  
Television program.
- b. 8 f. 1 Me and My Girl--Submissions 1987-1988
- b. 7 f. 6 Me and My Girl--Submissions 1987-1989  
Les Misérables
- b. 8 f. 2-5 Broadway--Submissions 1986
- b. 8 f. 7 Bus and Truck Tour--Submissions 1988
- b. 9 f. 1-2 First National Tour (Valjean)--Submissions 1987-1988
- b. 8 f. 6 Replacements--Submissions 1988-1993
- b. 9 f. 3-4 Moon Over Buffalo--Submissions 1994-1995
- b. 9 f. 5 Much Ado About Nothing 2001  
Aquila Theatre Company production.  
The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber
- b. 9 f. 6 1989-1991
- b. 10 f. 1-2 1989-1991
- b. 10 f. 3-4 Fall 1991 Tour 1991-1992
- b. 10 f. 5-6 Winter 1992 Tours 1992
- b. 11 f. 1 Sail Away 1998-1999
- b. 11 f. 2 Singin' in the Rain 1984-1985
- b. 11 f. 3-4 Stand-Up Tragedy 1990, 1999
- b. 11 f. 5-6 The Red Address 1996-1997

b. 11 f. 7-8 The Threepenny Opera--Submissions 1989

b. 12 f. 1 Waiting in the Wings Script 1999

Miscellaneous Projects

b. 12 f. 2-6 1976-1991

b. 13 f. 1-7 1990-1998

b. 14 f. 1-7 1993-2002

b. 15 f. 1-6 1996-2001