



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Kermit Bloomgarden professional files

1936-1967

*T-Mss 2013-118

Compiled by Lea Jordan, 2015

Summary

Creator: Bloomgarden, Kermit

Title: Kermit Bloomgarden professional files

Date: 1936-1967

Size: 2.1 linear feet (6 boxes)

Source: Unknown source.

Abstract: Kermit Bloomgarden (1904-1976) was an American theatrical producer. The Kermit Bloomgarden professional files document his work as a general manager under Herman Shumlin and his involvement with the Committee of Theatrical Producers.

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Creator History

Kermit Bloomgarden (1904-1976) was an American theatrical producer. In his early career, he worked as a general manager for noted theater producer Herman Shumlin. In his ten years with Shumlin, he helped produce a number of plays, including *The Children's Hour* (1934) and *The Little Foxes* (1939). In the 1940s, Bloomgarden began producing shows independently.

Bloomgarden was a founding member of the Committee of Theatrical Producers, which was formed in 1949 to address ticket scalping, production accounting practices, and other financial and logistical issues facing Broadway producers. Bloomgarden served as the treasurer for the group from 1949 to 1952 and remained a member until the group's dissolution in 1967.

Bloomgarden died at age 71 at home in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The Kermit Bloomgarden professional files document his work as a general manager under Herman Shumlin and his involvement with the Committee of Theatrical Producers.

General Manager files hold contracts, galleys, correspondence, photographs, weekly statements and other material relating to the production of various plays on which Bloomgarden worked. The type and amount of material available varies between productions. Shows include *The Children's Hour*, *Kiss Them for Me*, *The Male Animal*, and *The Little Foxes*. *The Little Foxes* is the most thoroughly documented production. Some of the correspondence is addressed to Shumlin and was forwarded on to Bloomgarden for response.

The Committee of Theatrical Producers files consist of Committee correspondence, lists of productions mounted by members, and financial material such as bills, dues, and check registers. The bulk of the financial material and correspondence dates from Bloomgarden's time as treasurer, but there is also correspondence and files from Committee chairman Leland Hayward relating to his 1966 production of *Hot September* and his dissolution of the Committee in 1967.

Arrangement: Alphabetical by file type.

Key Terms

Subjects

Theatrical managers
Theatrical producers and directors
Ticket scalping
Ticket selling registers

Names

Hayward, Leland, 1902-1971
Shumlin, Herman, 1898-1979

Container List

Committee of Theatrical Producers

- b. 1 f. 1-2 Correspondence 1949-1954
- Financial
- b. 1 f. 3-6 1949-1958
 - b. 6 Check Register 1949-1952
- Hayward, Leland
- b. 2 f. 1 Dissolution of the Committee 1967
- b. 2 f. 2-4 *Hot September* 1966
 - b. 6 *Hot September* 1966
 - Check register.
- b. 2 f. 5-6 Production Lists 1950-1951

General Manager Files

- b. 3 f. 1-3 *The Children's Hour* 1939-1940
- b. 3 f. 4-5 *The Corn is Green* 1939-1944
- b. 3 f. 6-7 *Days to Come* 1936
- b. 4 f. 1 *Grand Hotel* 1948-1956
- b. 4 f. 2 *The Great Big Doorstep* 1942-1949
- b. 4 f. 3 *Kind Lady* 1935-1956
- b. 4 f. 4 *Kiss Them For Me* 1945
- b. 4 f. 5-8 *The Little Foxes* 1938-1957
 - b. 5 f. 1 *The Little Foxes* 1938-1957
- b. 5 f. 2-3 *The Male Animal* 1939-1940