



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Glenda Farrell papers

1929-1972 [bulk 1930s-1940s]

*T-Mss 1977-007

Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2015.

Summary

Creator: Farrell, Glenda, 1904-1971

Title: Glenda Farrell papers

Date: 1929-1972 [bulk 1930s-1940s]

Size: 3.22 linear feet (5 boxes, 1 volume, 1 oversized folder)

Source: Donated by Henry Ross, 1977.

Abstract: Glenda Farrell (1904-1971) was an American stage and screen actress. The Glenda Farrell papers date from 1929 to 1972 (bulk dates 1930s-1940s) and contain scripts, sound recordings, photographs, scrapbooks, certificates, and letters.

Conditions Governing Access:

Audiovisual materials will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access. Sound recordings available by appointment only.

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Processing note: Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2015.

Creator History

Glenda Farrell (1904-1971) was an American stage and screen actress. In the 1930s, Farrell worked for Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. and was best known for her roles in the films *The Mystery of the Wax Museum* (1933) and *Torchy Blane* (1937-1939). Her stage work includes the productions of *Thanks for My Wife* (1940), *Separate Rooms* (1940), and *Mrs. Gibbons' Boys* (1949). In 1941, Farrell married Henry Ross. She died in 1971 from lung cancer.

Scope and Content Note

The Glenda Farrell papers date from 1929 to 1972 (bulk dates 1930s-1940s) and contain scripts, sound recordings, photographs, scrapbooks, certificates, and letters. The bulk of the collection consists of scripts with Farrell's personalized annotations on many of them, such as the scripts for *Thanks for My Wife*, *Mrs. Gibbons' Boys*, and *Brief Moment*. There is also a large amount of sound recordings from radio stations, such as Farrell's appearances on *Candlelight* (WABC Station, 1939), *Lincoln Highway* (WEAF Station, 1942), and the *Palmolive Show* (WEAF Station, 1944).

There are production stills from her performance in *The Mystery of the Wax Museum*, and autographed headshots from other actors. There is a scrapbook of clippings and programs from *Thanks for My Wife* and *Separate Rooms*.

The collection also includes awards, certificates, and letters such as a telegram about Farrell's Emmy nomination for her supporting role in the 1962 "A Cardinal Act of Mercy" episode on *Ben Casey*, and her 1956 certificate from the State of Oklahoma for "Honorary Colonel of the Governor's Staff." Additionally, there are congratulatory cards and telegrams (dated 1954), and cards and letters of condolences addressed to Henry Ross after Farrell's death.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged alphabetically by format.

Key Terms

Subjects

Acting
Radio and theater
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

Occupations

Actresses
Motion picture actors and actresses

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Certificates
Letters (correspondence)
Photographs
Scrapbooks
Scripts
Sound recordings

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Awards and Certificates 1929-1965
 - o. 1 Awards and Certificates 1929-1965
- b. 1 f. 2-7 Cards and Letters 1971-1972
- b. 2 f. 1-3 Cards, Letters, and Telegrams 1954, 1971-1972
- b. 2 f. 4 Photographs 1930s-1940s
 - o. 1 Photographs 1930s-1940s
 - v. 1 Scrapbook 1940-1942
- Scripts
Arranged alphabetically by title.
- b. 2 f. 5-9 B
- b. 3 f. 1-9 B-H
- b. 4 f. 1-9 H-P
- b. 5 f. 1-6 S-U
- Sound Recordings
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
- origsr.221050 *Advice to the Lovelorn Part I* 1940
- origsr.221051 *Advice to the Lovelorn Part II* 1940
- Armstrong Theatre
- origsr.221052 Parts I and IV 1942
- origsr.221053 Parts II and V 1942
- origsr.221054 Parts III and VI 1942
- origsr.221055 Parts I and IV 1942
- origsr.221056 *The Better Hour Test* 1940s
- origsr.221057 *The Better Hour Parts I and II* 1944
- Blackmail*
- origsr.221058 Parts I and IV 1947
- origsr.221059 Parts II and V 1947
- origsr.221060 Parts III and VI 1947
- origsr.221061 Bushkin, Joe 1943
"Hot Time in the Town of Berlin," and AAF band song. Not a Farrell recording.
- origsr.221062 Calling All Girls Interview 1940s
- Candlelight*
- origsr.221063 Parts I and III 1939
- origsr.221064 Parts II and IV 1939
- origsr.221065 Parts V and VII 1939
- origsr.221066 Parts VI and VIII 1939
- origsr.221067 Chase and Sanborn Program Parts I and III 1937
- origsr.221068 Chase and Sanborn Program Parts II and IV 1939
- origsr.221069 *"China Boy" on Daddy's Home/"Hair's Comento" on To the Tables Out at Curleys* 1930s
By LuLu and F.T. Not a Farrell recording.

Sound Recordings (cont.)

- origsr.221070 Christmas Overseas 1945
Tommy Farrell recording.
- origsr.221071 Groucho Marx Show Parts I and II 1950s
- origsr.221072 *The Jack Benny Program Parts I and II* 1950s
- origsr.221073 Kate Smith Program Parts I and III 1938
- origsr.221074 Kate Smith Program Part II 1938
- origsr.221075 Kraft Music Hall Part I 1936
- origsr.221076 Kraft Music Hall Part II 1936
- origsr.221077 *Lights of New York Parts I and II* 1944
Lincoln Highway Parts
- origsr.221078 Parts I and V 1940
- origsr.221079 Parts II and VI 1940
- origsr.221080 Parts III and VII 1940
- origsr.221081 Parts IV and VIII 1940
- origsr.221082 Parts I and V 1940
- origsr.221083 Parts II and VI 1940
- origsr.221084 Parts III and VII 1940
- origsr.221085 Parts I and VI 1941
- origsr.221086 Parts II and IV 1941
- origsr.221087 Parts III and V 1941
- origsr.221088 Part VII 1941
- origsr.221089 Parts IV and VI 1942
- Palmolive Show*
- origsr.221090 Parts I and IV 1944
- origsr.221091 Parts II and V 1944
- origsr.221092 Parts III and VI 1944