



The New York Public Library Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Albert W. Selden production files

1963-1973

*T-Mss 2014-136

Compiled by Diana Bertolini, 2014

Summary

Creator: Selden, Albert

Title: Albert W. Selden production files

Date: 1963-1973

Size: 8.82 linear feet (21 boxes)

Abstract: Albert Selden (1922-1987) was an American theatrical investor, composer, and producer. He worked on Broadway and for regional theaters from 1948 to 1979. The Albert Selden production files contain contracts, scripts, programs, designs, publicity materials, and financial records.

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: Albert W. Selden production files, *T-Mss 2014-136. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Diana Bertolini, 2014

Related Materials:

Albert Selden papers. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Creator History

Albert Wiggin Selden was born in New York, New York, on October 20, 1922. He studied at Yale University, graduating in 1943. His Army service during World War II earned him the Bronze Star. He started his Broadway career in 1948 by composing music for the revue *Small Wonder*, but soon shifted his professional focus to producing. Over the course of his career he produced comedies such as *The Grey Eyed People* (1952), *His and Hers* (1954); musicals including *The Body Beautiful* (1958), *Come Summer* (1969), *Irene* (1974), *Comin' Uptown* (1979), and *The Utter Glory of Morrissey Hall* (1979); the revue *The Girls Against the Boys* (1959); and dramas such as *Portrait of a Queen* (1968) and *The Lincoln Mask* (1972). He also produced two Best Musical Tony Award-winning shows, *Man of La Mancha* (1965) and *Hallelujah Baby!* (1967). From 1963 to 1967 Selden was managing director at the

Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Connecticut, where *Man of La Mancha* premiered in 1965. Selden died in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on June 6, 1987.

Scope and Content Note

The Albert Selden production files document the producing career of Albert Selden with files from the Broadway productions of *Come Summer*; *Hallelujah, Baby!*; *Irene*; *Man of La Mancha*; and *Portrait of a Queen*. *Man of La Mancha* is covered extensively with materials not only from the Broadway production, but also from the London production and domestic regional productions and tours. There materials pertaining to two productions from the 1966 season at the Goodspeed Opera House: *Engaged* and *What Every Woman Knows* and the 1967 comedy *What Do You Really Know About Your Husband*, which closed during its out-of-town tryout. Production files contain contracts, correspondence, production notes, script excerpts, costume designs, headshots, resumes, programs, playbills, investor lists, financial records, accident reports, box office records, legal papers, press releases, and reviews.

Arrangement: This collection consists entirely of production files, which are arranged alphabetically by show title.

Key Terms

Occupations

Composers
Theatrical producers and directors

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Contracts
Correspondence
Financial records
Photographs
Programs (documents)

Subjects

Musicals -- Production and direction -- New York (State) -- New York
Musicals -- United States
Theater -- Finance
Theater -- Production and direction -- United States

Names

Goodspeed Opera House

Container List

Come Summer

- b. 1 f. 1-5 1968-1969
- b. 2 f. 1-4 1968-1969
- b. 2 f. 5 *Engaged* 1966-1967

Hallelujah, Baby!

- b. 3 f. 1-4 1967-1968
- b. 4 f. 1-4 1967-1968
- b. 5 f. 1-4 1967-1969
- b. 6 f. 1-4 1967-1971
- b. 2 f. 6 *Irene* 1973

Man of La Mancha

New York

Includes the runs at the ANTA Theatre at Washington Square and on Broadway.

- b. 7 f. 1-4 1965-1968
- b. 8 f. 1-4 1966-1973

Tours

National Company Tour Stop Files 1966-1970

- b. 9 f. 1-9 New Haven - Baltimore 1966-1967
- b. 10 f. 1-4 Los Angeles 1966-1969
- b. 11 f. 1-10 San Francisco - Houston 1967-1969
- b. 12 f. 1-15 Detroit - Wilmington 1967-1969
- b. 13 f. 1-13 Philadelphia - Chicago 1968-1969
- b. 14 f. 1-21 Los Angeles - Boston 1969-1970

Bus and Truck Tour

- b. 15 f. 1-30 1968-1969
- b. 16 f. 1-5 1968-1969

General Tour Files

- b. 16 f. 6-8 1966-1968
- b. 17 f. 1-2 1968-1970
- b. 17 f. 3 Australian Production 1967-1968

British Production

- b. 17 f. 4-5 1967-1968
- b. 18 f. 1-5 1967-1970

Portrait of a Queen

- b. 19 f. 1-4 1967-1968
- b. 20 f. 1-2 1967-1968

What Do You Really Know About Your Husband

- b. 20 f. 3-5 1966-1967
- b. 21 f. 1-2 1966-1967

- b. 21 f. 3 *What Every Woman Knows* 1966-1967

b. 21 f. 4 Various Productions - Offering Circulars 1963-1964