



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Barbara Barrie papers

1949-2008

*T-Mss 2008-017

Compiled by Joyce LeeAnn Joseph, Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science, Class of 2012, and Weatherly Stephan, 2013

Summary

Creator: Barrie, Barbara

Title: Barbara Barrie papers

Date: 1949-2008

Size: 1.09 linear feet (3 boxes)

Source: Donated by Barbara Barrie, May 2008.

Abstract: These papers of American actress and author Barbara Barrie include awards, correspondence, notes, photographs, programs, and a scrapbook. The collection documents her professional career, including her award-winning roles in *One Potato, Two Potato* and *Breaking Away*, and the publication of her memoir, *Second Act: Life after Colostomy and Other Adventures* in 1997.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

Conditions Governing Access:

Scrapbook pages are brittle and researchers should exercise care when using this material.

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

Preferred citation: Barbara Barrie papers, *T-Mss 2008-017. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Joyce LeeAnn Joseph, Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science, Class of 2012, and Weatherly Stephan, 2013 The scrapbook was removed from its binding to prevent further damage to pages.

Related Materials:

Miscellaneous manuscripts: Barbara Barrie. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Creator History

Barbara Barrie is an American actress and author. She was born as Barbara Ann Berman on May 23, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois to Louis Berman and Frances Rose Boruszak. She was raised in Corpus Christi, Texas and graduated from Corpus Christi Senior High School. In 1953, Barrie received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin. In July of 1964, she married Jay Malcolm Harnick, a director and producer. They had two children, Jane Caroline Harnick and Aaron Louis Harnick.

Barrie's career as an actress began in the 1950s. *The Wooden Dish*, 1955, was her Broadway debut, and in 1956 she began television appearances. Barrie won the Cannes Film Festival's Best Actress Award (shared with Anne Bancroft) for *One Potato, Two Potato* in 1964. In 1971, she was nominated for a Tony Award for her role in the musical *Company* and in 1979 she was nominated for a Best Supporting Actress Academy Award for her role in *Breaking Away*. She received another nomination for *Breaking Away* in 1981: an Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series. Barrie is the author of two novels, *Lone Star* (1989) and *Adam Zigzag* (1995), and a memoir, *Second Act: Life after Colostomy and Other Adventures* (1997). *Second Act* was written after Barrie's battle with rectal cancer. From 1996 to 2000, Barrie played the grandmother on the television series *Suddenly Susan*. She continues to act, making episode appearances in television series; her most recent appearance was in 2011 as Carol in *Enlightened*, Season 1, Episode 9.

Scope and Content Note

The Barbara Barrie papers consist of awards, biographical information, correspondence, notes, photographs, playbills, programs, reviews, and a scrapbook. The collection documents Barrie's professional career from the early 1950s until 2008. These papers provide insight into the various plays, television series and films in which she performed, and the books she wrote. The photographs provide a visual sense of Barrie's stage performances and some also offer a glimpse into her personal life. The scrapbook consists of clippings, programs, photographs, correspondence, and publicity materials that cover Barrie's career from 1950 to 1961, with documentation of her touring theatre, summer stock, Broadway, Off-Broadway, and television appearances.

Arrangement: The papers are arranged alphabetically by subject and format.

Key Terms**Subjects**

Actresses -- United States -- 20th century
Actresses -- United States -- 21st century
Authors, American -- 20th century
Motion picture acting
Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States
Television acting
Television actors and actresses -- United States

Theatre and performance practices

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Photographs

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 *Adam Zigzag* 1993-1995
Correspondence and Notes.
- b. 1 f. 2 *After-Play* 1995
Correspondence, Playbill, and Photos.
- b. 1 f. 3 Awards Correspondence 1964-1980
Contents of Scrapbook.
- b. 1 f. 4 Barrie, Barbara 1999, undated
Biographical Information
- b. 1 f. 5 *Breaking Away* 1980
Academy Award Documents
- b. 1 f. 6 *Breaking Away* 1981
Emmy Award Program
- b. 1 f. 7 Columns, Correspondence, and Reviews 1975-1999
- b. 1 f. 8 *Company* 1970-1971
Correspondence and Playbill.
- b. 1 f. 9 *Fugue* 1992
Award
- b. 1 f. 10 *Judy Berlin* 2000
Award
- b. 1 f. 11 *The Killdeer* 1974-1975
Award, Photo, and Program.
- b. 1 f. 12 *Little Foxes* 1971
Program
- b. 1 f. 13 *Lone Star* 1990, 1994
Correspondence and Reviews.
- b. 1 f. 14-18 Photographs 1949-2008
 - b. 2 f. 1 *One Potato, Two Potato* 1964-1965
Photo and Reviews
 - b. 2 f. 2 *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* 1972-1973
Correspondence and Program.
 - b. 2 f. 3-8 Programs and Playbills 1960-2007
 - b. 3 f. 1-4 Scrapbook 1950-1961
 - b. 2 f. 9 *Second Act* 1996-1998
Correspondence and Notes.

- b. 2 f. 10 *Suddenly Susan* 1997-1999
Correspondence and Photo.
- b. 2 f. 11 **Television Shows** 1980-1994
Awards and Program.