Summary

Creator: Draper, Stephen, approximately 1906-1985

Title: Stephen Draper papers

Date: 1948-1985

Size: 5.5 linear feet (14 boxes)


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

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Processing note: Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014

Creator History
Stephen Draper (circa 1906-1985) was a theatrical agent. His best-known clients, with whom he worked for decades, were Geraldine Page and Richard Kiley. He also worked on behalf of such actors as Catherine Damon, Dick Shawn, Rip Torn, Enid Markey, Frank Aletter, Olga Bellin, and Jessie Royce
Scope and Content Note
The Stephen Draper papers (1948-1985) document Draper's work on behalf of his clients, primarily Geraldine Page, but also including Catherine Damon, Dick Shawn, Rip Torn, Enid Markey, Frank Aletter, Olga Bellin, and Jessie Royce Landis. The papers are in two sets of files: Client Files and Office Files.

The Client Files hold correspondence, contracts, programs, photographs, actor biographies, press releases, clippings, and financial records. Correspondence is between Draper and actors, presenters, theaters, producers, writers, and other agents.

Most of the collection evidences Geraldine Page's career from 1952 to 1985. Theatrical and film productions documented include Hondo (1953); Broadway, Broadway (1978); Slightly Delayed (1979); Honky Tonk Freeway (1980); The Mixed Couples (1980); Clothes for a Summer Hotel (1980); A Woman of Paris (1981); and Agnes of God (1984). The Page correspondence files refer to many other productions, and include letters from Page regarding current or prospective projects, as well as fan letters. The photographs of Page include headshots and theater and film production scenes. Many of them are publicity stills from the film Hondo, featuring Page with John Wayne.

The Office Files contain correspondence regarding routine business, as well as a large set of financial records. These document money spent by Draper for clients and income earned by them from specific projects. Arranged chronologically, they also reveal Draper's financial arrangements with some clients.

Arrangement: The papers are in two divisions: Client Files (arranged alphabetically) and Office Files (arranged by format).

Key Terms
Occupations
Actors (performing artists)
Agents (commercial representatives)

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Business records
Contracts
Correspondence
Photographs
Programs

Subjects
Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States -- 20th century
Theater -- United States -- 20th century

Names
Page, Geraldine
Container List

Client Files
b. 1 f. 1-7 A - D 1955-1984
b. 2 f. 1-3 G - K 1960s-1984
b. 14 f. 1 Landis, Jessie Royce 1951
   Scrapbook of clippings for Come Live With Me.

b. 2 f. 4-8 L - Mas 1956-1979
b. 3 f. 1-2 May - N 1960-1967
   Page, Geraldine
   b. 8 f. 4 Agnes of God 1984
   b. 8 f. 5 Angela 1968-1969
   b. 8 f. 6 Broadway, Broadway 1978
   b. 8 f. 7 Charles K. Feldman Group Productions 1952-1954
   b. 9 f. 1 Clothes for a Summer Hotel 1980
   b. 9 f. 2-5 Contracts 1952-1979
   Correspondence
   b. 9 f. 6 1952-1953
   b. 10 f. 1-5 1952-1973
   b. 11 f. 1-5 1966-1985
   b. 11 f. 6 Gage and Roberts Associates 1975-1976
   b. 11 f. 7 Honky Tonk Freeway 1980
   b. 11 f. 8 The Little Foxes, China’s Tale, and Absurd Person Singular 1974-1978
   b. 12 f. 1 The Mixed Couples 1980
   b. 12 f. 2-3 Photographs and Biographies 1953-1980s
   b. 12 f. 4-5 Programs and Press Releases 1952-1969
   b. 12 f. 6 Slightly Delayed 1979
   b. 12 f. 7 Woman of Paris 1981
b. 13 f. 1-8 P - V 1960s-1984
Office Files
b. 3 f. 3-5 Correspondence 1964-1984
   Financial Records
b. 3 f. 6-7 1948, 1954-1956
b. 4 f. 1-6 1955-1957
b. 5 f. 1-4 1955-1964
b. 6 f. 1-6 1960-1976
b. 7 f. 1-5 Undated
b. 8 f. 1-3 Undated