



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Eva Le Gallienne papers

1903-1986

*T-Mss 1992-034

Processed by Mary Ellen Rogan.

Summary

Creator: Le Gallienne, Eva, 1899-1991

Title: Eva Le Gallienne papers

Date: 1903-1986

Source: The Eva LeGallienne papers were part of her estate and were acquired in two ways: through purchase and donation. Those donated were found within the pages of books given to the library. They were organized and processed as an archival collection in June 1996.

Abstract: Eva Le Gallienne, actress, director and producer, founded Civic Repertory Theatre and also taught acting at the White Barn Theatre. Her papers contain a small selection of correspondence, photographs and handwritten notes.

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:

Photocopying prohibited.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Billy Rose Theatre Division.

Preferred citation: Eva Le Gallienne Papers, *T-Mss 1992-034, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Processing note: Processed by Mary Ellen Rogan; machine-readable finding aid created by Mary Ellen Rogan.

Related Materials:

Eva Le Gallienne papers and audiotapes

Creator History

Eva Le Gallienne, actress, director and producer, was born in London, England on January 11, 1899.

Her theater debut was at the age of 15 in the London production of *Monna Vanna* in which she played a page. She made her New York debut in 1915 in the play *Mrs. Boltay's Daughters*. In 1926, Eva LeGallienne founded the Civic Repertory Theatre where she directed and starred in many of the productions including *The Master Builder*, *The Three Sisters*, *Twelfth Night* and *Hedda Gabler* to name a few. In 1941 she produced and directed *Ah, Wilderness!*

In 1946 with Cheryl Crawford and Margaret Webster she founded the American Repertory Theatre. Eva Le Gallienne toured in *The Corn Is Green* which opened at New York City Center in 1950. She also toured with the National Repertory Theatre in the play *Mary Stuart*. Other touring productions include *The Seagull* and *Ring Around the Moon*.

Ms. Le Gallienne's television credits include the *Hallmark Hall Of Fame* production of *Alice in Wonderful*, *Playhouse 90* broadcast of *The Corn Is Green*, *Dupont Show of the Month* production of *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* and *Mary Stuart* for *Kraft Television Playhouse*.

Scope and Content Note

The Eva Le Gallienne papers contain correspondence, photographs, some handwritten notes and one notebook about the Civic Repertory Co.

Correspondence includes letters from Eleonora Duse to a Mr. Smith as well as letters to Eva Le Gallienne from friends and professional acquaintances.

Arrangement: Series I: Correspondence Series II: Personal Papers

Key Terms

Subjects

Theater -- United States

Names

Le Gallienne, Eva, 1899-1991

Duse, Eleonora, 1858-1924

Civic Repertory Company

Container List

Series I: Correspondence, . 1903-1986 (7 folders)

This series contains correspondence from friends, fans and business acquaintances. Included are letters from Brian Aherne, Ferenc Molnar, Blache Yurka, Otis Skinner and a friend named Desiree Wertheimstein. Also included are three letters (with translations) from Eleanora Duse to a Mr. Smith.

Alphabetical

- b. 1 f. 1 Correspondence "A-C" 1944-1966 (1 folder (7 letters, 1 env. and 1 photograph))
slider
Includes letter from Brian Aherne.
- b. 1 f. 2 Correspondence / Eleonora Duse 1903 (1 folder (3 letters, 3 env. and 3 translations))
Letters written by Eleanora Duse to a Mr. Smith. Translation of letter included.
- b. 1 f. 3 Correspondence "G-M" 1930 (1 folder (10 letters))
Molna_r, Ferenc, 1878-1952
Includes letter from Ferenc Molnar.
- b. 1 f. 4 Correspondence "R-Z" 1926-1973 (1 folder (7 letters, 1 note written on a env., 1 env.))
Yurka, Blanche
Includes letter from Blanche Yurka.
- b. 1 f. 5 Correspondence / Robert A. Schenke 1973-1986 (1 folder (9 letters, 1 telegram))
- b. 1 f. 6 Correspondence / Desiree Wertheimstein 1924-1925 (1 folder (4 letters).)
- b. 1 f. 7 Unidentified correspondence (1 folder (3 letters, 2 env., 1 card))
Unidentified correspondence in English and in French to Eva LeGallienne.

Series II: Papers (4 folders)

This series contains a folders with handwritten notes on Ibsen and an unidentified production of *St. Joan* as well as a notebook on the Civic Repertory Co, and ephemeral items. Included in these are greeting cards, photographs and postcards.

- b. 1 f. 8 Notes on Ibsen / Eva Le Gallienne (1 folder.)
Miscellaneous notes and materials on Ibsen. Postcards of Ibsen's home included.
- b. 1 f. 9 Notes on *St. Joan* / Eva Le Gallienne (1 folder.)
Saint JoanShaw, Bernard, 1856-1950
Blocking notes for the staging of *St. Joan*.
- b. 1 f. 10 Notebook about the Civic Repertory Company productions (1 folder)
Civic Repertory Company
Handwritten notebook belonging to Eva LeGallienne on productions at Civic Repertory Co.
- b. 1 f. 11 Ephemera (1 folder.)
Cards, bookmarks and photographs belonging to Eva LeGallienne.