



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Letters to James R. Pattarini**

1943-1948

\*T-Mss 1998-039

## Summary

**Creator:** Landis, Carole, 1919-1948

**Title:** Letters to James R. Pattarini

**Date:** 1943-1948

**Size:** .5 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Papers: Purchase, Charles Apfelbaum, 11/23/1998

**Abstract:** Carole Landis, born Frances Ridste on January 1, 1919 in Fairchild, Wisconsin, was a film star of the 1940s who entertained American troops with the USO during World War II. She began her film career as an extra in 1937 and became a leading lady in 1940 when she appeared in ONE MILLION B.C. She worked on many films through the 1940s including TURNABOUT (1940), TOPPER RETURNS (1941), HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME (1944), IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG (1946), and A SCANDAL IN PARIS (1946). Landis died on July 5, 1948 from an overdose of sleeping pills while in the midst of getting divorced from her fourth husband. Collection consists of letters by Carole Landis or her personal secretary, Nan Stuart, to Jimmy Pattarini, a young soldier and fan. They document Landis' busy schedule travelling from coast to coast as well as overseas to shoot films or tour. Includes a few snapshots of Landis and Stuart and Pattarini's Request for Special Liberty to meet Landis at the 20th Century Fox Studios.

**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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## Creator History

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### **Scope and Content Note**

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### **Key Terms**

#### **Subjects**

Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States  
Soldiers -- Recreation  
World War, 1939-1945 -- War work

#### **Names**

Landis, Carole, 1919-1948  
Pattarini, James R  
Stuart, Nan