



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils records

1941-1949

*T-Mss 2013-109

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2013

Summary

Creator: Beam, Ward

Title: Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils records

Date: 1941-1949

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Unknown donor, unknown date.

Abstract: Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils and the Jimmie Lynch Death Dodgers were motorized thrill-shows that toured North America during the 1940s. The collection dates from 1941 to 1949 and holds programs, press releases, and newspaper clippings relating to Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils and the Jimmie Lynch Death Dodgers.

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 Robyn Hjermsstad, 2013 Original order was maintained.

Creator History

Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils and the Jimmie Lynch Death Dodgers were motorized thrill-shows that toured North America during the 1940s. The shows featured series of events in which Hollywood stuntmen and daredevils performed risky automotive driving stunts, such as head-on collisions with other automobiles and structures, and driving through rings of fire.

Scope and Content Note

The collection dates from 1941 to 1949 and holds programs, press releases, and newspaper clippings relating to Ward Beam's World Champion Daredevils and the Jimmie Lynch Death Dodgers. Press releases for the World Champion Daredevils contain detailed descriptions of the stunts that were part of the show. Programs for both the World Champion Daredevils and the Death Dodgers describe the history of each show and the stunts and stuntmen involved. The clippings review events from both shows in Texas, Illinois, and Pennsylvania.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)

Press releases

Programs (documents)

Subjects

Stunt Driving