Summary

Title: Circus collection

Date: 1870s-1940s

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Compiled by staff members of the Billy Rose Theatre Division.

Abstract: This collection dates from the 1870s to the 1940s and consists of programs, clippings, advertisements, tickets, and pamphlets that document the history of the circus as well as New York City-based, national, and international circus troupes. Many clippings and advertisements are for P. T. Barnum's and the Ringling Brothers's traveling circuses. Drafts of circus-related writings by theatre manager Frank Wilstach are also included.

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 Weatherly Stephan, 2015

Key Terms

Subjects
Circus -- New York (State) -- New York
Circus -- United States -- History
Genre/Physical Characteristic
Clippings (information artifacts)
Programs (documents)

Names
Wilstach, Frank Jenners, 1865-1933
P.T. Barnum (Firm)
Ringling Brothers