Summary

Creator: Soho Rep. (Theater company)

Title: Soho Repertory Theatre prompt books

Date: 1975-1989

Size: 6.8 linear feet (17 boxes)

Source: Donated by Soho Repertory Theatre, 1990.

Abstract: Soho Repertory Theatre is an Off-Broadway theater company in New York City. The Soho Repertory Theatre prompt books date from 1975 to 1989, and document the development process for theatrical productions from their first fourteen seasons.

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 Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at theatre@nypl.org.


Processing note: Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2015

Related Materials:

Creator History
Soho Repertory Theatre, commonly known as Soho Rep, is an Off-Broadway theater company in New York City. It was founded in 1975 by Marlene Swartz and Jerry Engelbach in the SoHo neighborhood of Manhattan. In the mid-1980s, Soho Rep had to leave its original home, and moved a few times before settling in Manhattan's Tribeca neighborhood in 1991.

Soho Rep's original mission was to produce adaptations of classics and rarely staged plays. Its first season, 1975-1976, opened with such productions as Maxwell Anderson's *Key Largo* and Henrik Ibsen's *The Master Builder*. Other productions from its formative seasons include Frank Marcus's *The Killing of Sister George* (1977-1978, Season 3); John Osborne's *Inadmissible Evidence* (1978-1979, Season 4); and William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* (1979-1980, Season 5).

**Scope and Content Note**
The Soho Repertory Theatre prompt books date from 1975 to 1989, and document the development process for theatrical productions from their first fourteen seasons. The prompt books contain a list of the cast and crew, annotated scripts, rehearsal schedules, and some tech notes. The collection does not hold a prompt book for every production from these formative seasons, and there are no materials from Season 11 (1985-1986) and Season 12 (1986-1987). All the included scripts are the stage director's copies. There is also sheet music from the Blitzstein Project (1988-1989, Season 14).

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged by season in the order of production. The order numbers are retained under notes in the container list; and any unnumbered prompt books were placed at the end of each season in alphabetical order. It was not clear to what season a few scripts belonged, so those are listed separately at the end of the collection.

**Key Terms**

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**
Promptbooks  
Sheet music

**Subjects**
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York  
Theater -- Production and direction  
Theatrical companies

**Occupations**
Theatrical producers and directors
## Container List

### 1975-1976, Season 1

- **b. 1 f. 1**  
  *Key Largo*  
  1

- **b. 1 f. 2-4**  
  *Coriolanus*  
  3

- **b. 1 f. 5**  
  *Anna Christie*  
  5

- **b. 1 f. 6**  
  *Infernal Machine*  
  6

- **b. 2 f. 1**  
  *Heartbreak House*  
  7

- **b. 2 f. 2**  
  *The Father*  
  8

- **b. 2 f. 3**  
  *Abelard and Heloise*  
  11

- **b. 2 f. 4**  
  *Bimbos in Paradise*  
  11

- **b. 2 f. 5-6**  
  *Candida*  
  12

- **b. 2 f. 7**  
  *Private Lives*  
  13

- **b. 3 f. 1**  
  *The Congresswomen*

- **b. 3 f. 2**  
  *The Imaginary Invalid*  
  1976-1977, Season 2

- **b. 3 f. 3**  
  *Birthday Party*  
  1

- **b. 3 f. 4**  
  *July 2 and Thanksgiving*  
  2

- **b. 3 f. 5**  
  *Ghosts*  
  3

- **b. 3 f. 6**  
  *Under Milk Wood*  
  4

- **b. 3 f. 7**  
  *Dracula*  
  5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976-1977, Season 2 (cont.)</td>
<td><strong>The Merchant of Venice</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Dock Brief / The Public Eye</strong></td>
<td>9-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Black Comedy</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>What the Butler Saw</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Faustus X7</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Spring's Awakening</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Billy Lair</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rain</strong></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-1978, Season 3</td>
<td><strong>The Killing of Sister George</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Peer Gynt</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Mr. T</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Play's the Thing</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Abelard and Heloise</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Four Little Girls</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Philadelphia Here I Come</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Magistrate</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Cyrano DeBergerac</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1977-1978, Season 3 (cont.)

b. 6 f. 4  Poe in Person  
16

b. 6 f. 5  The Real Inspector Hound  
18

b. 6 f. 6  The Miser  

b. 6 f. 7  Traveler Without Luggage  

b. 7 f. 1  Fallen Angels  
1

b. 7 f. 2  The Servant  
2

b. 7 f. 3-4  Richard III  
3

b. 7 f. 5  Overruled  
6-7

b. 7 f. 6  Guernica / Only Ten Minutes to Buffalo  
8-9

b. 7 f. 7  Deathwatch / Action  
11-12

b. 7 f. 8  The Poet and the Woman  
15

b. 8 f. 1-2  Inadmissible Evidence  

b. 8 f. 3-5  The Knights of the Round Table  
1979-1980, Season 5

b. 8 f. 6  The Barber of Seville  
3

b. 8 f. 7  We Have Always Lived in the Castle  
4

b. 8 f. 8  Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats and Gamblers  
11

b. 9 f. 1  The Tricycle / The Party  
14-15

b. 9 f. 2-4  Fairy Tales of New York  
18

b. 9 f. 5  Feathertop  

b. 9 f. 6  The Insect Comedy  

b. 9 f. 7  The Second Man  
1979-1980, Season 5 (cont.)

b. 10 f. 1  
Tom Thumb

1980-1981, Season 6

b. 10 f. 2-3  
Desire Caught by the Tail

b. 10 f. 4  
Dark Ride
b. 10 f. 5  
The Doctor and the Devils
b. 10 f. 6-7  
The Idol Makers
b. 10 f. 8  
Love in the Country

b. 11 f. 1-2  
Love in the Country

1981-1982, Season 7

b. 11 f. 3-5  
Barbarians
b. 11 f. 6  
The Girl Who Ate Chicken Bones
b. 11 f. 7  
Nathan the Wise
b. 11 f. 8  
Subject to Fits
b. 12 f. 1-2  
Subject to Fits

1982-1983, Season 8

b. 12 f. 3-5  
Fanshen
b. 12 f. 6  
Kid Twist
b. 12 f. 7-8  
Rape Upon Rape
b. 12 f. 9  
The Silver Tassie

1983-1984, Season 9

b. 13 f. 1  
Bertha, Queen of Norway
b. 13 f. 2-3  
The Business of Good Government
b. 13 f. 4  
The Dwarfs
b. 13 f. 5  
Lenz
b. 13 f. 6-8  
Mandrake
b. 13 f. 9  
Under the Gaslight
b. 14 f. 1  
The Wood Painting
b. 14 f. 2  
Yes is for a Very Young Man

1984-1985, Season 10

b. 14 f. 3  
The Crimes of Vautrin
b. 14 f. 4  
Energumen

1987-1988, Season 13

b. 14 f. 5-6  
The Girl of the Golden West

1988-1989, Season 14

b. 14 f. 7-9  
The Blitzstein Project
b. 15 f. 1-4  
The Blitzstein Project
b. 16 f. 1-17  
The Blitzstein Project
b. 17 f. 1-6  
The Blitzstein Project
b. 15 f. 5  
The Cezanne Syndrome
b. 15 f. 6  
Antigone
b. 15 f. 7  Chelsea Square
b. 15 f. 8  With Green Stockings