



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Philippa Bevans and Viola Roache photographs and reviews

circa 1920-1962 [bulk 1950s-1960s]

*T-Mss 2015-014

Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2015

Summary

Creator: Roache, Viola, 1885-1961

Title: Philippa Bevans and Viola Roache photographs and reviews

Date: circa 1920-1962 [bulk 1950s-1960s]

Size: .4 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Florence Anglin, 1999.

Abstract: Philippa Bevans (1913-1968) and her mother Viola Roache (1885-1961) were British character actors in the theatre whose work is documented through photographs and reviews.

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 Valerie Wingfield, 2015

Creator History

Viola Roache (1885-1961) was a British character actress whose appearances include the long running production of *My Fair Lady* that ran from 1956 to 1962. Roache also appeared on television and in the movies. Roache died in 1961.

Her daughter, Philippa Bevans (1913-1968) was born in London, England. Bevans's father was the actor Lionel Bevans. She appeared with her mother in *My Fair Lady* during the first two years of the

production. Bevans worked extensively in stage productions, on television and on the screen. She died in New York City in 1968.

Scope and Content Note

The Philippa Bevans and Viola Roache photographs and reviews, dated circa 1920 to 1962 (bulk dates 1950s-1960s), document their careers mostly from photographs taken during theatrical productions. Other photographs are family pictures including pictures of Bevans as a child and her mother as a young actress.

The collection also includes a biographical sketch, notes, reviews of their work and several playbills from productions.

Key Terms

Occupations

Actors

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings

Photographs

Playbills

Names

Bevans, Philippa

Container List

Bevens, Philippa

b. 1 f. 1-2 Photographs 1920s, 1950s-1960s

Playbills

b. 1 f. 3 *Arm and the Man*

b. 1 f. 4 *Virtue in Danger* 1950

b. 1 f. 5 Reviews 1950-1962

Roache, Viola

b. 1 f. 6 Clippings circa 1960

b. 1 f. 7-10 Photographs circa 1920s, 1950s-1960s

b. 1 f. 11 *Playbill. Suspect*

Writings

b. 1 f. 12 Biographical Sketch

b. 1 f. 13 Unidentified Theatrical Notes