



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Amelia Romano papers**

1936-1990s [bulk 1960s]

\*T-Mss 2015-015

Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2015

## Summary

**Creator:** Romano, Amelia

**Title:** Amelia Romano papers

**Date:** 1936-1990s [bulk 1960s]

**Size:** .6 linear feet (1 box, 1 volume)

**Source:** Donated by Florence Anglin, 2001?

**Abstract:** Amelia Romano (circa 1907-2000?) was an American character actor who worked in theatre, on television and in the movies. The collection holds photographs, a scrapbook and telegrams.

**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

Amelia Romano (circa 1907-2000?) was a character actor who may have been born in Italy and immigrated with her family to the United States. One of her first roles was portraying Virginia Clemm, the child-bride of Edgar Allen Poe in the theatrical production *Plumes in the Dust* (1936-1937). On screen, one of Romano's many roles included portraying a window scrubber in Paul Robeson's *Native Land* (1942).

Over the decades, she also toured with theatrical companies; appeared on television shows; and on dramatic radio programs. Romano died around 2000.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Amelia Romano papers (1936 to 1996, bulk dates 1960s), document the character actor's career primarily through photographs, reviews, telegrams and a scrapbook.

At the start of her career, Romano created a scrapbook about the acclaimed production *Plumes in the Dust* that featured playbills and reviews from the road tour to the production's debut on Broadway at the 46th Street Theatre. The scrapbook also holds reviews for two other productions: *Marching Song* and *Red Harvest*.

The photographs include pictures of Romano from *Native Land*, *Plumes in the Dust*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and other dramatic works; publicity photographs of Romano; and non-theatrical photographs.

Other materials include congratulatory telegrams received at the beginning of her career, letters, playbills, her resumes, reviews, a pencil sketch of Romano and school writings.

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged by format.

### **Key Terms**

#### **Occupations**

Actors

#### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Photographs

Playbills

Scrapbooks

Sketches

#### **Subjects**

Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Letters and Telegrams 1937-1938, 1960s-1990s
  - Photographs
  - Productions
- b. 1 f. 2 *Chalk Dust (?)* 1937
- b. 1 f. 3 *Dear Me, the Sky is Falling* 1966
- b. 1 f. 4 *Eve of St. Mark* 1942-1943
- b. 1 f. 5 *Love for Love* 1967
- b. 1 f. 6 *Native Land* 1942
- b. 1 f. 7 *Plumes in the Dust* 1936
- b. 1 f. 8 *(The) Skin of Our Teeth* 1967
- b. 1 f. 9-11 Unidentified Productions 1930s-1960s
- b. 1 f. 12-16 Publicity 1930s-1990s
- b. 1 f. 17 Non-Theatrical 1940, 1990s
  - Playbills
- b. 1 f. 18 Celebration of Emma Lazarus
- b. 1 f. 18 *Jewish Revolutionaries of 76* 1975
- b. 1 f. 18 *Land's End* 1946
- b. 1 f. 18 *(A) Man for all Seasons* 1963
- b. 1 f. 18 *Oui Dad*
- b. 1 f. 18 *Spoon River Anthology* 1967
- b. 1 f. 18 *The 23rd Story and It's Like a Touch*  
Double bill productions.
- b. 1 f. 18 *Upstate Mourning*
- b. 1 f. 19 Reviews 1930s-1960s
- b. 1 f. 20 Resumes 1960s-1970s
- b. 1 f. 21 School Papers 1940s-1950s
- b. 1 f. 22 Sketch 1950s-1960s
- b. 1 f. 23 Assorted Material 1963-1980s
  - v. 1 Scrapbook 1936-1937