

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK COLLECTION

PAPERS, 1929-1983
6 linear feet

The Billy Rose Theatre Collection
The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center

8-MWEZ + n.c. 27,941-27,955

-T-111-111-111
**T-MS 1984-003*

December, 1988 (jem)

INTRODUCTION

The Shepperd Strudwick Collection was donated to The New York Public Library, Billy Rose Theatre Collection in September, 1984 by his wife Mary Strudwick. The manuscript material remained with the Billy Rose Theatre Collection and the recorded material was turned over to the Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound. An inventory of the original gift is contained in the appraisal which is filed in the collections file.

The manuscript material was received in good condition and relatively good order. Photographs were removed because they consisted exclusively of publicity shots and they were filed with the photograph collection. Duplicate photographs and papers were deaccessioned. The collection was divided into six series and eight sub-series. This arrangement was necessary because Mr. Strudwick had two separate careers as an actor and as an educator. The collection also contains the papers of his third wife.

BIOGRAPHY

Shepperd Strudwick was born September 22, 1907 in Hillsboro, North Carolina. He was educated at the University of North Carolina and was a member of the university's acting troupe "The Carolina Playmakers." He was married to 1) Helen Wynn (marriage dissolved); 2) Jane Straub (marriage dissolved); 3) Margaret O'Neill (marriage dissolved); and 4) Mary Jeffrey. He studied with Leo Bulgakov, Samuel Rosen, and Lee Strasberg.

In his early acting career Strudwick performed at the Surry Playhouse and with the Jitney Players. His first stage appearance was at the Charles Coburn Theatre in New York, October 1928, in a revival of "The Yellow Jacket." Before his death he had appeared in over 100 plays. He had 35 leading roles on the stage in New York, 28 in road and regional theatre, and 75 in stock. He was nominated for a Tony award for his performance as Jared in "To Grandmother's House We Go." His last appearance on Broadway was in 1981 when he replaced Gary Merrill in the Tony award winning "Morning's At Seven." He also appeared in over 50 movies and over 50 television programs. In some films in the early 1940's he used the alternative professional name of John Shepperd. His movie credits include roles in two Academy Award winners "All The King's Men" and "A Place In The Sun." He also appeared in "The Red Pony." He received awards for his performance as Victor Lord in the television daytime serial "One Life to Live." Strudwick also performed on radio and in commercials.

Strudwick's long career also included teaching. From 1971-1972 he was an artist in residence at the University of Detroit. He died January 15, 1983.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection measures 6 linear feet and is comprised of the following series:

I. Acting Career: a) Personal Papers, b) Business Correspondence, c) Plays, d) Plays Annotated or Critiqued by Strudwick, e) Plays Rejected or Not Performed, f) Films, g) Television, h) Other Media; II. Teaching Career; III. Financial Papers; IV. Condolence Letters and Memorial Tributes; V. Margaret O'Neill's Career; VI. Scrapbooks

The collection consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, programmes, memorabilia, scripts, and other material related to the career of Shepperd Strudwick. The collection documents in detail the rise of Strudwick's career from "The Carolina Playmakers" to his nomination for the Tony award for "To Grandmother's House We Go," including financial statements and contracts that reveal how much he made between 1952 and 1978. The collection also contains information about accusations by the Onandaga County American Legion that Strudwick was a communist and his reaction to those statements (Box 27,941, Folder 10). Some insight into his acting technique is provided in the folder on the Actor's Studio (Box 27,941, Folder 5) and the folder on his teaching career at the University of Detroit (Box 27,953, Folder 3). Some information about his third wife Margaret O'Neill's acting career is also included in the collection and filed in Box 27,954, Folder 5.

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK COLLECTION 8-MWEZ +n.c.
 27,941 - 27,955

I. ACTING CAREER

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
PERSONAL PAPERS				
27,941 (1)	1	Biographical Information (resumes and credits)	58	undated
	2	Biographical clippings	6	1947, 1976
	3	Memorabilia	2	1951, 1960
BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE				
	4	A-F	48	1952-1981
	5	Actor's Studio	13	1963-1982
	6	Carolina Dramatic Association	2	1958, 1973
	7	Cotton, George	12	1973-1976
	8	G-L	54	1952-1977
	9	M-Z	110	1938-1983
	10	Onandaga County American Legion	9	1954-1955
	11	Richmond Woman's Club Speech	22	1974-1979
	12	University of North Carolina Speech	21	1982
	13	Unidentified Correspondants	10	1952-1982
PLAYS AND MUSICALS				
27,942 (2)	1	The Jitney Players	4	1929-1930
	2	The Surry Playhouse	6	1929-1930
	3	"The Torchbearers:	3	1931
	4	"Both Your Houses," "Let Freedom Ring," "Candida," "As You Like It," "Great Lady" "Three Sisters," "In Abraham's Bosom"	17	1932-1939
	5	"Christopher Blake," "The Stone Jungle"	7	1946-1948
	6	"Affairs of State"	23	1950-1952

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,943 (3)	1	"Affairs Of State" scripts	2	1950
	2	"The Bat"	2	Jan 1953
	3	"The Ladies Of The Corridor"	19	Nov. 1953
	4	"The Doctor's Dilemma"	8	Jan. 1955
	5	"Shadow and Substance"	6	March 1955
	6	"Medea"	14	May-July 1955, 1978
	7	"Medea" script	1	1955
	8	"The Sea Gull"	5	1956
	9	"Angel Street"	7	July 1958
	10	"Compulsion" "Shadow and Substance"	2	August 1958
	11	"The Night Circus"	7	November 1958
	12	"A Desert Incident"	4	March 1959
	13	"Mister Roberts"	6	May - June 1959
	14	"Blue Denim"	2	July 1959
	15	"The Moon Is Blue"	5	August 1959
	16	"Only In America"	13	November 1959
27,944 (4)	1	"J.B."	63	1960-1961
	2	"Silent Night, Lonely Night"	4	June 1960
	3	"Marriage Go Round"	6	June 1961
	4	"The Great Waltz"	2	July 1961
	5	"Ding Dong Bell"	1	September 1961
	6	"Ghosts"	2	November 1961
	7	"Isle of Children"	1	March 1962
	8	"The Best Man"	18	1962
	9	"The Best Man" script	1	1962
	10	"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"	100	1962-1964

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,944 (4)	11	"Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?" script	1	1962
	12	"Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?" script	1	1963
27,945 (5)	1	"Man For All Seasons," "Uncle Vanya"	10	1964
	2	"The Last Days Of Lincoln"	12	Feb-April 1965
	3	"The Last Days Of Lincoln" script	1	1965
	4	"The Devils Of London"	15	Oct-Nov 1965
	5	"The Devils Of London" script	1	1965
	6	"The Devils Of London" script	1	1965
	7	Shakespeare Festival In The Park (N.Y.) "Julius Caesar"	4	April-June 1966
	8	Shakespeare Festival In The Park (N.Y.) "Measure For Measure"	12	July 1966
	9	"Galileo"	11	1967
	10	"Here's Where I Belong"	4	Jan 1968
	11	"Take Me Along"	8	June - July 1968
	12	"The Price"	96	Feb 1969-1970
27,946 (6)	1	"The Price" newspaper clippings	51	1969-1970
	2	"The Price" script	1	1967
	3	"The Price" scripts	2	1968
	4	"In The Matter Of J. Robert Oppenheimer"	6	July-Sept 1969
	5	"Pueblo"	34	1971, 1977
	6	"Scratch"	11	May 1971
	7	Shakespeare Festival In The Park (N.Y.) "Timon Of Athens"	17	June 1971
	8	"Assassination 1865"	5	October 1971

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,947 (7)	1	"Assassination 1865" script	1	1971
	2	"Assassination 1865" script alterations	1	1971
	3	"A Public Prosecutor Is Sick Of It All"	24	1971-1973
	4	"A Public Prosecutor Is Sick Of It All" script	1	1971
	5	Shaw Festival (Canada) "The Royal Family"	6	June-July 1972
	6	"The Royal Family" script	1	1972
	7	"A Conflict Of Interest"	10	Oct. 1972
	8	"Death Of A Salesman"	38	Nov. 1972
	9	"Death Of A Salesman" script	1	1972
	10	"Death Of A Salesman" script	1	1972
	11	"The Assignment"	5	May 1973
27,948 (8)	1	"The Desert Song"	55	June-Sept 1973
	2	"The Desert Song" script	1	1973
	3	"Noel Coward In Two Keys"	13	Feb-March 1974
	4	"Wilson"	33	Oct-Nov 1974
	5	"Wilson" script	1	1974
	6	"Eccentricities Of A Nightingale"	68	1976
	7	"Eccentricities Of A Nightingale" script	1	1976
	8	"Eccentricities Of A Nightingale" script	1	1976
	9	"The Crucible"	15	Jan-March 1977
27,949 (9)	1	"Master Builder"	28	June-July 1977
	2	"Master Builder" script	1	1977
	3	"Semmelweiss"	15	Sept-Nov 1977
	4	"The Wild Duck"	32	Feb-April 1978

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,949 (9)	5	"The Wild Duck" script	1	Spring 1978
	6	"Winslow Boy"	12	January 1980
	7	"To Grandmother's House We Go" at the Alley Theatre in Houston Texas	19	Sept-Nov 1980
	8	"To Grandmother's House We Go" at the Biltmore in New York	78	Jan 1981
	9	"To Grandmother's House We Go" scripts	2	1980
27,950 (10)	1	"To Grandmother's House We Go" script	1	1980
	2	"To Grandmother's House We Go" Tony Award Nomination	13	May-June 1981
	3	"Morning's At Seven"	65	April 1981-June 1982
	4	"Morning's At Seven" script	1	1981
	5	"Morning's At Seven" script	1	1981
	6	"Children Of Pride"	12	1982
SCRIPTS ANNOTATED OR CRITIQUED BY SHEPPERD STRUDWICK				
27,950 (10)	7	"Charley's Aunt" script	1	undated
	8	"Come Into The Garden Maude" script	1	undated
	9	"Craig's Wife" script	1	undated
27,951 (11)	1	"A Dream Of Love" script	1	undated
	2	"Fortunato" script	1	undated
	3	"Middle Of The Night" script	1	undated
	4	"The Music Crept By Me Upon The Waters" script	1	undated
	5	"On The Boardwalk" filmscript	1	undated
	6	"Phaedra" script	1	undated
	7	"Soldiers" script	1	undated
	8	"A Touch Of The Poet"	1	undated

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
PLAYS REJECTED OR NOT PERFORMED				
27,951 (11)	9	"Turacet"	3	1976
	10	"Actors and Actresses"	2	1982
FILMS				
27,951 (11)	11	"Flight Command," "Belle Starr," "The Loves of Edgar Allan Poe," "The Red Pony," "That Mothers Might Live," "All The King's Men," "That Night," "The Monitors," "The Slaves"	19	1940-1969
	12	"Daring Game"	6	1967
	13	"Cops and Robbers"	8	1973
TELEVISION				
27,951 (11)	14	Television movies	15	1954-1978
	15	Television commercials	9	1973-1978
	16	"One Life To Live"	21	1974-1976
	17	"Meeting Of The Minds"	24	1978-1979
27,952 (12)	1	"Meeting Of The Minds" Scripts Part I	2	1978
	2	"Meeting Of The Minds" Scripts Part II	2	1978
	3	"Meeting Of The Minds" Fan Letters	18	1979
	4	"The Rocking Chair Rebellion"	4	July - October 1979
	5	"Love of Life"	31	1979-1980
	6	"Kent State"	15	1980-1981
OTHER MEDIA				
27,952 (12)	7	National Radio Theatre "Odyssey" series	32	1979-1981
	8	Atlanta Cyclorama	7	1981

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II. TEACHING CAREER

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,953 (13)	1	Business correspondence	40	1958-1978
	2	Proteges	17	1979-1982
	3	University of Detroit "The Tempest," "Lysistrata," "Child's Play"	56	1971-1972
	4	"Child's Play" script	1	1972

III. FINANCIAL PAPERS

27,953 (13)	5	Actors Equity League Welfare Trust Fund	24	1966-1981
	6	American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) Pension and Welfare	31	1965-1982
	7	Contracts	54	1958-1981
	8	Screen Actors Guild	34	1960-1981
	9	Financial Records	9	1952-1959
	10	Financial Records	14	1961-1973
	11	Financial Records	2	1974
	12	Financial Records	2	1977-1978

IV. CONDOLENCE LETTERS AND MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

27,954 (14)	1	Condolence Letters A-L	32	1983
	2	Condolence Letters M-Z	37	1983
	3	Memorial Tributes Charitable donations and gifts	21	1983
	4	Memorial Tributes Service at Cathedral of St. John The Divine Burial Service in Hillsborough North Carolina	4	1983

V. MARGARET O'NEILL'S CAREER

27,954 (14)	5	Resume, clippings, and programs	23	1961-1967
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VI. SCRAPBOOKS

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	# OF ITEMS	INCLUSIVE DATES
27,954 (14)	6	1927-1932	1	1927-1932
	7	1928-1940	1	1928-1940
27,955 (15)	N/A	1929-1930	1	1929-1930

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK COLLECTION-- MATERIAL STORED IN THE CAGE CATALOGUE

Name	# of items	Dates
Abbi, Cathy	5	1-25-79, 3-5-79, 2-24-80, 1-28-83
Alexander, Jane	1	6-4-79
Allen, Steve	3	9-6-78, 10-20-78, 7-3-79
Arnow, Maxwell	1	2-15-57
Battista, Lloyd	1	undated
Beal, John	1	1-16-83
Beatty, Ned	1	undated
Berjer, Barbara	1	undated
Bissell, Whit	1	1-16-83
Bloomgarden, Kermit	1	10-25-52
Butler, Henry	1	undated
Chapin, Schuyler	1	2-11-83
Clurman, Harold	2	12-3-62, 7-19-80
Cohen, Alexander H.	1	3-5-69
Cossart, Valerie	2	1-16-83
De Liagre, Alfred, Jr.	1	undated
Denniston, Leslie	1	undated
Dunne, Phillip	1	4-11-57
Engel, A. Lehman	1	9-7-73
Fromkess, Leon	1	2-28-56
Gilkey, Stanley	1	10-31-52
Glass, Joanna	1	10-16-80
Godfrey, Arthur	1	undated
Golden, Harry	3	11-23-62, 12-4-62, 4-13-66
Gray, Veleka	1	undated
Greanias, George	1	undated

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK COLLECTION -- MATERIAL STORED IN CAGE CATALOGUE

Name	# of items	Dates
Hambleton, T. Edward	1	5-11-63
Hecht, Harold	2	2-27-54, 5-9-56
Helburn, Theresa	1	undated
Hewitt, Alan	3	12-4-70, 12-28-71, 1-15-83
Holloway, Jean	1	1-5-79
Hunt, Peter	1	5-19-71
Hunter, Kim	3	1-15-81, 1-17-83
Kazan, Elia	2	1-12-59, 11-10-60
Keller, Micheline H.	1	8-21-80
Kiley, Richard	4	11-24-54, 10-3-77, 1-19-83
Kingsley, Sidney	1	3-30-54
Kroll, Lucy	1	11-17-65
Langner, Philip	1	7-16-69
Lastfogel, Abe	1	10-27-52
Lawrence, Jerry	1	1-31-83
Le Gallienne, Eva	1	undated
Logan, Joshua	1	undated
Lortel, Lucille	1	11-14-75
MacLeish, Archibald	5	6-11-61, 5-31-71, 12-12-74, 5-12-75, 8-10-75
Mann, Delbert	2	7-1-53, 2-23-83
Martin, Nan	2	1-11-83, 1-19-83
Matalon, Vivian	1	1-18-83
Mathews, Carmen	1	undated

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Name	# of items	Dates
Nash, Ogden	1	11-8-62
Natwick, Mildred	1	2-13-83
Nelson, Ralph	1	7-17-57
North, Edmund H.	2	1-16-83
Ostrow, Stuart	1	5-12-71
Papp, Joseph	4	2-13-63, 2-18-63, 7-19-71, 1971
Power, Tyrone	1	12-2-55
Quayle, Anthony	4	4-14-69, 2-16-70, 2-21-70, 7-25-70
Reed, Joseph Verner	1	4-13-66
Rinehart, Mary Roberts	1	1-24-53
Salk, Rita Anne	1	1-14-80
Schaefer, George	1	10-7-66
Schary, Dore	2	4-16-56, 6-30-58
Seaton, George	1	9-3-70
Selden, Geoffrey	1	undated
Serling, Rod	1	11-9-70
Sherin, Ed	1	1-24-83
Short, Paul	1	7-11-49
Shumlin, Herman	1	11-23-59
Sutker, Victor	1	4-8-57
Tandy, Jessica	1	undated
Torn, Gerladine Page and Rip	1	undated
Van Doren, Mark	2	2-19-65, 4-7-61
Vaughan, Stuart	1	undated

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK COLLECTION -- MATERIAL STORED IN CAGE CATALOGUE

<u>Name</u>	<u># of items</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Voskovec, George V.	1	4-13-67
Wanger, Walter	1	4-11-49
Watson, Doug	1	undated
Weaver, Fritz	1	7-13-70
White, E. B.	1	2-18-54
Whitehead, Robert	4	5-14-69, 9-24-69, 4-23-70, 1-24-83
Williams, Tennessee	1	11-23-76
Worth, Irene	1	4-7-79
Wright, Theresa	1	undated
Young, Collier	1	3-27-57
Zagloul, Gloria	1	undated
Zinneman, Fred	4	2-16-53, 8-18-70, 12-26-75, 3-14-83

Shepperd Strudwick Papers
*T-Mss 1984-003

Posters separated - May 8, 1996

The Eccentricities of a Nightingale by Tennessee Williams
The Price by Arthur Miller
The Tempest by William Shakespeare
To Grandmother's House We Go by Joanna M. Glass
The Master Builder by Henrik Ibsen
Morning's At Seven
A Public Prosecutor is Sick of it All by Max Frisch
Semmelweis by Howard Sackler
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? By Edward Albee (2 copies - different theatres)
