



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

***Mama, I Want to Sing* scrapbook**

1983-1986

Sc MG 528

Summary

Creator: Higginsen, Vy

Title: *Mama, I Want to Sing* scrapbook

Date: 1983-1986

Size: 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro, March 1987.

Abstract: *Mama, I Want to Sing* is a gospel musical in 2 acts. The book and lyrics are by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro. Original music is by Rudolph V. Hawkins, Wesley Naylor and Doris Troy. The play opened at the Heckscher Theatre, Off-Broadway, on March 25, 1983. Produced and directed by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro (a married couple), it depicts the real life story of Higginsen's family, and in particular, her younger sister's desire to sing. This scrapbook contains highlights in the three year life of the production, *Mama, I Want to Sing*. It consists of photocopies of reviews and other articles, programs, letters, and a press kit. The photographs were transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division; photocopies of the photos were left in their place. A press kit is included with the collection. The press kit contains profiles of Vy Higginsen and the actors who have preformed major roles in the musical, including Deitra Hicks, Doris Troy, Katheleen Murphy-Palmer, Rudolph V. Hawkins, Charles Stewart, and Keith Pringle.

Preferred citation: [Item], *Mama, I Want to Sing* scrapbook, Sc MG 528, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Accessioned by Diana Lachatanere, April 1987.

Separated Materials:

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: photographs

Creator History

Mama, I Want to Sing is a gospel musical in 2 acts. The book and lyrics are by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro. Original music is by Rudolph V. Hawkins, Wesley Naylor and Doris Troy. The play opened at the Heckscher Theatre, Off-Broadway, on March 25, 1983. Produced and directed by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro (a married couple), it depicts the real life story of Higginsen's family, and in particular, her younger sister's desire to sing.

Scope and Content Note

This scrapbook contains highlights in the three year life of the production, *Mama, I Want to Sing*. It consists of photocopies of reviews and other articles, programs, letters, and a press kit. The photographs were transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division; photocopies of the photos were left in their place. A press kit is included with the collection. The press kit contains profiles of Vy Higginsen and the actors who have preformed major roles in the musical, including Deitra Hicks, Doris Troy, Katheleen Murphy-Palmer, Rudolph V. Hawkins, Charles Stewart, and Keith Pringle.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American families
African American theater
Authors, Black
Musicals

Occupations

Playwrights

Names

Higginsen, Vy
Wydro, Ken, 1943-