



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

Guide to the

New Heritage Theatre Group records

1940s-2015

Sc MG 912

Home to Harlem Project, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Summary

Creator: New Heritage Theatre Group (New York, N.Y.)

Title: New Heritage Theatre Group records

Date: 1940s-2015

Size: 1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

Source: Gift, Voza Rivers, 2015

Revision History: This finding aid was updated by Allison Hughes.

Abstract: The New Heritage Theatre Group records consists of playbills, broadsides, flyers, playscripts, correspondence and printed matter relating to the organization's productions and events from 1965-2015. Of particular note are original playscripts and production materials for the South African musical "Sarafina!" (1988-1991) and flyers and announcements for a play reading series entitled "Voices of Griots" (1991-1996). There is also a biographical file for Roger Furman.

Preferred citation: [Item], New Heritage Theatre Group records, Sc MG 912, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Related Materials:

American Negro Theatre records; Also located at; Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Creator History

Under the leadership of Roger Furman, the New Heritage Repertory Theatre (NHRT) was established in 1964. Furman, a playwright, director, actor, and lecturer, began his career in the 1940s at the American Negro Theatre (ANT) in the 135th Street Branch Library. NHRT produced over 35 plays

including "Strivers' Row," written by Abram Hill, co-founder of ANT.

In 1983 Voza Rivers, a co-founding member of NHRT, music and theatre producer, took the helm and reorganized the organization and expanded the Theatre's scope and reach internationally. Currently, the newly named New Heritage Theatre Group is comprised of three program divisions: the Furman Theatre Repertory, a workshop for budding playwrights, the New Heritage Films and Harlem Wood Film Festival, and IMPACT Repertory Theatre, established by Jamal Joseph in 1997 and focuses on youth performance and activism.

Scope and Content Note

The New Heritage Theatre Group records consists of playbills, broadsides, flyers, playscripts, correspondence and printed matter relating to the organization's productions and events from 1965-2015. Of particular note are original playscripts and production materials for the South African musical "Sarafina!" (1988-1991) and flyers and announcements for a play reading series entitled "Voices of Griots" (1991-1996). There is also a biographical file for Roger Furman.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American actors
African American authors
African American dramatists
African American theater -- New York (State) -- New York
African Americans in the performing arts
American drama -- 20th century
Black author
Dramatists, American -- 20th century
Musicals -- Production and direction -- New York (State) -- New York
Theatrical companies -- New York (State) -- New York

Geographic Names

Harlem (New York, N.Y.) -- Intellectual life

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Plays (performing arts compositions)
Scripts
Theater programs

Names

Rivers, Voza
Furman, Roger (1924-1983)
New Heritage Theatre Group (New York, N.Y.)

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Roger Furman Biographical
- b. 1 f. 2 Manuscripts/Playscripts
- Promotional Materials
- b. 1 f. 3 1964-1983
- b. 1 f. 4 1984
- b. 1 f. 5 1985-1987
- b. 1 f. 6 1988-1991
- b. 1 f. 7 1989-1991
- b. 2 f. 1 1991-1996
- b. 2 f. 2 1997-2004
- b. 2 f. 3 2004-2006
- b. 2 f. 4 2007-2008
- b. 2 f. 5 2009
- b. 2 f. 6 2009-2010
- b. 3 f. 1 2011
- b. 3 f. 2 2012
- b. 3 f. 3 2013
- b. 3 f. 4-5 2014
- b. 3 f. 6-7 2015
- Collaborations
- b. 4 f. 1 American Museum of National History
- b. 4 f. 2 B. Smith's Restaurant VOG Play Reading Series
- b. 4 f. 3 Bows Shelter
- b. 4 f. 4 Community Works
- b. 4 f. 5 Daniel Beaty
- b. 4 f. 6 Esther Armah
- b. 4 f. 7 Films
- b. 4 f. 8 Gertrude Jeanette Hadley Players
- b. 4 f. 9 Harlem Arts Alliance
- b. 4 f. 10 Harlem is... Series
- b. 4 f. 11 Harlem Shakespeare
- b. 4 f. 12 Harlemwood Records
- b. 4 f. 13 Impact
- b. 4 f. 14 Katsuya Abe - International Producer
- b. 4 f. 15 La Mama Theatre
- b. 4 f. 16 National Black Touring Circuit
- b. 4 f. 17 Roger Furman Reading Series
- b. 4 f. 18 Schomburg Center
- b. 4 f. 19 Shades of Truth Theatre

Collaborations (cont.)

b. 4 f. 20 Woodie King's New Federal Theatre