



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Geoffrey C. Shlaes files

1983-1992

*T-Mss 1993-042

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2015

Summary

Creator: Shlaes, Geoffrey

Title: Geoffrey C. Shlaes files

Date: 1983-1992

Size: 2.3 linear feet (6 boxes)

Source: Gift of Geoffrey Shlaes, 1993.

Abstract: Geoffrey C. Shlaes is an American stage director and theater manager who founded the American Directors Institute in 1985. The collection (1983-1992) contains American Directors Institute files, correspondence, and materials relating to Shlaes' other professional endeavors.

Conditions Governing Access:

Inquiries regarding audio material in the collection may be directed to the Billy Rose Theatre Division (theatre@nypl.org). Audio material will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access.

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at theatre@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: Geoffrey C. Shlaes files, *T-Mss 1993-042. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

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Creator History

Geoffrey C. Shlaes is an American stage director and theater manager. He directed regional and Off-Broadway stage productions throughout the 1980s, such as *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?*; *Knights Errant*; *The Bone Garden*; *The Gingerbread Lady*; and *The Male Animal*. In 1985, he founded the American Directors Institute (ADI), a professional organization that supported the work of stage

directors. He was artistic director of ADI until the company dissolved in 1991. Shlaes is managing director of the Spreckels Theatre in San Diego, California.

Scope and Content Note

The Geoffrey C. Shlaes files (1983-1992) contain American Directors Institute (ADI) files, correspondence, and materials relating to Shlaes' other professional endeavors.

ADI files contain financial statements, business materials, company proposals, notes, participant lists, articles on the board of trustees, and files for ADI's donors. Transcripts and audio recordings of ADI's 1986 public debut and directors' symposium, "The Changing of the Guard," are present, as well as notes and outlines for other symposia and conferences, such as the Touchstone Retreat.

Correspondence dates from 1983 to 1988 and consists of Shlaes' incoming and outgoing letters. The letters are largely professional in nature. Correspondence dating from 1983 to 1985 documents Shlaes' planning and development of ADI, his efforts to obtain directing work, and projects he worked on at the Spreckels Theatre in San Diego. Correspondence dating from 1986 to 1988 discusses ADI membership matters, conference and event planning, and the publication of ADI's Directors Directory.

Files for Shlaes' other professional activities document his association with the Circle Repertory Theatre, the International Theatre Institute of the United States, the Theater Trustees of America, the Equity Library Theatre, and the Arts and Business Council. The files contain correspondence, newsletters, announcements, brochures, and programs. Articles and clippings document Shlaes' productions of *The Gingerbread Lady*, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, and *Incident at Vichy*.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Business announcements
Business records
Sound recordings

Subjects

Theater -- United States

Occupations

Theatrical producers and directors

Names

American Directors Institute

Container List

- American Directors Institute records
- b. 1 f. 1-15 1984-1988
Business records, finances, and board of trustees.
 - b. 2 f. 1-11 1984-1989
Projects, press, and mailing.
 - b. 3 f. 1-9 1986-1988
Conferences, symposia, and surveys.
- "The Changing of the Guard" Directors' Symposium
- origsr.220976 Keynote Speech and Artistic Directors Panel 1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
 - origsr.220977 Artistic Directors Panel 1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
 - origsr.220978 Artistic Directors Panel and Freelance Directors Panel on Musical Theatre
1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
 - origsr.220979 Freelance Directors Panel on Musical Theatre 1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
 - origsr.220980 Freelance Directors Panel on Musical Theatre 1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
 - origsr.220981 Geoffrey Shlaes Speech, Keynote Speech, and Artistic Directors Panel
1986
Sound recordings available by appointment only.
- b. 4 f. 1-7 Correspondence 1983-1986
 - b. 5 f. 1-5 Correspondence 1986-1988
 - b. 5 f. 6-8 Other Professional Activities 1984-1992
 - b. 6 f. 1-6 Other Professional Activities 1984-1988