

**Charmion King Collection**  
**(1931-1983)**  
**Inventory**

Correspondence, photographs, programs, clippings and scrapbooks relating to the career of Toronto actress Charmion King (1925- ). Material includes her student acting at Hart House Theatre, early career in summer stock at the Woodstock Playhouse, Straw Hat Players, Niagara Falls Summer Theatre, and Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, in addition to the Garden Centre Theatre, tours with *The Drunkard* and *There Goes Yesterday* and work with the Crest Theatre and Stratford. The majority of the items in the collection deal with her work before her marriage to actor/writer Gordon Pinsent, when she retired temporarily from the stage. For information on her later career, see the clippings and fiche in the Performing Arts Centre.

1 box; 10 envelopes (1 oversize) and 3 scrapbooks (1 oversize);  
.63 linear metres

**Box #1**

File #1: Clippings – 56 items

Biographical articles and reviews (see also Scrapbooks #1-3)

Env. #2: Correspondence etc. – 10 items

*Roses* by Wilson Macdonald, 1931 (printed calligraphic card)

Signed photo of Wilson Macdonald, Charles G.D. Roberts, Marshall Saunders, John W. Elson.

1946, New Play Society membership card.

1947, Jan. 30. TLS [Toronto] Dora Mavor Moore, New Play Society thanking CK for acting in *The Nativity*.

1947, Feb. 3. ALS [Ajax] W. Bruce Wilson II, Engineering Physics, thanking CK for performance of St. Joan in Ajax.

1947, May 28. TLS [Toronto] E.A. Macdonald informing CK of SAC award for excellence in drama (photocopy).

1947, June 22. ALS [Edmonton, Alta.] G. Murrell Wright thanking CK and her father for gift and letter, and congratulating CK on her dramatic career. (+ envelope)

1948, Aug. 2. TLS [Montreal] G. Bannerman, Canadian International Screen Productions Ltd. asking CK to complete application for their Talent Department.

1950, Nov. 4 TLS [Saskatoon] Coza (?), Radio CFQC, congratulating CK on her performance on Ford Theatre (+ envelope)

c1940s. ALS [Toronto] James Edward Ward, St. Stephen's Rectory, congratulating CK on her performance in a Shakespearean play and commenting on possible cast members for his own play about Mary Magdalene, including Ruth Springford.

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Env. #3: Correspondence – 21 items

Congratulatory letters, cards and telegrams from family, friends, and fans.

Env. #4: Photographs (portraits) – 29 items

Env. #5: Production Photographs – 17 items

Unidentified production (school play) (1)

UC Players at Hart House Theatre, *Arms and the Man*, Dec. 2-4, 1946 (3)

Hart House Theatre, *St. Joan*, Jan. 27-Feb. 1, 1947 (2)

Woodstock Playhouse, *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, Aug. 1947 (1)

*There Goes Yesterday*, 1949-1950 (3)

Mountain Playhouse, *Life With Father*, June 1957 (1)

Crest Theatre, *The Cherry Orchard*, Jan. 29- , 1958 (3)

Crest Theatre, *You Can't Take it With You*, Dec. 23- , 1959 (2)

Crest Theatre, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, Nov. 8- , 1961 (1)

Env. #6: Programs (1940s) – 14 items

Env. #7: Programs (1950s) – 21 items

Env. #8: Programs (1960s) – 6 items

Env. #9: Programs (1970s-1980s) – 9 items

Env. #10: Photographs (outsized) – 3 items

Env. #11: Clippings (1953-1989) photocopies

Gift of D.O. Charles, Toronto, May 1990.

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#### Scrapbook #1: 1945-1951

<u>Page</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	SAC Honor Award, Jun. 6, 1947. Outstanding in university drama.
2	Woodstock Playhouse, Aug. 1947, <i>Barretts of Wimpole Street</i> , CK as Bella Hedley.
3	Curriculum Vita 1946-1951
4	Curriculum Vita listing roles played.
6	University College Player's Guild at Hart House Theatre, Nov. 26-28, 1945. <i>Our Town</i> , CK as Mrs. Gibbs. University Alumnae Dramatic Club at Civic Theatre Drama Festival, Apr. 10-12, 16-17, 1946. <i>Orange Blossom</i> , CK as Amy Foster. Varsity College Players at Hart House Theatre, Dec. 1946. <i>Arms and the Man</i> , CK as Raina's Mother
7	Varsity College Players... <i>Arms and the Man</i> Village Players, <i>The Private Life of the Master Race</i> , Jun. 25-26, 1946, CK as the wife.
8-9	Hart House Theatre, Mar. 1948, <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , CK as Juliet.
10	Hart House Theatre, Jan. 27-Feb. 1, 1947, <i>St. Joan</i> , CK as Joan.
11	Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, summer 1951, <i>Separate Rooms</i> , CK as Pamela Barry. Ford Theatre (radio), <i>No Time For Comedy</i> Niagara Falls Little Theatre 1951, <i>A Phoenix Too Frequent</i> .
12-13	Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, 1951. <i>Private Lives</i> , CK as Amanda.
14-15	Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, 1951. <i>Angel Street</i> , CK as Bella Manningham.
16	Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, 1951. <i>French Without Tears</i> .

#### Scrapbook #2: 1944-1948

<u>Page</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1-9	Hart House Theatre, March 1948. <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , CK as Juliet.
12	St. Stephen's Church, Nov. 18-20, 1947, <i>God's Plenty</i> .
14-17	Eaton Auditorium, Oct. 6-8, 1947. <i>Quality Street</i> .
19, 22, 30	Woodstock Playhouse, Aug. 1947. <i>Barretts of Wimpole Street</i> , CK as Bella.
18-23	Woodstock Playhouse, summer 1947.
22	<i>Three's A Family</i> , CK as Marion Franklin.

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22	<i>Joan of Lorraine</i> , CK as Tessie (Aurore).
24-29	University of Toronto commencement.
32	Canadian Literature Club, May 19, 1947. <i>Maria Chapdelaine</i> , CK as Maria.
36-49	Hart House Theatre, Jan. 27-Feb. 1, 1947. <i>St. Joan</i> , CK as Joan.
50-51	New Play Society, Dec.20-21, 1946. <i>The Coventry Nativity Play</i> , CK as Third Woman.
52, 56-57	UC Players Guild at Hart House Theatre, Dec. 2-4, 1946. <i>Arms and the Man</i> .
53-55	New Play Society, Oct. 11-12, 1946. <i>Playboy of the Western World</i> , CK as Sara Tansy.
60, 62	Civic Theatre Association Drama Festival. University Alumnae Dramatic Club, Apr. 10-12, 16-17, 1946. <i>Orange Blossom</i> , CK as Amy Foster.
61	Village Players, Jun.25-26, 1946. <i>The Private Life of the Master Race</i> , CK as the wife.
63	UC Players Guild at Hart House Theatre, Nov. 26-28, 1945. <i>Our Town</i> , CK as Mrs. Gibbs.
64-69	Biographical information (article in <i>Youth</i> magazine).
70-73	UC Players Guild at Hart House Theatre, Nov. 22-25, 1944. <i>Thunder Rock</i> , CK as Melanie Kurtz.

### Scrapbook #3: 1947-1955

<u>Page</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Woodstock Playhouse, Aug. 19-24, 1947. <i>The Barretts of Wimpole Street</i> artistic director, Robert Gild. CK as Bella Hedley.
2	Welsh Players at Eaton Auditorium, Oct. 6-8, 1947. <i>Quality Street</i> , CK as Phoebe Throssel.
3	Straw Hat Players, Sep. 7, 1948. <i>Dear Ruth</i> , CK as Ruth Wilkins.
4	New World Theatre Co./Straw Hat Players, fall 1948 tour. <i>The Drunkard</i> , CK as Mary.
5-8	Straw Hat Players, summer 1948. <i>Dear Ruth</i> ; <i>Blithe Spirit</i> , CK as Elvira; <i>Papa is All</i> , CK as Emma; <i>The Drunkard</i> .
9-26	New World Theatre Co., Canadian tour. <i>The Drunkard</i> .
27-28	Straw Hat Players, summer 1949. <i>The Barretts of Wimpole Street</i> , CK as Henrietta Barrett; <i>Years Ago</i> , CK as Annie Jones.
30	<i>The Drunkard</i> , CK as Mary.
34	<i>Hay Fever</i> , CK as Myra Arundel; <i>The Late Christopher Bean</i> , CK as Ada Haggett.
29-42	<i>There Goes Yesterday</i>

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43-47	Niagara Falls Summer Theatre/Peterborough Summer Theatre, summer 1950 season and tour. <i>Night Must Fall</i> , CK as Olivia; <i>No Time For Comedy</i> , CK as Linda Esterbrook.
47, 50	International Players, Jan. 1951. <i>Miranda</i> , CK as Miranda. <i>The Silver Cord</i> , CK as Christina.
49	Hart House Theatre.
52,58	CBC GM Theatre. <i>Jason</i> , CK as the wife.
58, 60-61	Crest Theatre, May 4- , 1954. <i>Haste to the Wedding</i> .
54-56	Bermudiana Repertory Theatre, summer 1951. <i>Portrait in Black</i> , CK as Tanis Talbot; <i>Private Lives</i> , CK as Amanda; <i>Finale</i> , CK as Pat Leeds; <i>Angel Street</i> , CK as the wife; <i>Rebecca</i> ; <i>French Without Tears</i> .
56	CJBC Radio, For Theatre, Oct. 10, 1951. <i>The Women</i> .
57	BBC-TV, 1952. <i>Theatre Royal</i> , CK as Julie. TLS, Nov. 27, 1951 from Sybil Thorndike.
58-59	CBC-TV Theatre, Nov. 24, 1953. <i>Star-Light</i> , <i>Star-Bright</i> .
59-61	Crest Theatre, Jun. 1-12, 1954. <i>Amphitryon</i> 38, CK as Alkmena.
62-63	Garden Centre Theatre, June 1955. <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , CK as Stella; <i>The Tender Trap</i> ; CK as Sylvia; <i>I Am a Camera</i> ; CK as Sally Bowles.

### Material transferred to other collections:

Photograph of Murray Davis to Theatre Personalities, Canadian photos

4 production photos for Hart House Theatre *The Infernal Machine* 1947 to Hart House Theatre photos

1 menu from Antoine's Restaurant to Picture Collection

1 menu from Nobel Award dinner to Special Collections Centre