

Ralph Messinger Collection
(1946-1963)
Inventory

Ralph Messinger (1915-1984) was involved with various theatre groups in Montreal and Toronto from the 1940s through early 1960s, and also active in the Central Ontario Drama League and Dominion Drama Festival. This collection includes photographs, programs, newspaper clippings, production books, prompt scripts for plays presented by the Belmont Group Theatre, the Welsh Players, Actors Company, and Playcraftsmen, groups in which he either acted or served as stage manager. Also included are correspondence and financial records of several theatre groups' trips to the Dominion Drama Festival finals in Halifax, Edmonton and Regina and material related to the Central Ontario Drama League Festival in 1956 and 1957, and box office records for the C.O.D.L. Festival in 1959.

1 box; 18 files and envelopes; .41 linear metres

Env. #1: Clippings, etc. – 32 items

Clippings, etc. for Players Group of Shaar Hashomayim, Montreal; Welsh Players, Belmont Group Theatre, Actors Company, and Playcraftsmen, Toronto. Biographical material on Ralph Messinger.

Env. #2: Programs – 7 items

Belmont Group Theatre, 1946-1951.

Env. #3: Programs – 2 items

Actors Company, 1952.

Env. #4: Programs – 9 items

Playcraftsmen, 1954-1958.

Env. #5: Programs – 4 items

Dominion Drama Festival 1956-57; 1959
Central Ontario Drama League 1959; 1963

Env. #6: Photographs – 10 items

Belmont Group Theatre: *Watch on the Rhine, Born Yesterday*

Actors Company: *Golden Boy*

Playcraftsmen: *Country Girl, Medea, All Summer Long*, general-group

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Unidentified set

File #7: Central Ontario Drama League Drama Festival, 1956 and 1957

Correspondence, newsletters, flyers, information sheets, minutes, etc.

File #8: Central Ontario Drama League Drama Festival, 1959

Box office records, correspondence, minutes, etc. Also includes material on 1958 Drama Festival.

File #9: Script – 1 item

Anderson, Robert. *All Summer Long*. S. French edition, 138 pgs., interleaved and agenda. Playcraftsmen at Hart House Theatre, Mar. 25-Apr.1, 1960. Directed by L.C. Tobias.

Env. #10: Script – 1 item

Chekhov, Anton. *The Bear*. 13 pgs. typescript. Belmont Group Theatre. Copy marked for Smirnov (Ralph Messinger).

File #11: Script – 1 item

Odets, Clifford. *The Country Girl*. Dramatists Play Service edition, 80 pgs. interleaved. Playcraftsmen at Hart House Theatre, Mar. 28, Apr. 19-23, 1955 and D.D.F., May 10, 1955, Regina. Directed by James E. Dean.

Env. #12: Script – 1 item

Ibsen, Henrik. *An Enemy of the People*. 76 pgs. mimeographed typescript. Belmont Group Theatre, Dec. 11-12, 1947. Directed by Ben Lennick. Copy marked for Mayor Stockman (Ralph Messinger).

File #13: Script – 1 item

Odets, Clifford. *Golden Boy*. Actors Company at D.D.F., St. John's, N.B., May 1, 1952 and Hart House Theatre, Mar. 15, 1952. Directed by Leo Orenstein. Stage Manager's (Ralph Messinger) notes re: travel expenses, together with sound cues, stage layouts, etc.

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File #14: Script – 1 item

Benelli, Sem. *The Jest*. Mimeographed typescript, 66 pgs. interleaved. Playcraftsmen, 1961 directed by Henry Zoder. Prompt script used by Stage Manager (Ralph Messinger) with cast lists, lighting plots and cues, prop lists, etc.

File #15: Script – 1 item

Jeffers, Robinson. *Medea*; adapted from Euripides. S. French edition, 82 pgs. interleaved and addenda. Playcraftsmen at D.D.F., Hart House Theatre, Mar. 24, 1958. Directed by Sean Mulcahy.

File #16: Script – 1 item

Osborne, Paul. *On Borrowed Time*. S. French edition, 69 pgs. interleaved. Playcraftsmen at Hart House Theatre, Jan. 10, 1957 and D.D.F. May 23, 1957 Edmonton. Directed by L.C. Tobias. Prompt script used by Stage Manager (Ralph Messinger) with lighting cues, prop lists, cast lists, rehearsal schedules, etc. Also includes correspondence, contracts and information re: tour to Edmonton and Montreal and Country Girl trip to 1955 D.D.F. in Regina.

File #17: Script – 1 item

Williams, Tennessee. *The Rose Tattoo*. 104 pgs. mimeographed typescript with handwritten stage directions. Playcraftsmen at Hart House Theatre, Jan. 13, 1954 and D.D.F. May 14, 1954, Hamilton, Ont. Directed by James E. Dean. Prompt script used by Stage Manager (Ralph Messinger) with sound and light cues, prop lists, etc.

File #18: Script – 1 item

Peach, L. du Garde and Ian Hay. *The White Sheep of the Family*. S. French edition, 78 pgs. interleaved. Playcraftsmen, Jan. 20-21, 1955. Directed by L.C. Tobias. Prompt script used by Stage Manager (Ralph Messinger) with rehearsal schedules, prop lists, etc.

Labiche, Eugène. The Italian Straw Hat, adapted by Walter Perkins. Mimeographed typescript with notes, 61 pgs. Playcraftsmen at C.O.D.L. Festival Mar. 17, 1956 and D.D.F. at Hart House Theatre. Directed by Esme Crampton. Prompt script used by Stage Manager (Ralph Messinger) with rehearsal schedules, music cues, stage layouts, etc.

Gift of Mrs. Ralph Messinger,
Toronto, Dec. 1986
Inventory: A. Goluska, Apr. 6, 1987.