

RUTH DRAPER COLLECTION

PAPERS, 1903-1956
5 linear inches

The Billy Rose Theatre Collection
The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center

8-MWEZ + n.c.
28,761

THE ^{MSS} 1990-006

November, 1990 (jem)

INTRODUCTION

The Ruth Draper Collection was donated to The New York Public Library, The Billy Rose Theatre Collection in March, 1990 by Barnett Owen. The material was received in very good condition.

BIOGRAPHY

Ruth Draper, monologist, was born in New York City in 1884. She began her career writing sketches about people she knew or observed and performing them at parties, until Ignace Jan Paderewski encouraged her to take her talent to the stage. Her only appearance in a full-length play was as the maid in A LADY'S NAME at the Maxine Elliott Theatre in May, 1916. In February, 1917 she made her debut as a monologist. The only successful sketch in her performance was THE ACTRESS which was the only one she wrote herself. This gave her the encouragement to write and perform her own sketches, and she did this to worldwide acclaim until her final performance December 26, 1956. She died December 30, 1956 at the age of 72.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Ruth Draper Collection measures five linear inches and is divided into correspondence; typescripts of her monologues in English and French; and other typescripts related to her career. The collection contains her most popular monologues, however there is not much correspondence. The material is arranged alphabetically, except for the correspondence which is arranged chronologically.

FOLDER LIST

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BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
28,761	1	Correspondence	1955-1956, 1981
	2	Monologues THE ACTRESS	n.d.
	3	Monologues AT A TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD	1927
	4	Monologues AT AN ART EXHIBITION IN BOSTON	n.d.
	5	Monologues AT THE COURT OF PHILIP IV	n.d.
	6	Monologues A BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING	1912
	7	Monologues A CHARWOMAN	1926
	8	Monologues CHILDREN'S PARTY	n.d.
	9	Monologues CHRISTMAS EVE	n.d.
	10	Monologues A CLASS IN GREEK POISE	1955
	11	Monologues A COCKTAIL PARTY	n.d.
	12	Monologues IN COUNTY KERRY	1919
	13	Monologues A DALMATIAN PEASANT	n.d.
	14	Monologues A DEBUTANTE AT A DANCE	1952
	15	Monologues DOCTORS AND DIETS	n.d.
	16	Monologues AN ENGLISH HOUSE PARTY	n.d.

FOLDER LIST

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
28,761	17	Monologues FIVE IMAGINARY FOLK SONGS	1920
	18	Monologues A FRENCH DRESSMAKER	1903
	19	Monologues THE GERMAN GOVERNESS	n.d.
	20	Monologues GLASSES	1948
	21	Monologues IN A CHURCH IN ITALY	n.d.
	22	Monologues IN A RAILWAY STATION ON THE WESTERN PLAINS	1952
	23	Monologues THE ITALIAN LESSON	1955
	24	Monologues LE RETOUR DE L'AVENGLE	1919
	25	Monologues A MINER'S WIFE	1936
	26	Monologues ON A PORCH IN A MAINE COAST VILLAGE	1952
	27	Monologues OPENING A BAZAAR	1930
	28	Monologues THE RETURN	1945
	29	Monologues A SCOTTISH IMMIGRANT AT ELLIS ISLAND	n.d.
	30	Monologues SHOWING THE GARDEN	1923
	31	Monologues A SOUTHERN GIRL AT A DANCE	n.d.
	32	Monologues THREE BREAKFASTS	n.d.
	33	Monologues THREE GENERATIONS IN A MUNICIPAL COURT	n.d.
	34	Monologues THREE WOMEN AND MR. CLIFFORD	1952

FOLDER LIST

BOX	FOLDER	TITLE	INCLUSIVE DATES
28,761	35	Monologues UN POILOU	n.d.
	36	Monologues VIVE LA FRANCE	1916
	37	Monologues VIVE LA FRANCE	1940
	38	Typescripts "Character Sketches Summarized"	n.d.
	39	Typescripts "Ruth Draper Holiday Season 1954-1955"	1954-1955
	40	Typescripts "Random Recollections of Memorable Appearances"	n.d.
	41	Typescripts "Visits to England-Europe-The East"	n.d.