



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Stephen Draper papers

1948-1985

*T-Mss 1986-008

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014

Summary

Creator: Draper, Stephen, approximately 1906-1985

Title: Stephen Draper papers

Date: 1948-1985

Size: 5.5 linear feet (14 boxes)

Source: Donated by Peter Craig, 1986-1987.

Abstract: Stephen Draper (circa 1906-1985) was a theatrical agent best known for his long-term representation of Geraldine Page and Richard Kiley. The Stephen Draper papers (1948-1985) document Draper's work on behalf of his clients, mainly Page. They hold Client Files and Office Files containing correspondence, contracts, programs, photographs, actor biographies, press releases, clippings, and financial records.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult: <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Processing note: Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014

Creator History

Stephen Draper (circa 1906-1985) was a theatrical agent. His best-known clients, with whom he worked for decades, were Geraldine Page and Richard Kiley. He also worked on behalf of such actors as Catherine Damon, Dick Shawn, Rip Torn, Enid Markey, Frank Aletter, Olga Bellin, and Jessie Royce

Landis.

Scope and Content Note

The Stephen Draper papers (1948-1985) document Draper's work on behalf of his clients, primarily Geraldine Page, but also including Catherine Damon, Dick Shawn, Rip Torn, Enid Markey, Frank Aletter, Olga Bellin, and Jessie Royce Landis. The papers are in two sets of files: Client Files and Office Files.

The Client Files hold correspondence, contracts, programs, photographs, actor biographies, press releases, clippings, and financial records. Correspondence is between Draper and actors, presenters, theaters, producers, writers, and other agents.

Most of the collection evidences Geraldine Page's career from 1952 to 1985. Theatrical and film productions documented include *Hondo* (1953); *Broadway, Broadway* (1978); *Slightly Delayed* (1979); *Honky Tonk Freeway* (1980); *The Mixed Couples* (1980); *Clothes for a Summer Hotel* (1980); *A Woman of Paris* (1981); and *Agnes of God* (1984). The Page correspondence files refer to many other productions, and include letters from Page regarding current or prospective projects, as well as fan letters. The photographs of Page include headshots and theater and film production scenes. Many of them are publicity stills from the film *Hondo*, featuring Page with John Wayne.

The Office Files contain correspondence regarding routine business, as well as a large set of financial records. These document money spent by Draper for clients and income earned by them from specific projects. Arranged chronologically, they also reveal Draper's financial arrangements with some clients.

Arrangement: The papers are in two divisions: Client Files (arranged alphabetically) and Office Files (arranged by format).

Key Terms

Occupations

Actors (performing artists)
Agents (commercial representatives)

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Business records
Contracts
Correspondence
Photographs
Programs

Subjects

Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States -- 20th century
Theater -- United States -- 20th century

Names

Page, Geraldine

Container List

Client Files

- b. 1 f. 1-7 A - D 1955-1984
- b. 2 f. 1-3 G - K 1960s-1984
- b. 14 f. 1 Landis, Jessie Royce 1951
Scrapbook of clippings for *Come Live With Me*.
- b. 2 f. 4-8 L - Mas 1956-1979
- b. 3 f. 1-2 May - N 1960-1967

Page, Geraldine

- b. 8 f. 4 *Agnes of God* 1984
- b. 8 f. 5 *Angela* 1968-1969
- b. 8 f. 6 *Broadway, Broadway* 1978
- b. 8 f. 7 Charles K. Feldman Group Productions 1952-1954
- b. 9 f. 1 *Clothes for a Summer Hotel* 1980
- b. 9 f. 2-5 Contracts 1952-1979

Correspondence

- b. 9 f. 6 1952-1953
- b. 10 f. 1-5 1952-1973
- b. 11 f. 1-5 1966-1985
- b. 11 f. 6 Gage and Roberts Associates 1975-1976
- b. 11 f. 7 *Honky Tonk Freeway* 1980
- b. 11 f. 8 *The Little Foxes, China's Tale, and Absurd Person Singular* 1974-1978
- b. 12 f. 1 *The Mixed Couples* 1980
- b. 12 f. 2-3 Photographs and Biographies 1953-1980s
- b. 12 f. 4-5 Programs and Press Releases 1952-1969
- b. 12 f. 6 *Slightly Delayed* 1979
- b. 12 f. 7 *Woman of Paris* 1981
- b. 13 f. 1-8 P - V 1960s-1984

Office Files

- b. 3 f. 3-5 Correspondence 1964-1984

Financial Records

- b. 3 f. 6-7 1948, 1954-1956
- b. 4 f. 1-6 1955-1957
- b. 5 f. 1-4 1955-1964
- b. 6 f. 1-6 1960-1976
- b. 7 f. 1-5 Undated
- b. 8 f. 1-3 Undated