



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Barbara Newberry Singer papers

1882-1983

*T-Mss 2014-138

Compiled by cdee, 2015

Summary

Creator: Singer, Barbara Newberry

Title: Barbara Newberry Singer papers

Date: 1882-1983

Size: 2.8 linear feet (1 box, 2 volumes)

Source: Gift of Estate of Barbara Newberry Singer by Mr. Atkins, 1987

Abstract: The Barbara Newberry Singer papers contain scrapbooks, photographs and manuscripts documenting the career of dancer and actress Barbara Newberry.

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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Creator History

Barbara Newberry Singer was a dancer and actress in musical theater from the late 1920s through the 1930s. She performed under the name Barbara Newberry on Broadway, in the Midwest, England, and Monte Carlo. Impresario Florenz Ziegfeld Jr. deemed her legs the most beautiful in America in an ad campaign for Phoenix Hosiery in 1929. Singer's first husband was performer Eddie Foy Jr.

Scope and Content Note

The collection includes four scrapbooks of clippings and photographs, loose photographs and clippings, and several handwritten manuscripts by Barbara Newberry Singer, from 1882 to 1983. *Ziegfeld Follies* of 1925, *Betsy* (1926), *Oh, Ernest!* (1927), *Good Boy* (1928), and *Gay Divorce* (1932) are among the productions in the collection. Many of the photographs are professional portraits, but there are also some production and personal photographs. The manuscripts are written by Singer and express her impressions of places and events in her life.

Key Terms

Occupations

Actresses

Subjects

Actresses -- United States

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)

Manuscripts (document genre)

Photographs

Scrapbooks

Names

Ziegfeld, Flo, 1869-1932

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Photographs, Manuscripts, Clippings, and Booklet ca. 1890-1970
- b. 1 f. 2 Scrapbook with Loose Clippings and Manuscripts 1925-ca. 1950s
- b. 1 f. 3 Scrapbook 1926-1928
- b. 1 f. 4 *(The) Tatler* 1939 June 21
 - v. 1 Scrapbook 1882-1960s
 - v. 2 Scrapbook ca. 1926-1983