



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Charles L. Young scrapbooks

1892-1918

*T-Mss 1985-010

Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2014

Summary

Creator: Young, Charles L.

Title: Charles L. Young scrapbooks

Date: 1892-1918

Size: 4 linear feet (1 box, 5 volumes)

Source: Donated by V.D. Smith, 1985.

Abstract: Charles L. Young was a manager and entrepreneur. The Charles L. Young scrapbooks date from 1892 to 1918 and consist of scrapbooks and a publication that document Young's work managing performing artists and aviators, theater companies, concert tours, and an aviation company.

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 Joyce Joseph, 2014

Creator History

Charles L. Young was a manager and entrepreneur who oversaw the careers of performing artists and aviators, ran theatrical and aviation companies, directed concert tours, and published a musical and amusement directory. In the late 1890s, Young managed: the Columbia Opera Company in New York City; various concert tours; and individual performing artists such as Mabel Eaton, Thuel Burnham, Emma Nevada and Aileen Brower. In 1901, he published *The Charles L. Young Musical Club* and

Amusement Directory, a comprehensive guide outlined by region. In 1907, Young ran a musical comedy company that presented productions such as *The Pride of New York* and *The Girl from Frisco*. In the early 1910s, Young managed pioneer aviators such as Charles Walsh, Arthur Smith, and Robert Fowler. He also ran the Young Aeroplane Company in Kansas City, Missouri, and Young's High Flyers, a group of stunt-flying entertainers who exhibited at various fairs.

Scope and Content Note

The Charles L. Young scrapbooks date from 1892 to 1918 and consist of scrapbooks and a publication that document Young's work managing performing artists and aviators, theater companies, concert tours, and an aviation company.

The bulk of the collection is scrapbooks of clippings related to Young's musical comedy company productions and the performing artists he managed. The productions and performing artists most discussed are: *The Pride of New York*, *The Girl from Frisco*, Mabel Eaton, Emma Nevada, and Aileen Bower.

One of the scrapbooks contains photographs and postcards of aviators and action shots of their flights. Pioneer aviators such as Charles Walsh, Art Smith, and Robert Fowler are well documented in this collection. There are some clippings, correspondence, and testimonies related to the Young Aeroplane Company and the Young's High Flyers exhibitions at various fairs.

There is a copy of Young's *The Charles L. Young Musical Club and Amusement Directory* (1901). The directory is a comprehensive resource to music and amusement organized by region. Each region contains population estimates, local amenities, and a list of musical theaters with manager names if known.

Arrangement: The volumes are arranged chronologically.

Key Terms

Occupations

Air pilots
Arts administrators
Theatrical managers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)
Photographic postcards
Photographs
Scrapbooks

Subjects

Musical theater
Performing arts
Stunt flying
Theatrical companies

Names

Bower, Aileen
Eaton, Mabel, -1916
Fowler, Robert Grant Thomas, 1883-1966
Nevada, Emma, 1859-1940
Smith, Arthur Roy, 1890-1926
Walsh, Charles Francis, 1877-1912
Young Aeroplane Company
Young's High Flyers

Container List

- v. 1 1892-1895
Mabel Eaton.
- v. 2 1896-1899
Columbia Opera Company.
- v. 3 1899-1900
Emma Nevada.
- v. 4 1899-1914
Aileen Brower and aviation photos and postcards.
- b. 1 The Charles L. Young Musical Club and Amusement Directory 1901
- v. 5 1907-1918
The Pride of New York, The Girl from Frisco, and aviation materials.