



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Ewald Schindler papers, Additions**

1899-1946

\*T-Mss 1993-014

Compiled by Weatherly Stephan, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Schindler, Ewald, 1891-1948

**Title:** Ewald Schindler papers, Additions

**Date:** 1899-1946

**Size:** .21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Gift of Donald Weissmuller, 1989-1990.

**Abstract:** Ewald Schindler (1891-1948) was a German-born actor, director, and producer of theatre and opera. After fleeing to Czechoslovakia and Italy during the rise of the Nazis, he immigrated to the United States in 1941, where he became director of the King-Smith Playhouse in Washington, D.C. and founded The Playhouse Studio, a school of drama, with Norwegian dancer Liljan Espenak. Additions to the Ewald Schindler papers date from 1899 to 1947 and contain letters, photographs, scrapbook pages, and personal ephemera that document Schindler's family and professional life. Scrapbook pages with clippings, photographs, and a program document Schindler's direction of *The Green Cockatoo* at the King-Smith Playhouse, dated 1942 to 1943. Correspondence is with Kurt Schindler, Liljan Espenak, and Mary Wigman, discussing family and professional issues. Photographs include individual portraits of the Schindler family as well as a cabinet card depicting Czech opera singer Emmy Destinn. Personal ephemera consists of a recitation book and Schindler's social security card. Correspondence and the recitation book are in German.

**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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**Preferred citation:** Ewald Schindler papers, Additions, \*T-Mss 1993-014. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Compiled by Weatherly Stephan, 2014

**Related Materials:**

Ewald Schindler papers, 8-MWEZ + n.c. 28,410. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

**Key Terms**

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Cabinet photographs  
Clippings (information artifacts)  
Photographs  
Scrapbooks

**Subjects**

Germans -- United States -- 20th century  
Theater -- United States  
Theatrical producers and directors -- United States

**Names**

Destinnova\_, Ema, 1878-1930  
Espenak, Liljan  
Wigman, Mary, 1886-1973  
King-Smith Playhouse and School of Theatre Arts (Washington, D.C.)