



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Charles Pierce oral history transcript

1989-1998

*T-Mss 2016-015

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2016.

Summary

Creator: Pierce, Charles, 1926-1999

Title: Charles Pierce oral history transcript

Date: 1989-1998

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Richard Barsam, 2016.

Abstract: Charles Pierce (1926-1999) was a drag performer and actor. This transcript is of an interview conducted with Pierce in 1989 as part of Southern Methodist University oral history program. The interview outlines Pierce's career, including his early work in radio in Watertown, New York; his experiences at the Pasadena Playhouse as a student in the 1940s and a professional actor in the 1950s; and the development and the development and performance of his night club act through the 1980s. The transcript includes a two-page addendum from 1998 in which Pierce describes his career and life in the time since the first interview was conducted.

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 Kit Fluker, 2016.

Key Terms

Subjects

Drag shows

Entertainers -- United States -- 20th century

Female impersonators

Gay actors -- United States

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Oral histories (document genres)