

**The New York Public Library
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center
Music Division**

Guide to the

Cyma Rubin papers

1969-1992 (bulk 1970-1975)

JPB 12-04

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, April 2012

Summary

Creator: Rubin, Cyma

Title: Cyma Rubin papers, 1969-1992 (bulk 1970-1975)

Size: 12.13 linear feet (39 boxes)

Source: Donated by Cyma Rubin, 2011.

Abstract: The Cyma Rubin papers document the producer's two Broadway productions: a revival of *No, No, Nanette* (1971), and an original musical, *Doctor Jazz* (1975). They contain scores, correspondence, production files, business records, publicity material, and photographs.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photography and photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Copyright information: For permission to publish, contact the Chief, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Preferred citation: Cyma Rubin papers, JPB 12-04. Music Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processing consisted of foldering and arranging scores and files.

Related collections

Luther Henderson papers, MG 322. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library. The Henderson papers hold additional papers and scores regarding *No, No, Nanette* and *Doctor Jazz*.

Creator history

Cyma Rubin is a Tony and Emmy Award-winning producer, director, writer and president of Business of Entertainment, Inc., New York. She grew up in New York and received a degree in textile engineering from North Carolina State University. She later studied at the New York School of Interior Design. After a stint as an industrial designer, she began to work in theater, and in 1969 founded a production company, Pyxidium, Inc. In 1971, she produced the Tony Award-winning Broadway revival of the 1925 musical *No, No, Nanette*. Several other companies of the production performed in cities around United States, and in Toronto and London. Her second and final Broadway production, the original musical *Doctor Jazz* (1975), written and composed by Buster Davis and Luther Henderson, closed after five performances.

Rubin continued to produce in other forms. Her work includes Greaser's Palace, named an outstanding film of the year at the London Film Festival; movies for Warner Brothers and CBS; multi-media shows for Pepsi-Cola; Porgy and Bess for the Houston Grand Opera; and the documentaries The Making of Porgy and Bess and The Joseph Pulitzer Story for Japanese television. She is the American producer for the American Ballet Theatre's tours to Japan.

Rubin was the New York curator and producer for the Pulitzer Prize photography exhibitions in Japan and South Korea and is the curator/writer and producer for the U.S. traveling exhibition, The Pulitzer Prize Photographs: Capture the Moment. She continues to produce, write and co-edit the exhibition's catalog.

In 1999, she produced and directed the TV Special, "Moment of Impact: Stories of the Pulitzer Prize Photographs" for Turner Network Television, which won the Emmy and Telly Awards for best documentary. In 2007, Rubin curated, edited and produced a new exhibition and book, The American Soldier: A Photographic Tribute from the Civil War to the War in Iraq.

Source: "About Cyma Rubin." About BEI. <http://www.bizzent.com/content/about-bei> (Accessed April 9, 2012)

Scope and content note

The Cyma Rubin papers document the producer's two Broadway productions of the early to mid-1970s: the highly successful 1971 revival of No, No, Nanette, which ran for over 800 performances over two years and spawned several touring productions, and the original musical Doctor Jazz, which closed in 1975 after only five performances and 42 previews. Rubin's papers hold correspondence, production and casting files, business papers, programs, publicity material, clippings and photographs documenting both shows, and the music scores for Doctor Jazz. Though the papers for No, No, Nanette are far more voluminous and detailed than those for Doctor Jazz, the majority of the collection is composed of the Doctor Jazz scores.

The collection also contains a DVD produced in 2011 commemorating the 40th anniversary of the 1971 production. It features production photographs and audio interviews with Ruby Keeler, Bobby Van, Patsy Kelly, Helen Gallagher, and Irving Caesar, and footage of the production.

Inquiries regarding video material in the collection may be directed to the Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound (rha@nypl.org). Video material will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access.

Arrangement

The Cyma Rubin papers are organized into the following series:

Series I: Doctor Jazz, 1972-1975

Series II: No, No, Nanette, 1969-1992

Key terms

Names

Baker, Benny, 1907-1994

Berkeley, Busby, 1895-1976

Occupations

Producers (managers)

Burns, Ralph
Caesar, Irving, 1895-1996
Davis, Buster
Forty-sixth Street Theatre (Organization: New York,
N.Y.)
Gallagher, Helen, 1926-
Harbach, Otto, 1873-1963
Henderson, Luther, 1919-2003
Hyman, Dick, 1927-
Keeler, Ruby
Mandel, Frank, 1884-1958
Oliver, Sy
Rigby, Harry
Rubin, Cyma
Shevelove, Burt
Van, Bobby
Youmans, Vincent, 1898-1946

Special formats

Black-and-white photographs
Clippings (information artifacts)
Commercial correspondence
Contracts
Financial records
One-sheet posters
Programs (documents)
Scores

Container list

Series I: Doctor Jazz, 1972-1975 (25.5 boxes)

Doctor Jazz was composed by Buster Davis and Luther Henderson, with lyrics and book by Buster Davis, orchestrations by Dick Hyman and Sy Oliver, and vocal arrangements by Buster Davis. Additional songs were adapted from various other songwriters and composers.

This series contains papers documenting the production of the show, but the bulk of it is composed of scores and parts used in its creation and performance.

The papers hold correspondence between the producer, authors, directors and other production personnel; incorporation papers for the Doctor Jazz production company and limited partnership, and a file of permissions from the copyright holders of songs used in the show.

The scores contain full orchestrated scores for all the material composed for the show, including some which did not survive to the final version; orchestrations by Dick Hyman for a 1974 taping of the show's arrangements; piano-conductor scores; piano-vocal scores; part books used in the production (often labeled with the name of the musician playing the book); and rehearsal piano-conductor scores and parts. Some of this material is duplicative because there are clean score masters as well as copies with rehearsal and performance notes. The rehearsal and piano-vocal scores may be different arrangements than those used in the final show. Most (but not all) full scores, piano-conductor and piano-vocal scores are labeled with an arranger or orchestrator credit.

Papers

- b.1 f.1 General, 1972-1975
- Contracts and Correspondence
- b.1 f.1-3 General, 1971-1974
- b.1 f.4 Authors, 1974
- b.1 f.5 Director, 1973-1974
- b.1 f.6-7 Doctor Jazz Company and Ltd. Partnership, 1974
- b.1 f.8 Songwriters, 1974
- b.2 f.1 Costume Designs, 1973
- b.2 f.2 Publicity, 1972-1975
- b.2 f.3 Script, Playbill and Chart of Songs, 1975

Scores

- b.3 f.1-2 Full Scores, 1975
- b.4 f.1-2 Full Scores, 1975
- b.5 f.1-2 Full Scores, 1975
- b.6 f.1-2 Full Scores, 1975
- b.7 f.1-2 Full Scores, 1975
- Orchestrations for January 1974 Taping, 1974
- b.8 f.1 Full Scores
- b.9 f.1 Piano-Conductor Scores
- b.9 f.2 Parts
- b.9 f.3-5 Piano-Conductor Score and Part Masters

Series I: Doctor Jazz, 1972-1975 (25.5 boxes)... (cont.)

Scores (cont.)

- b.10 f.1-5 Piano-Conductor Score and Part Masters
- b.11 f.1-4 Piano-Conductor Score and Part Masters
- b.12 f.1 Piano-Conductor Score and Part Masters
- b.12 f.2-3 Piano-Vocal Scores
- b.13 f.1-4 Piano-Vocal Scores
- b.14 f.1-3 Piano-Vocal Scores

Part Books

- b.15 Reeds
- b.16 Reeds
- b.17 Brass
- b.18 Brass
- b.19 Brass
- b.20 Guitar, Banjo and Bass
- b.21 Drums and Percussion
- b.22 Piano-Conductor
- b.23 f.1-3 Earlier Part Versions
- b.24 f.1-3 Rehearsal Piano-Conductor Scores and Parts
- b.25 f.1-3 Rehearsal Piano-Conductor Scores and Parts
- b.26 f.1-3 Rehearsal Piano-Conductor Scores and Parts

Series II: No, No, Nanette, 1969-1992 (13.5 boxes)

No, No, Nanette was originally composed in 1925 by Vincent Youmans with lyrics by Irving Caesar and Otto Harbach, and a book by Otto Harbach and Frank Mandel. The 1971 revival was conceived by Harry Rigby and had a book adapted by Burt Shevelove, music orchestrated by Ralph Burns, incidental music by Luther Henderson, and vocal arrangements by Buster Davis. The production supervisor was Busby Berkeley.

This series has two divisions: one for the Broadway run of the show, and the other for that production's pre-Broadway runs and later touring companies. Contents include contracts, casting and production files, correspondence, photographs, legal and insurance papers, house attendance and financial tallies, and publicity materials including press releases, advertising files, clippings, and correspondence with publicists and media.

The casting files mostly contain actor resumes and headshots, and some have correspondence. They include cast from both the Broadway production and from the pre-Broadway or touring companies of the show. Major actors such as Helen Gallagher, Ruby Keeler, Benny Baker and Bobby Van appeared in the various versions of the show.

The production files document the show's pre-production and the day-to-day issues of running a Broadway musical. The contracts, with the exception of Buster Davis's file, are arranged by job title. These files also contain correspondence, as well as separate folders of cancelled contracts.

The correspondence files under the Broadway production hold letters to and from every conceivable person or entity associated with the show: actors and their representatives, publishers, directors, choreographers, publicity agents, lawyers, the 46th Street Theatre, the actors' and stagehands' unions, media, etc.

Other files for the Broadway production document the 46th Street Theatre, rehearsals, scripts, Playbill copy and production, the souvenir program, television and film appearances and proposals, and the 1971 Tony awards ceremony.

The files for pre-Broadway and touring versions of the show consist primarily of information on those productions as they appeared in major cities in the United States, Canada and England. They do not include files for the dozens of other locations the touring companies visited across the U.S. The files hold correspondence, publicity materials, programs, clippings, cast information, and a framed poster for the Cleveland production. The Japan file contains a proposal, not an actual production.

Broadway Production

b.2 f.4	General, 1970-1973
b.2 f.5	46th Street Theatre, 1971-1972
b.2 f.6	500th Performance Party, 1972
b.2 f.7-9	Actors' Equity Association, 1970-1972
b.27 f.1	Auditions, 1970
b.27 f.2	Background, 1970

Series II: No, No, Nanette, 1969-1992 (13.5 b... (cont.)

Broadway Production (cont.)

- b.27 f.3-4 Benefit Performances, 1971-1972
- b.27 f.5-6 Berkeley, Busby, 1969-1972
- b.27 f.7-8 Cast Album, 1970-1976
- Casting
 - b.27 f.9-10 General, 1970-1971
 - b.28 f.1 Ackerman, Loni Zoe
 - b.28 f.2 Baker, Benny, 1972
 - b.28 f.3 Cooke, Sally, 1971
 - b.28 f.4 Davis, Ann B.
 - b.28 f.5 Fontana, Arlene
 - b.28 f.6 Gallagher, Helen, 1972
 - b.28 f.7 Heuman, Barbara, 1972
 - b.28 f.8 Keeler, Ruby, 1970-1972
 - b.28 f.9 Kelly, Patsy, 1970-1971
 - b.28 f.10 Knaiz, Judy, 1970
 - b.28 f.11 Maitland, Ruth
 - b.28 f.12 Raye, Martha, 1968-1972
 - b.28 f.13 Singleton, Penny
 - b.28 f.14 Van, Bobby, 1970-1971
 - b.28 f.15 Watson, Susan
- b.28 f.16 Closing
- b.28 f.17 Contact Sheets and Addresses, 1971
- Contracts
 - b.28 f.18 General, 1970-1971
 - b.28 f.19 Adaptor, 1970-1972
 - b.28 f.20 Arrangers and Orchestrators, 1970
 - b.28 f.21 Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers, 1970-1972
 - b.28 f.22 Authors, 1970-1974
 - b.29 f.1 Authors, 1970-1974
 - b.29 f.2 Choreographer, 1970
 - b.29 f.3 Chorus, 1971-1973
 - b.29 f.4 Company Manager, 1970-1971
 - b.29 f.5 Composer, 1970
 - b.29 f.6 Crew, 1970-1971
 - b.29 f.7 Davis, Buster, 1970-1972
 - b.29 f.8 Designers, 1970-1972
 - b.30 f.1 Director, 1969-1973
 - b.30 f.2 Electricians, 1970-1971
 - b.30 f.3 Musicians, 1970

Series II: No, No, Nanette, 1969-1992 (13.5 b... (cont.)

Broadway Production (cont.)

Contracts (cont.)

- b.30 f.4-6 Principal Cast, 1970-1972
- b.30 f.7-8 Publisher, 1969-1974
- b.30 f.9 Wardrobe, 1972
- b.31 f.1-6 Terminated Contracts, 1970-1973
- b.32 f.1-4 Correspondence, 1970-1973, 1979-1990
- b.32 f.5 Expenditures, 1970
- b.32 f.6 Gross Sheets, 1971-1972
- b.32 f.7 Hotels, 1970
- b.32 f.8 House Seats, 1971
- b.32 f.9-10 Insurance, 1970-1974
- b.32 f.11 Knight, Hilary, 1970-1971
- b.32 f.12 League of New York Theatres, 1970-1973
- b.32 f.13 Legal, 1970-1974
- b.32 f.14 Motion Picture, 1969-1974
- b.33 f.1 Museum of the City of New York, 1986
- b.33 f.2 Pepsi-Cola, 1972
- b.33 f.3 Photographs, 1970-1971
- b.33 f.4 Physical Production, 1970
- b.33 f.5 Program, 1971-1972
- b.33 f.6 Prospective Employees, 1972
- Publicity
- b.33 f.7-8 Advertising, 1970-1972
- b.33 f.9 Clippings, 1970-1971
- b.34 f.1-3 Correspondence and Press Releases, 1971-1972
- b.34 f.4 Rehearsal Space, 1970
- b.34 f.5 Schedule of Attendance, 1972-1973
- b.34 f.6-7 Scripts
- Adaptation by Burt Shevelove of original book by Otto Harbach and Frank Mandel, and rewrite Charles Gaynor.
- b.34 f.8 Shevelove, Burt, 1970-1972
- Souvenir Program, 1971-1974
- b.35 f.1 Text and Correspondence
- b.8 f.2 Program
- b.35 f.2 Television, 1971-1974
- b.35 f.3 Tony Awards, 1971
- b.35 f.4 WNCN, 1972
- Other Productions
- b.35 f.5-8 General, 1970-1974
- Cities and Countries

Series II: No, No, Nanette, 1969-1992 (13.5 b... (cont.)

Other Productions (cont.)

Cities and Countries (cont.)

- b.36 f.1 Atlantic City, 1971
- b.36 f.2 Baltimore, 1970
- b.36 f.3 Boston, 1970
- b.36 f.4 Chicago, 1972-1973
- b.36 f.5 Japan, 1989-1992
- b.36 f.6-7 London, 1971-1974
- b.37 f.1-2 London, 1971-1974
- b.37 f.3-7 Los Angeles, 1971-1973
- b.38 f.1 Philadelphia, 1970
- b.38 f.2 St. Louis, 1972-1973
- b.38 f.3 Toronto, 1970-1973
- b.38 f.4 Foreign Companies, 1971-1972
- b.39 Poster, 1971
- b.38 f.5 Programs, 1972-1974
- b.38 f.6 Publicity, 1971-1973
- b.38 f.7 Rental Schedules, 1975-1978