

Guide to the Laurence J. Gomme Collection, ca. 1850-1973.

*T-Mss 1993-004

Billy Rose Theatre Division



The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

New York, New York

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Laurence J. Gomme Collection, ca. 1850-1973.

Creator: Gomme, Laurence J., 1882-1974.

Collection ID: *T-Mss 1993-004

Size: .2 lf. (1 box).

Repository: The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.
Billy Rose Theatre Division. New York, New York

Abstract: Laurence Gomme was a bookseller, appraiser, publisher and collector. His collection consists of letters, programs, clippings and photographs.

Administrative Information

Source: The collection was purchased in 1993 from Jens J. Christoffersen.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Photocopying prohibited. Advance notice may be required.

Restrictions on Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Billy Rose Theatre Division.

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Biography

The Gommess were collectors of performing arts ephemera. Laurence Gomme was a bookseller, publisher and also an appraiser who evaluated collections of performing artists. Florence Cornell Gomme, his wife was an actress.

Scope and Contents

The collection is a smattering of materials collected by the Gommes and includes materials from actors, actresses, drama critics and musicians. The collection also contains an autographed program which included Florence Cornell Gomme in the cast. The materials span the years 1850 to 1973.

Notables included in the collection are Rudolph Ganz, Fanny Kemble, Margaret Hamilton and Brooks Atkinson, among others.

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Correspondence / Brooks Atkinson, 1972-1973
1 folder: (2 letters)
- b. 1 f. 2 Autographed program of *Tin Pan Alley* / Claudette Colbert, 1928
1 folder: (1 autographed program
Program of the premiere performance of *Tin Pan Alley* [November 1, 1928] signed by cast members.
- b. 1 f. 3 Correspondence / Marc Connelly, 1935-1969
1 folder: (2 letters, 1 typescript).
- b. 1 f. 4 Correspondence / Rudolph Ganz, 1933-1972
1 folder: (3 letters)
- b. 1 f. 5 Photographs / Rudolph Ganz, 1912
1 photoprint
Signed photograph of Rudolph Ganz.
- b. 1 f. 6 Clippings / Rudolph Ganz, 1967-1972
1 folder of clippings
- b. 1 f. 7 Correspondence / Ben Grauer
1 folder: (1 note)
- b. 1 f. 8 Correspondence / Margaret Hamilton, 1967
1 folder: 5 items (1 letter, 1 photo, 1 postcard
Correspondence and photographs from Margaret Hamilton to Florence Cornell Gomme.
- b. 1 f. 9 Clippings / Margaret Hamilton, 1967-1981
1 folder of clippings
- b. 1 f. 10 Correspondence / Fanny Kemble, 1834
1 folder: (1 letter, 1 broadside
Broadside from the 1834 Chesnut Street Theatre production of *Stranger*. Also included is a note written by Fanny Kemble [n.d.].

b. 1 f. 11

Correspondence / Andre Kostelanetz, 1934

1 folder: (1 letter

Letter from Andre Kostelanetz to Florence Cornell (Mrs. Florence Gomme).

b. 1 f. 12

Photographs / Frank McGlynn, 1922

1 folder: (1 letter, 1 photograph

Autographed photograph of Frank McGlynn with a letter from Bedelia Croly Falls to Laurence Gomme concerning the origins of the photograph.
