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THE BILLY ROSE THEATRE COLLECTION

CARL HARMS, 1910-
PUTNAM COUNTY PLAYHOUSE SCRAPBOOK, 1946 -1949

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MAIN ENTRY: Carl Harms, 1910-

TITLE: Putnam County Playhouse Scrapbook,
1946 - 1949

SIZE: 1 box (.25 lf.)

HISTORICAL NOTE: The first summer season for the Putnam
County Playhouse was in 1946. Its parent
organization, Trial Stages, Inc., was formed
in 1940.

DESCRIPTION: The scrapbook consists of programs,
photographs, and clippings.

INTRODUCTION

The scrapbook was given to the Billy Rose Theatre Collection by Carl Harms in June, 1997. For preservation purposes the items were removed from the scrapbook and rehoused in acid-free folders. The clippings were photocopied onto acid-free paper.

ARRANGEMENT AND DESCRIPTION

The scrapbook is arranged chronologically. The folders contain programs, production photographs, clippings, and the schedules for 1946 - 1949.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Carl Harms was born in Chicago where he began his theatrical career with the Fritz Leiber Shakespearean Repertory Company. In the 1940s he appeared in and stage managed many of the Putnam County Playhouse productions. Harms joined the Equity Stock Committee in 1947 and, while continuing his acting career on Broadway, was active in almost every aspect of Actors' Equity Association. In 1995 Harms celebrated thirty-eight years as a member of the Equity Council.

The Putnam County Playhouse was an offshoot of Trial Stages, Inc. which was formed in 1940 by a group of Broadway actors for the purpose of performing non-royalty plays at a minimum cost for clubs' and service organizations' benefit performances. One of the few cooperative ventures endorsed by Actors' Equity, the group toured in and around Manhattan. In 1946 Trial Stages produced their first summer season at the Putnam County Playhouse in Mahopac, NY.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The scrapbook, compiled by Carl Harms, is a record of plays produced at the Putnam County Playhouse from 1946 - 1949. Programs, production photographs, and clippings make up the collection. Among the young actors appearing with the company were Lee Marvin, Larry Arrick, Mike Nichols and Isabel Sanford. Harms notes that actress/director/teacher Osceola Archer may have been the first African-American director in summer stock.

Container Listing

- Folder 1 - Scrapbook preface & photos
- Folder 2 - 1946 season schedule
- Folder 3 - *The Would-Be-Gentleman* program & photos
- Folder 4 - *The Octoroon* program & photos
- Folder 5 - *The Fireman* program, photos, & clipping
- Folder 6 - *The Detour* program & clippings
- Folder 7 - *Too Many Husbands* program & clipping
- Folder 8 - R.U.R program
- Folder 9 - 1947 season schedule
- Folder 10 - *The Skin of Our Teeth* program & photos
- Folder 11 - *Squaring the Circle* program & photos
- Folder 12 - *Escape* program & photo
- Folder 13 - *The Arbitration* program, photos & clipping
- Folder 14 - *Hedda Gabler* program
- Folder 15 - *Lady Precious Stream* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 16 - *S.S. Tenacity* program & photos
- Folder 17 - *Adam, The Creator* program, photos & clipping
- Folder 18 - 1948 season schedule
- Folder 19 - *Secret Service* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 20 - *The Whole World Over* program, photo & clipping
- Folder 21 - *Life With Father* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 22 - *Volpone* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 23 - *Captain Applejack* program, photo & clippings
- Folder 24 - *The Glass Menagerie* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 25 - *Night Must Fall* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 26 - *The New York Idea* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 27 - *For Love or Money* program, photos & clipping
- Folder 28 - 1949 season schedule
- Folder 29 - *Strange Bedfellows* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 30 - *Turn to the Right* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 31 - *A Doll's House* program, photos & clippings
- Folder 32 - *The Racket* program, photos & clipping
- Folder 33 - *The Girl of the Golden West* program, photos & clipping
- Folder 34 - *Dear Brutus* program & photos
- Folder 35 - *Morning's At Seven* program & photos
- Folder 36 - *A Letter From Harry* program, photos & clippings

