MAIN ENTRY: Richard Tucker, 1895 - 1958

TITLE: Photographs, 1934 - 1951

SIZE: 4 boxes (1.75 lf.)

ACCESS: Unrestricted

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Richard Tucker, architect turned photographer, documented Broadway plays, musicals and revues of the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

DESCRIPTION: The collection consists of photographs and slides.
INTRODUCTION

Photographs and slides taken by Richard Tucker were given to the Billy Rose Theatre Collection by his daughter Julia in 1995. Some of the items show damage from a fire that destroyed Tucker's Boston studio in 1949.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

When architect Richard Tucker was forced by the Depression to have a work-one-week-take-one-week-off schedule, he began taking photographs of vaudeville shows at the RKO-Boston Theatre. By 1933 Tucker had become a full-time freelance photographer covering plays and musicals during their Boston pre-Broadway tryouts. Using existing theatrical light he photographed both performances and rehearsals.

In 1949 Tucker's studio was destroyed by fire. Two years later he returned to the field of architecture. His last theatrical photographs were of The King and I in 1951.

Tucker died as the result of a heart attack in 1958 while he was in Italy working on photographs for the proposed book Renaissance Scene Design: Its Relationship to the Architecture of Its Time.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Richard Tucker's photographs and slides document Broadway productions and some of the actors, directors, and writers who created them. The collection spans 1934-1951 and includes what appears to be some earlier undated material. Most of the photographs were taken in Boston during pre-Broadway tryouts. The collection is notable for the candid quality of the photographs, capturing the spirit of the production or performer.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The collection is arranged in two series: photographs and slides. The arrangement is alphabetical, productions followed by individuals. The photograph series consists of production, backstage, and rehearsal shots of revues, musicals, and plays and candid photographs of individual performers. Box three contains oversized photographs. Slides are mainly of productions.
T-VIM 1995-005

Richard Tucker Photographs, 1934-1951

Container listing

Series I: Photographs
Box 1, folder 1  All in fun (Revue), 1940 / Louis Baldwin Bergersen.
Box 1, folder 2  At home abroad (Revue), 1935 / Arthur Schwartz.
Box 1, folder 3  Babes in arms (Musical), 1937 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 4  Blithe spirit, 1941 / Noel Coward.
Box 1, folder 5  Blow ye winds, 1937 / Valentine Davies.
Box 1, folder 6  The boys from Syracuse (Musical), 1938 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 7  By Jupiter (Musical), 1942 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 8  Calling all men (Musical), 1937 / Louis Baldwin Bergersen.
Box 1, folder 9  The corn is green, 1940 / Emlyn Williams.
Box 1, folder 10  The doctor's dilemma, 1941 / Bernard Shaw.
Box 1, folder 11  Dubarry was a lady (Musical), 1939 / Cole Porter.
Box 1, folder 12  Early to bed (Musical), 1943 / Fats Waller.
Box 1, folder 13  Flight to the west, 1940 / Elmer Rice.
Box 1, folder 14  Fools rush in (Revue), 1934 / Will Irwin.
Box 1, folder 15  Gallery gods (Burlesque), 1938.
Box 1, folder 16  Hamlet, 1936 / William Shakespeare.
Box 1, folder 17  Higher and higher (Musical), 1940 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 18  Hope for a harvest, 1941 / Sophie Treadwell.
Box 1, folder 19  The hot mikado (Musical), 1936 / Arthur, Sir Sullivan.
Box 1, folder 20  I married an angel (Musical), 1938 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 21  I'd rather be right (Musical), 1937 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 22  A lady says yes (Musical), 1945 / Fred Spielman.
Box 1, folder 23  Lute song (Musical), 1946 / Raymond Scott.
Box 1, folder 24  The man who came to dinner, 1939 / Moss Hart.
Box 1, folder 25  Mexican hayride (Musical), 1944 / Cole Porter.
Box 1, folder 26  No time for comedy, 1939 / S. N. (Samuel Nathaniel) Behrman.
Box 1, folder 27  Oklahoma! (Musical), 1943 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 28  On your toes (Musical), 1936 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 29  Parade (Revue), 1935 / Jerome Moross.
Box 1, folder 30  A passenger to Bali, 1940 / Ellis St. Joseph.
Box 1, folder 31  The pirate, 1942 / S. N. (Samuel Nathaniel) Behrman.
Box 1, folder 32  Point Valaine, 1935 / Noel Coward.
Box 1, folder 33  Porgy and Bess (Opera), 1942 / George Gershwin.
Box 1, folder 34  Romeo and Juliet / William Shakespeare.
Box 1, folder 35  Stars in your eyes (Musical), 1939 / Arthur Schwartz.
Box 1, folder 36  Taming of the shrew, 1935 / William Shakespeare.
Box 1, folder 37  This rock, 1943 / Walter Livingstone Faust.
Box 1, folder 38  Three after three (Musical), 1940 / Hoagy Carmichael.
Box 1, folder 39  Too many girls (Musical), 1939 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 1, folder 40  Two for the show (Revue), 1940 / Morgan Lewis.
Box 1, folder 41  The willow and I, 1942 / John Patrick.
Box 1, folder 42  You never know (Musical), 1938 / Cole Porter.
Box 1, folder 43  Photographs, 1937 / Peter Arno.
Box 1, folder 44  Photographs / Josephine Baker.
Box 1, folder 45  Photographs / Milton Berle.
Box 1, folder 46  Photographs / Valerie Bettis.
Box 1, folder 47  Photographs / Ray Bolger.
Box 1, folder 48  Photographs / Abe Burrows.
Box 1, folder 49  Photographs, 1939 / Judy Canova.
Box 1, folder 50  Photographs / Joan Caulfield.
Box 1, folder 51  Photographs / Ann Corio.
Box 1, folder 52  Photographs / Katharine Cornell.
Box 1, folder 53  Photographs / Lou Costello.
Box 1, folder 54  Photographs / Noel Coward.
Box 1, folder 55  Photographs / Dominican Sisters.
Box 1, folder 56  Photographs / Jimmy Durante.
Box 1, folder 57  Photographs / Maurice Evans.
Box 1, folder 58  Photographs / Jos, Ferrer.
Box 1, folder 59  Photographs / Barry Fitzgerald.
Box 1, folder 60  Photographs / Jane Froman.
Box 1, folder 61  Photographs / Lorenz Hart.
Box 1, folder 62  Photographs / Sonja Henie.
Box 1, folder 63  Photographs / Al Jolson.
Box 1, folder 64  Photographs / Serge Koussevitsky.
Box 2, folder 1  Photographs / Bert Lahr.
Box 2, folder 2  Photographs / Paula Lawrence.
Box 2, folder 3  Photographs / Gypsy Rose Lee.
Box 2, folder 4  Photographs / Beatrice Lillie.
Box 2, folder 5  Photographs / Mary Martin.
Box 2, folder 6  Photographs / Raymond Massey.
Box 2, folder 7  Photographs / Mata and Hari.
Box 2, folder 8  Photographs / Ann Miller.
Box 2, folder 9  Photographs / Carmen Miranda.
Box 2, folder 10 Photographs / Victor Moore.
Box 2, folder 11 Photographs / Henry Morgan.
Box 2, folder 12 Photographs / Osgood Perkins.
Box 2, folder 13 Photographs / Rodgers and Hammerstein.
Box 2, folder 14 Photographs / Ethel Waters.
Box 2, folder 15 Photographs / Bert Wheeler.
Box 2, folder 16 Photographs / Shelley Winters.
Box 2, folder 17 Photographs / Ed Wynn.
Box 2, folder 18 Unidentified photographs.
Box 3, folder 1  Hooray for what! (Musical) / Harold Arlen.
Box 3, folder 2  Knickerbocker holiday (Musical), 1938 / Kurt Weill.
Box 3, folder 3  South Pacific (Musical), 1949 / Richard Rodgers.
Box 3, folder 4  Our town, 1938 / Thornton Wilder.
Box 3, folder 5  Photographs / Josephine Baker.
Box 3, folder 6  Photographs / Jimmy Durante.
Box 3, folder 7
Photographs / Roland Hayes.

Box 3, folder 8
Photographs / Sonja Henie.

Box 3, folder 9
Photographs / Beatrice Lillie.

Box 3, folder 10
Photographs / Ethel Waters.

Series II: Slides
Box 4, folder 1
As you like it, 1950 / William Shakespeare.

Box 4, folder 2
Barefoot in Athens, 1951 / Maxwell Anderson.

Box 4, folder 3
Cyrano de Bergerac, 1946 / Edmond Rostand.

Box 4, folder 4
Death of a salesman, 1950 / Arthur Miller.

Box 4, folder 5
The eternal road, 1937 / Kurt Weill.

Box 4, folder 6
Hamlet, 1936 / William Shakespeare.

Box 4, folder 7
Higher and higher (Musical), 1940 / Richard Rodgers.

Box 4, folder 8
King and I (Musical), 1951 / Richard Rodgers.

Box 4, folder 9
Medea / Robinson Jeffers.

Box 4, folder 10
Mister Roberts, 1948 / Thomas Heggen.

Box 4, folder 11
One touch of Venus (Musical), 1943 / Kurt Weill.

Box 4, folder 12
The pirate, 1942 / S. N. (Samuel Nathaniel) Behrman.

Box 4, folder 13
Romeo and Juliet, 1951 / William Shakespeare.

Box 4, folder 14
Season in the sun, 1950 / Wolcott Gibbs.

Box 4, folder 15
South Pacific (Musical), 1949 / Richard Rodgers.

Box 4, folder 16
A streetcar named Desire, 1949 / Tennessee Williams.

Box 4, folder 17
Wisteria trees, 1950 / Joshua Logan.

Box 4, folder 18
Unidentified production slides.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Eve Arden.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Bobby Clark.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Maurice Evans.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Jos’ Ferrer.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Helen Hayes.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Katharine Hepburn.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Gypsy Rose Lee.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Mary Martin.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Carmen Miranda.

Box 4, folder 19
Photographs / Victor Moore.