

Margaret Rushton Theatre Collection

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The Library

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Fonds Description

Margaret Rushton Theatre Collection. –1920-1977.

4.88 m of textual records and other materials.

Biographical Sketch

Margaret Rushton was born in England and came to Canada in 1930. She first became active in theatre when she joined the Vancouver Little Theatre and served as president of that organization for five years (1949-1954). She also acted in several plays during her years with the Theatre. Rushton became a member of the Dominion Drama Festival National Executive and served as president of the British Columbia Drama Association for eight years. She was very interested in theatre for children and joined the Holiday Theatre Company shortly after it was established, later becoming Tour Coordinator for the Company. When Holiday Theatre was incorporated into the Playhouse Theatre Centre, Rushton became Public Relations Officer and toured B.C. organizing tours for the company. In 1971, Rushton retired and began to write a history of the Holiday Theatre.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of correspondence, financial materials, minutes, reports, plays, clippings, scrapbooks, notes, brochures, and photographs pertaining to various dramatic organizations with which Rushton was involved. These organizations include Vancouver Little Theatre Association, Vancouver Children's Theatre, Vancouver Community Children's Theatre, Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse and Playhouse Theatre. Rushton collected this material for the purpose of writing a history of the Holiday Theatre and to document the children's theatre movement in British Columbia. Also included is an audio recording of an interview conducted by Rushton.

Notes

File list available.

Includes: ca. 700 photographs: b&w, 25.5 x 20.5 cm or smaller; 7 scrapbooks; 1 audio reel.

File List

BOX 1 (see also Box 1a for oversize material)

Vancouver Little Theatre

- 1-1 Vancouver Little Theatre Association, 1920-54
- 1-2 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Papers
- 1-3 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Chequebook
- 1-4 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Claretree Major Children's Theatre of New York
- 1-5 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Correspondence, 1947-48
- 1-6 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Correspondence, 1948-49
- 1-7 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Finances, 1947-48
- 1-8 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Finances, 1948-49
- 1-9 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Minutes, 1947-49
- 1-10 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Minutes
- 1-11 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Miscellaneous
- 1-12 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Miscellaneous
- 1-13 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Miscellaneous Book
- 1-14 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Plays - Bluebird & Snow White
- 1-15 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Publicity
- 1-16 Vancouver Children's Theatre - Report, 1948

BOX 2

Vancouver Community Children's Theatre

- 2-1 Cashbook
- 2-2 Chequebook
- 2-3 Correspondence, 1947-50
- 2-4 Correspondence, 1951-57
- 2-5 Date book
- 2-6 Educational Journals
- 2-7 Finances
- 2-8 Finances and Cashbook
- 2-9 Finances - Correspondence
- 2-10 Finances - Correspondence
- 2-11 Finances - Tax exemption correspondence
- 2-12 Financial statements

- 2-13 Gilmore puppets
- 2-14 Helen Grier's Classes
- 2-15 Information on Children's Theatre
- 2-16 Minutes, 1947-61
- 2-17 Miscellaneous, 1949
- 2-18 Miscellaneous, 1961
- 2-19 Play - Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp
- 2-20 Play - The Elves & the Shoemaker
- 2-21 Play - The Magic Nugget - this one is a bit confusing as Holiday Theatre etc. also did this play
- 2-22 Play - Many Moons
- 2-23 Play - Puss in Boots
- 2-24 Play - Rumpelstiltskin
- 2-25 Play - The Storytellers
- 2-26 Play - The Time Killer
- 2-27 Playwriting Contest
- 2-28 Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts
- 2-29 Treasurer's Reports
- 2-30 Wallace Puppets

BOX 3

Holiday Theatre

- 3-1 Amalgamation with Holiday Playhouse etc., 1969
- 3-2 Amusements Ta Act Forms and correspondence
- 3-3 Annual reports, Boards of Directors
- 3-4 Application for B.C. Grant
- 3-5 Board Meeting minutes, 1959-64
- 3-6 Board Meeting minutes, 1959-66
- 3-7 Board Meeting minutes, 1965-67
- 3-8 Board Meeting minutes, 1968-69
- 3-9 Board of Directors, 1963-69
- 3-10 Board of Directors - President's Reports, Artistic Director's Report, 1963-65
- 3-11 Brief submitted to Canada Council, 1959
- 3-12 British Columbia Gazette, 1959
- 3-13 Brochures
- 3-14 Budget, 1966-67
- 3-15 Canada Council Correspondence, 1959
- 3-16 Canada Council Correspondence, 1959-64

- 3-17 Contracts, agreements and correspondence, 1959-66
- 3-18 Correspondence, miscellaneous
- 3-19 Correspondence, Vancouver Jewish Community Centre
- 3-20 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, 1966-67
- 3-21 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, 1967
- 3-22 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, budgets, 1965-67
- 3-23 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, budgets, finances, etc., 1967
- 3-24 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, correspondence, contracts: Expo
- 3-25 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, correspondences: sponsor contracts
- 3-26 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, correspondence: sponsors

BOX 4

Holiday Theatre (cont.)

- 4-1 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, Letters of agreement
- 4-2 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, press releases
- 4-3 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, press reviews
- 4-4 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, publicity correspondence
- 4-5 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, stage specifications
- 4-6 Festival Canada, Centennial Tour, tour schedule
- 4-7 Finances - Capital Funds Campaign, correspondence
- 4-8 Finances - Capital Funds Campaign, Donors A-K
- 4-9 Finances - Capital Funds Campaign, Donors L-Z
- 4-10 Finances - Capital Funds Campaign, receipts
- 4-11 Finances - chequebooks
- 4-12 Finances - chequebooks
- 4-13 Finances - chequebooks
- 4-14 Finances - chequebooks

BOX 5

Holiday Theatre (cont.)

- 5-1 Finances - Chequebooks
- 5-2 Finances - Chequebooks
- 5-3 Finances - Deposit book
- 5-4 Finances - Deposit and chequebook
- 5-5 Finances - Deposit and chequebook
- 5-6 Finances - Deposit slips

- 5-7 Finances - Deposit slips
- 5-8 Finances - Income Tax Records and correspondence
- 5-9 Finances - Order book
- 5-10 Finances - Petty cash
- 5-11 Finances - Receipts, drama schools
- 5-12 Finances - Receipts, General
- 5-13 Finances - Statements
- 5-14 Finances - Statements, Vancouver Ticket Centre Ltd., 1965-67
- 5-15 Finances - Statements, Vancouver Ticket Centre Ltd., 1968-69
- 5-16 Finances - Tour fee payment record
- 5-17 Hogarth Puppets
- 5-18 Land Purchase Agreement

BOX 6

Holiday Theatre (cont.)

- 6-1 Miscellaneous
- 6-2 Newsletter
- 6-3 Plays, sheet listing all plays performed
- 6-4 Plays - by title of play
- 6-5 Press clippings
- 6-6 School of Drama
- 6-7 Societies Act
- 6-8 Societies Act, constitution
- 6-9 Societies Act, correspondence
- 6-10 Societies Act, draft
- 6-11 Submission to B.C. Centennial Fund Advisory Committee
- 6-12 Tour Schedule, 1963
- 6-13 Tour Schedule, 1964
- 6-14 Tour Schedule and reports, 1961

BOX 7

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday

- 7-1 Correspondence with schools - Abbotsford
- 7-2 Correspondence with schools - Agassiz
- 7-3 Correspondence with schools - Alberni
- 7-4 Correspondence with schools - Aldergrove

- 7-5 Correspondence with schools - Alta Lake
- 7-6 Correspondence with schools - Armstrong
- 7-7 Correspondence with schools - Ashcroft
- 7-8 Correspondence with schools - Brackendale
- 7-9 Correspondence with schools - Bralorne
- 7-10 Correspondence with schools - Brisco
- 7-11 Correspondence with schools - Britannia Beach
- 7-12 Correspondence with schools - Burnaby (School Board)
- 7-13/17 Correspondence with schools - Burnaby Elementary
- 7-18 Correspondence with schools - Burnaby Secondary
- 7-19 Correspondence with schools - Burns Lake
- 7-20/21 Correspondence with schools - Campbell River
- 7-22 Correspondence with schools - Castlegar / Kinnaird
- 7-23 Correspondence with schools - Chilliwack
- 7-24 Correspondence with schools - Clinton
- 7-25 Correspondence with schools - Cloverdale

BOX 8

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday (cont.)

- 8-1 Correspondence with schools - Cobble Hill
- 8-2 Correspondence with schools - Como
- 8-3 Correspondence with schools - Coquitlam
- 8-4 Correspondence with schools - Courtney
- 8-5 Correspondence with schools - Cranbrook
- 8-6 Correspondence with schools - Creston
- 8-7 Correspondence with schools - Cumberland
- 8-8 Correspondence with schools - Dawson Creek
- 8-9 Correspondence with schools - Delta
- 8-10 Correspondence with schools - Devine
- 8-11 Correspondence with schools - Duncan
- 8-12 Correspondence with schools - Dutch Lake / Clearwater
- 8-13 Correspondence with schools - Edmonton
- 8-14 Correspondence with schools - Enderby
- 8-15 Correspondence with schools - Fernie
- 8-16 Correspondence with schools - Fort Langley
- 8-17 Correspondence with schools - Fort Nelson
- 8-18 Correspondence with schools - Fort St. James
- 8-19 Correspondence with schools - Fort St. John

- 8-20 Correspondence with schools - Fraser Lake
- 8-21 Correspondence with schools - Ganges
- 8-22 Correspondence with schools - Garibaldi Highlands
- 8-23 Correspondence with schools - Gibsons
- 8-24 Correspondence with schools - Golden
- 8-25 Correspondence with schools - Grand Forks

BOX 9

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday (cont.)

- 9-1 Correspondence with schools - Haney
- 9-2 Correspondence with schools - Hazelton
- 9-3 Correspondence with schools - Hope/ Hudson Hope
- 9-4 Correspondence with schools - Houston
- 9-5 Correspondence with schools - Invermere
- 9-6 Correspondence with schools - Kamloops
- 9-7 Correspondence with schools - Kaslo
- 9-8/9 Correspondence with schools - Kelowna
- 9-10 Correspondence with schools - Keremeos, south Similkameen PTA
- 9-11 Correspondence with schools - Ketchikan, Alaska
- 9-12/13 Correspondence with schools - Kimberley
- 9-14 Correspondence with schools - Kitimat
- 9-15 Correspondence with schools - Ladner
- 9-16 Correspondence with schools - Ladysmith
- 9-17 Correspondence with schools - Lake Cowichan
- 9-18 Correspondence with schools - Langley
- 9-19 Correspondence with schools - Lillooet
- 9-20 Correspondence with schools - Lumby
- 9-21 Correspondence with schools - Mackenzie
- 9-22 Correspondence with schools - Marysville
- 9-23 Correspondence with schools - Mission City
- 9-24 Correspondence with schools - Mount Currie
- 9-25 Correspondence with schools - Murrayville

BOX 10

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday (cont.)

- 10-1 Correspondence with schools - Nakusp

- 10-2 Correspondence with schools - Nelson
- 10-3 Correspondence with schools - New Westminster
- 10-4 Correspondence with schools - North Surrey
- 10-5 Correspondence with schools - North Vancouver Elementary
- 10-6 Correspondence with schools - North Vancouver School Board
- 10-7 Correspondence with schools - North Vancouver Secondary
- 10-8 Correspondence with schools - Northwest Territories
- 10-9 Correspondence with schools - Oliver
- 10-10 Correspondence with schools - One Hundred Mile House
- 10-11 Correspondence with schools - Osoyoos
- 10-12 Correspondence with schools - Parksville
- 10-13 Correspondence with schools - Pemberton
- 10-14 Correspondence with schools - Penticton
- 10-15 Correspondence with schools - Port Hardy
- 10-16 Correspondence with schools - Powell River
- 10-17 Correspondence with schools - Prince George Players
- 10-18/19 Correspondence with schools - Prince George
- 10-20 Correspondence with schools - Prince Rupert
- 10-21 Correspondence with schools - Princeton
- 10-22 Correspondence with schools - Qualicum
- 10-23 Correspondence with schools - Queen Charlotte Islands
- 10-24 Correspondence with schools - Quesnel
- 10-25 Correspondence with schools - Revelstoke

BOX 11

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday (cont.)

- 11-1/2 Correspondence with schools - Richmond
- 11-3 Correspondence with schools - Rossland
- 11-4 Correspondence with schools - Rutland
- 11-5 Correspondence with schools - Salmon Arm
- 11-6 Correspondence with schools - Seattle, U.S.A.
- 11-7 Correspondence with schools - Smithers
- 11-8 Correspondence with schools - Squamish
- 11-9 Correspondence with schools - Summerland
- 11-10 Correspondence with schools - Surrey
- 11-11 Correspondence with schools - Terrace
- 11-12 Correspondence with schools - Trail
- 11-13 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver (A-G)

- 11-14 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver (H-M)
- 11-15 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver (N-R)
- 11-16 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver (S-Z)
- 11-17 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver School Board
- 11-18 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver, University Hill Schools
- 11-19 Correspondence with schools - Vancouver, UBC
- 11-20 Correspondence with schools - Vanderhoof
- 11-21/22 Correspondence with schools - Vernon
- 11-23 Correspondence with schools - Van Anda
- 11-24 Correspondence with schools - Victoria, Bastion Theatre, etc.
- 11-25 Correspondence with schools - University of Victoria

BOX 12

Holiday Theatre, Holiday Playhouse & Playhouse Holiday (cont.)

- 12-1 Correspondence with schools - West Vancouver
- 12-2 Correspondence with schools - Westbank
- 12-3 Correspondence with schools - White Rock
- 12-4/5 Correspondence with schools - William Lake
- 12-6 Correspondence with schools - Winfield
- 12-7 Correspondence with schools - Woodfibre
- 12-8 Correspondence - Seattle Junior Programs
- 12-9 Correspondence - Washington State

Holiday Playhouse

- 12-10 Annual Report to the Canadian Child and Youth Development Association
- 12-11 Attendance sheets
- 12-12 Audience Reaction
- 12-13 Brochures
- 12-14 Community Grants
- 12-15 Finances - chequebooks
- 12-16 Finances - deposit slips
- 12-17 Finances - petty cash
- 12-18 Minutes, Reports
- 12-19 Miscellaneous
- 12-20 Newsreleases
- 12-21 Press clippings
- 12-22 Production lists and leaflets

- 12-23 Scripts and newssheet on Holiday Theatre
- 12-24 Synopsis
- 12-25 Theatre productions
- 12-26 Tour fee payment record
- 12-27 Tour schedules and programs

BOX 13

Holiday Theatre (oversize box)

- 13-1 4 posters of Holiday Theatre
- 13-2 4 posters of Playhouse Theatre
- 13-3 Scrapbooks, no.1, 1953-1954
- 13-4 Scrapbooks, no.2, 1960-1963
- 13-5 Scrapbooks, no.3, 1962
- 13-6 Scrapbooks, no.4, 1962-1963

BOX 14

Holiday Theatre (oversize box cont.)

- 14-1 Scrapbooks, no. 5, 1964-1967
- 14-2 Scrapbooks, no. 6, 1969-1972
- 14-3 Scrapbooks, no. 7, 1972-1973

BOX 15

- 15-1 Addressbook no. 1
- 15-2 Addressbook no. 2 - Information on acting school for children
- 15-3 Addressbook no. 3 - General Information
- 15-4 Addressbook no. 4 - Telephonebook
- 15-5 Calendars, yearly 1971 - 1974
- 15-6 Personal Papers , 1966 - 75
- 15-7 Personal Papers, Theatre, 1958 - 72
- 15-8 Personal Papers, drawings, postcards
- 15-9 Financial - savings books, 1953-58
- 15-10 John Rushton papers, assignments and school reports, 1944 - 69
- 15-11 Notes, 1945 - 69
- 15-12 Notes on Holiday Playhouse
- 15-13 Notes on Holiday Theatre

- 15-14 Holiday Theatre - Children's plays
- 15-15 Radio and Play scripts - Antoinette or the Return of the Marquis, etc.
- 15-16 Speeches and scripts

Miscellaneous material collected by M. Rushton

- 15-17 Theatre Arts Magazine, 1956
- 15-18 Spectator Magazine, 1962
- 15-19 National Arts Centre, 1969
- 15-20 Communique Canadian Conference of Arts, 1972

BOX 16

Miscellaneous material collected by M. Rushton (cont.)

- 16-1 Newspaper clipping - Observer, 1962
- 16-2 Newspaper clippings - Vancouver Sun, 1966-77
- 16-3 Empress Theatre, News and Shopping guide, 1931-32
- 16-4 Miscellaneous programs and brochures, 1934-38
- 16-5 CBC Times, 1955
- 16-6 Teacher's Key to Business Fundamentals, 1957
- 16-7 Matthew's List, n.d.
- 16-8 French Theatre (11 lectures), n.d.
- 16-9 Programs - Sir Barry Jackson's British Players, 1931-32
- 16-10 Programs - Stratford Festival, Ontario, 1953, 1955, 1965
- 16-11 Oregon Shakespeare Festival Association, 1966
- 16-12 Playhouse theatre, 1970-71, 1973
- 16-13 Children's Theatre Groups in Canada, miscellaneous, 1953-55
- 16-14 British Drama Association(Constitution, correspondence, minutes), 1954-75
- 16-15 British Drama Association (DDF theatre Canada, B.C. Region), 1969-72
- 16-16 British Drama Association (Forms, membership lists, news bulletins), 1969-75
- 16-17 Vancouver Festival Society speech, 1958-59
- 16-18 Dominion Drama Festival Committee - Annual reports, correspondence, 1959-60
- 16-19 Dominion Drama Festival Committee - Programs, 1959-71
- 16-20 Community Arts Council, miscellaneous, 1960-70
- 16-21 Canadian Drama Association - report, 1965
- 16-22 Holiday Theatre - The Ice Wolf, miscellaneous, 1969
- 16-23 University of Washington - proposed Professional Children's Theatre, 1970

- 16-24 Playhouse Theatre Comp. - organizational structure, annual reports, minutes, 1970-74
- 16-25 Playhouse Theatre Comp. - releases, 1971-72
- 16-26 Playhouse Theatre Comp. - school newsletters, miscellaneous, 1972-73
- 16-27 Playhouse Theatre Guild - structure of Association, newsletters, 1970-75
- 16-28 Western Association of Drama Educators of B.C., constitution, correspondence, 1970-74
- 16-29 Western Association of Drama Educators of B.C. - statements, minutes, newsletters, 1970-74
- 16-30 Western Association of Drama Educators of B.C.- Festival handbook, national newsletter, 1972-74
- 16-31 Canadian Child and Youth Drama Association - correspondence, 1970-71
- 16-32 Canadian Child and Youth Drama Association - creative drama classes, class lists, bills, 1971
- 16-33 Canadian Child and Youth Drama Association - AAITEJ, correspondence, 1971-74
- 16-34 Canadian Child and Youth Drama Association - program of National conference, London, Ontario, miscellaneous, 1974
- 16-35 Canada Council - consideration of Report "Theatre for young audience', 1974
- 16-36 Playhouse Theatre School - brochures, news release, 1974

BOX 17

Photographs related to the theatre

- 1-1 Flibberty Gibbet, 1953
- 1-2 Land of the Dragon, 1st ed., 1955
- 1-3 Mr. Time Killer, 1955
- 1-4 Robert and the Robot, 1955
- 1-5 Robin Hood, 1956
- 1-6 Aladin, 1957
- 1-7 The Magic Nugget, 1958
- 1-8 Puss in Boots, 1959
- 1-9 Storyteller #1, 1959
- 1-10 Puss in Boots (tour), 1960
- 1-11 The Stranger, 1960
- 1-12 The Clown, 1960-61
- 1-13 Hansel and Gretel, 1960-61
- 1-14 Shakespeare by Five (1st ed)
- 1-15 Princess and the Swineherd, 1961

- 1-16 Shakespeare by Five (tour), 1961
- 1-17 Pinocchio, 1962
- 1-18 Three Bears, 1963
- 1-19 Sleeping Beauty, 1964
- 1-20 Son of Dragon, 1964
- 1-21 Spaceboy and the Goose, 1964
- 1-22 Once upon a Closeline, 1965
- 1-23 Rapunzel and the Witch, 1965
- 1-24 Wigs, Wits, and Witches, 1965
- 1-25 Beware of the Quickly Who, 1967
- 1-26 The Golden Goose, n.d.
- 1-27 Red Riding Hood, n.d.
- 1-28 Shakespeare set for all years, n.d.
- 1-29 Play?, n.d.
- 1-30 Margaret Rushton and others
- 1-31 Miscellaneous
- 1-32 Negatives
- 1-33 Portraits - Marie Adams, Myra Benson, Vivien Brook-Heart, Pat Washburn,
Jean Wright, others
- 1-34 Portraits - Glen Beck, Billy Green, Ed Hanson, Derek Cooley and others