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Mark Dempsey papers

Inventory

Accession No: 5076-001

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This document forms part of the Preliminary Guide to the Mark Dempsey Papers. To find out more about the history, context, arrangement, availability and restrictions on this collection, click on the following link:

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MARK DEMPSEY PAPERS

Accession No. 5076-001

KEY TO THE BOX NUMBERS

This key relates the numbers originally assigned by MOHAI to the University of Washington box numbers in the far left column

<u>Box</u>		<u>Dates</u>
1 (5) ¹	Personal files	1936-1963
2 (6)	Personal files	1964-1970
3 (7)	Personal files	1970-1975
4 (8)	Personal files	1976-1981
5 (9)	Personal files	1981-1987
6 (10)	Personal files and miscellany	1988-1993
7 (11)	Files regarding Mark Dempsey's relatives: mother, Bessie Dempsey; father, Lee Dempsey; aunt, Irma Hall aka Rosalie Sipp; grandmother, Jessie Hall	
8 (12)	More on Mark Dempsey's parents and career	
9 (13)	More on Jessie and miscellaneous media	
10 (14)	Theater history files (not local) and Flash Heaven music and lyrics	
11 (15)	Collectible sheet music and theater ephemera, plus Flash Heaven scrapbook	
12 (16)	Sheet music history slide shows	
13 ²	Programs, sheet music, slides, books, scrapbooks and historic photograph of John Cort's Standard Theatre	
14-15 ³	Posters, drawings, sheet music displays <u>OVERSIZED</u>	

¹ Numbers in parenthesis correspond to MOHAI's original inventory.

² This was the 17th box transferred by MOHAI. This box was not included in their inventory.

³ Boxes 14 and 15 contain the oversized miscellany referred to on MOHAI's inventory.

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Detailed list provided by the Museum of History and Industry
at time of deposit; see the key on the preceding page

Boxes 5-10: Personal files

Arrangement: Chronological; some separation within years by "series" (ex. letters, photos, particular productions); most productions he was involved with have separate files

Seattle content appears for the following years:

1951-53: Queen Anne High School Yearbooks, photos, and other ephemera (Box 5)
1956-59: UW School of Drama photos and school records; also programs, flyers, ephemera from other Seattle productions (Box 5)
1982-1994: Performing and living in Seattle (Boxes 9 and 10)

Notes on contents in general:

Correspondence: ingoing and outgoing, official and personal
Photos: most labeled, some w/negatives; personal and professional
Clippings & Flyers: including reviews of his performances, and of personal interest
Legal and financial documents (ex. leases, school records, contracts)
Programs: from plays, rodeos, other performances
Original manuscripts: for skits, his resume & biographical notes
Magazines, newspapers, books: related to theater, gay community, New York and Seattle
Daily planners (1964-84): like journals, often stuffed with all of the above
Calendars (1984-93): also like journals
"Mixed Media": including film reels, audio cassettes, t-shirts, log books, address books
Some material preserved in plastic; most not

End of Box 10: "Summary" files (not chronological)

Hotcha Hinton (re: Don Paulson's book)
Sea. Theaters Compiled by Mark Dempsey 8-93 (inventory of Box 1-2 & others)
Museum donations: '82-93 (records of donations)
Head Shots (2 folders)
Jokes (for his performances)
Lovers
Swanberg & Dempsey Through the Years (his friend, Carol Swanberg)
Bios (written by himself)
Contracts '53- [present]
Audition music

Things that I (completely subjectively) noticed:

Famous productions: Oh Calcutta! (1970). Boys in the Band (1971)
Photos from performances of shows with Betty Buckley (1972). James Earl Jones (1967). and JoAnne Worley (1960)
Programs, correspondence & other ephemera from Reno Gay Rodeo (1978, 1981, 1983)
TV appearances (1961-1963)
Manuscript of part of Don Paulson's book about the (Seattle) Garden of Allah (Box 10)

Box 11: Marks' relatives

"Lee Dempsey & Ancestors"

geneological research type material; many old original photos

"Lee Dempsey's Book Pix"

- a) correspondence and pictures from Wilda Dempsey (Lee's fourth wife)
- b) baseball and sports pictures, many autographed, and correspondence regarding Lee's book

Autographs include Casey Stengel, Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra, and Dizzy Dean

Portion of original manuscript for, and two published copies of, "Confessions of an Umpire" by Lee Dempsey

[Green folder]

- a) correspondence with Irma Hall (aka Rosalie Sipp)
- b) original manuscript: "My Story" by Irma Hall

"Irma Hall"

more of the same as green folder; lots of original career photos of Bessie and Irma

"Rosalie's / Irma's compositions"

original sheet music (unpublished)

"Bessie's Bio"

articles written by Mark and Dr. Warren about Bessie's life

"Jessie's costumes"

photos

[Box] and [envelope]

containing Bessie's career and personal photos

"Yvonne St. Clair & Hall Sisters: Seattle 24-32"

photos and clippings from performances; includes one diary of Bessie's

"Bessie - Los Angeles: 32-48"

clippings, ephemera, programs, legal documents

"USC 43-48"

photos, school records, diploma (all Bessie's)

"Bessie Marie Leister Hall Dempsey: 1914-1971"

materials from her years at Boeing -- correspondence, legal documents, work-related
photos and ephemera, houseboat and sailing stuff

Other boxes with information about Mark's relatives:

Box 13: Jessie Hall file

2 biographical summaries (one by her; one by Mark)

photos (of her; of costumes)

autographed photos of performers

clippings

legal documents (ex. will)

letters to Mark

Box 12: Lee's and Bessie's scrapbooks

Boxes 12-16: "Miscellaneous"

Box 12:

- Oh Calcutta! VHS
- Lee Dempsey (father): scrapbook (sports) and notes from / copies of his book "Confessions of an Umpire"
- Bessie Dempsey (mother): photo albums from her youth (AR, MT, WA) & postcards of her
- Mark: Resumes & photos from his career
- LPs w/ Dempsey name (one broken)
- Mark's business cards

Box 13:

- Jessie Hall (Grandmother) -- clippings/papers file w/photos
- Maps/land surveys
- LP -- for Bessie's dance act (?)
- Ben Hur program (from theater production, 1900)
- VHS: performances (related to Mark's career)
- audio reels: performances of Flash Heaven, Mark's band

Box 14:

- Chained for Life (Siamese twins) VHS
- audio cassettes: interview with Will Connor, Seattle theater manager
- Theater research files (not local) and books
- Theater & other programs -- 60s & 70s, not local (may have been tours)
- Auction & collector's information re: theater memorabilia
- Music & Lyrics for Flash Heaven songs
- LPs -- random music?

Box 15:

- Sheet music -- movie-related
- Scrapbook of Seattle newspaper clippings 62-67 -- from "entertainment" section but not nec. local (ex. national celebrities)
- Pre-40s theater magazines (ex. Variety 1909)
- Book: American Stage of Today (1909)
- Wooden-covered scrapbook -- Flash Heaven clippings, flyers, photos, & journal describing performances
- Lyrics & music for Flash Heaven original songs plus country-western "cover music" (photocopies)

Box 16:

- Empty slide carousel
- small slide boxes -- some regarding Washington?
- Green binder: sheet music slides, some from or about Washington state
- Yellow binder: sheet music slides, famous female & male performers & with minstrel show themes
- Brown binder: sheet music slides, western themed
- Blue binder: sheet music slides, 1910s & 1920s

Oversized Miscellany

Rough overview:

Envelope with clippings of and (very brief) correspondence between Bessie and Alice
Mark & "showgirl" -- framed photo
Rodeo posters
Pencil drawings (incl. Nat'l Gay Task Force logo)
Huge blown-up prom-like photo
Random posters -- art, historical societies and programs
Jaqueline Livingston -- posters and magazine
Theater posters old and new
Preserved newspaper re: Mata Hari (French)
Theater & sheet music artifact display mounted on cardboard (5)
Some political placards