

Plaza Dinner Playhouse (SC132)

Introduction

The Plaza Dinner Playhouse collection documents the company's dinner theater performances for the 1992-1993 season. The collection contains documents, press releases, correspondence, and photographs relating to publicity activities, actors, and performances for seven different productions. The collection was donated by Joe Wilson, marketing and media consultant for the theater.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Plaza Dinner Playhouse
Dates: 1992-1993
Size: 1.04 linear feet, 3 boxes
Collection Number: SC132

Donor Information

Gift, 2003, Joe Wilson

Citation Note

Plaza Dinner Playhouse (SC132), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

The Plaza Dinner Playhouse opened for its inaugural season in the fall of 1992. Owned and operated by Bill Little, the company was located at 5028 Main Street. The building had previously been the home of another dinner theater, Tiffany's Attic Dinner Playhouse, which had closed the previous year. The first season of the Plaza Dinner Playhouse comprised of seven plays, and ran from October 1992 to September 1993. The second season began in September 1993, but was not completed, as the theater was forced to close in early January 1994 due to financial reasons. Another dinner theater company, known as the Plaza Playhouse, moved into the location later that year.

Scope and Content Note

This collection is separated into seven series according to the seven productions of the Plaza Dinner Playhouse during its 1992-1993 season in the order in which they were performed.

Series 1: They're Playing Our Song, October 13 - December 6, 1992

This series contains playbills, cast resumes and personal histories, correspondence, press releases, publicity materials, and photographs related to the production of "They're Playing Our Song." The play ran from October 13 to December 6, 1992. Some of the press releases include information on charity benefits for HARCmart and reStart. Also included are press releases announcing the opening of the theater and general information for the 1992-1993 season.

Series 2: My Three Angels, December 9, 1992 - January 16, 1993

Included in this series are a playbill, press releases, author background information, cast list and cast resumes, and photographs for the production of "My Three Angels." The play ran from December 9, 1992 to January 16, 1993.

Series 3: A Good Look at Boney Kern, January 20 - February 28, 1993

Items in this series include playbills, press releases, publicity materials, cast resumes and information, and photographs for the production of "A Good Look at Boney Kern," which ran from January 20 to February 28, 1993. Multiple documents relate to actor Gary Burghoff and the publicity regarding his role in the production. Also included are a playbill and reviews of a previous production of the play in which Burghoff also starred.

Series 4: Greater Tuna, March 3 - April 12, 1993

This series contains playbills, press releases, publicity materials, cast resumes, and photographs for the production of "Greater Tuna," which ran from March 3 to April 12, 1993. Multiple items pertain to the development of advertising for the theaters and promotions for the play.

Series 5: Everybody Loves Opal, Everybody Loves Opal, April 28 - June 6, 1993

Items in this series include a playbill, script, press releases, publicity materials, cast resumes and information, and photographs related to the production of "Everybody Loves Opal." The play ran from April 28 to June 6, 1993. Also included are press releases, correspondence, and information regarding a charity benefit for DeLaSalle Education Center.

Series 6: Pump Boys and Dinettes, June 9 - August 1, 1993

Included in this series are playbills, press releases, publicity materials, cast information, and photographs related to the production of "Pump Boys and Dinettes," which ran from June 9 to August 1, 1993. Articles and reviews on previous productions of the play in other theaters are also included. Additionally, this series contains a video cassette labeled, "Kevin Wahaus, Advertising/Design: Projects." The format of the video cassette is unknown. Due to preservation concerns, this cassette is housed at the end of the collection in box 3.

Series 7: Alone Together, August 1 - September 12, 1993

This series contains playbills, press releases, publicity materials, promotion information, cast resumes and information, and photographs for the production of "Alone Together." The play ran from August 1 to September 12, 1993. Also included are articles and reviews on previous productions of the play in other theaters.

Collection Inventory**Series 1: They're Playing Our Song, October 13 - December 6, 1992**

- f. 1 Playbill materials
- f. 2 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 3 reStart benefit publicity materials
- f. 4 HARCmart benefit publicity materials
- f. 5 Cast photographs, biographies, and resumes
- f. 6 Production photographs

Series 2: My Three Angels, December 9, 1992 - January 16, 1993

- f. 7 Playbill, cast list, and actor biography
- f. 8 Press releases
- f. 9 Production research materials
- f. 10 Cast photographs and resumes
- f. 11 Production photographs

Series 3: A Good Look at Boney Kern, January 20 - February 28, 1993

- f. 12 Playbills
- f. 13 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 14 Cast photographs and resume
- f. 15 Production photographs and captions

Series 4: Greater Tuna, March 3 - April 12, 1993

- f. 16 Playbills
- f. 17 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 18 Loren Norlund Photograph
- f. 19 Production photographs and captions

Series 5: Everybody Loves Opal, April 28 - June 6, 1993

- f. 20 Playbill materials
- f. 21 Script
- f. 22 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 23 DeLaSalle Education Center benefit publicity materials
- f. 24 Cast photographs and resumes
- f. 25 Production photographs

Series 6: Pump Boys and Dinettes, June 9 - August 1, 1993

- f. 26 Playbills
- f. 27 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 28 Articles on previous performances
- f. 29 Cast photographs and resumes
- f. 30 Production photographs and captions

Series 7: Alone Together, August 1 - September 12, 1993

- f. 31 Playbills
- f. 32 Press releases and publicity materials
- f. 33 Articles on previous performances
- f. 34 Cast photographs and resume
- f. 35 Production photographs and captions

- f. 36 Kevin Wahaus, Advertising/Design: Projects (part of Series 6; see Scope and Content for more information)

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