Collection Summary
Title: George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers
Span Dates: circa 1892-1998
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1922-1990s)
Call No.: ML31.K38
Creator: Kaufman, George S. (George Simon), 1889-1961
Creator: Schneider, Anne Kaufman
Extent: approximately 1,500 items
Extent: 10 containers
Extent: 6.0 linear feet
Language: Collection material chiefly in English
Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2006568229
Summary: George S. Kaufman was an American playwright, producer, director, drama critic, and humorist. The collection includes correspondence, photographs, scripts, and other materials related to his career. His daughter, Anne Kaufman Schneider (b. 1925), remained active in preserving Kaufman's legacy well into the 1990s. Her correspondence related to these efforts and family photographs are also included in the collection.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Carlisle, Kitty, 1910-2007--Correspondence.
Hart, Moss, 1904-1961--Correspondence.
Hart, Moss, 1904-1961--Photographs.
Kaufman, Beatrice, 1895-1945--Correspondence.
Kaufman, Beatrice, 1895-1945--Photographs.
Kaufman, George S. (George Simon), 1889-1961--Correspondence.
Kaufman, George S. (George Simon), 1889-1961--Photographs.
Kaufman, George S. (George Simon), 1889-1961.
Kaufman, George S. (George Simon), 1889-1961.
Schneider, Anne Kaufman--Correspondence.
Schneider, Anne Kaufman--Photographs.
Schneider, Anne Kaufman.
Wickes, Mary, 1910-1995--Correspondence.

Subjects
Dramatists, American--20th century--Correspondence.
Dramatists, American--20th century.
Musical theater--United States.
Musicals--Librettos.
Stage photography.
Theater programs--United States.
Theater--United States.

Titles
George S. Kaufman collection, circa 1892-1998

Form/Genre
Clippings (Information artifacts)
Correspondence.
Photographic prints.
Playbills.
Programs (Documents)
Promotional materials.
Scrapbooks.
Scripts (Documents)

Provenance

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Processing History
The George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers were processed by Kevin O'Connell in 2014. Christopher Hartten coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2014.

Related Material
The following Library of Congress Music Division collections contain correspondence and other materials pertaining to George S. Kaufman: Cole Porter Collection (ML31.P67), Gilbert Miller Papers (ML31.M55), George and Ira Gershwin Collection (ML31.G38), and Arthur Schwartz Papers (ML31.S38). In addition, the Library of Congress Manuscript Division holds several pertinent collections: George S. Kaufman Papers (scripts only - MSS28233), Howard Teichmann Papers (MSS84881), Joseph Alsop and Stewart Alsop Papers (MSS10561), and Rosamond Pinchot Papers (MSS85544).

Copyright Status
Materials from the George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions
The George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
## Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1889, Nov. 16</td>
<td>Born, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>Moved with family to Paterson, New Jersey</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submitted items to humor columnist Franklin Pierce Adams, who published them in the <em>Evening Mail</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adams became Kaufman's mentor in New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Humor columnist for the <em>Washington Times</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Fired from the <em>Washington Times</em> for being Jewish</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humor columnist for the <em>Evening Mail</em> in New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>circa 1914</td>
<td>Reporter and drama editor for the <em>Tribune</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1917, Mar. 15</td>
<td>Married Beatrice Bakrow (died 1945)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1917-1930</td>
<td>Drama editor for the <em>New York Times</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1918, Sept. 4</td>
<td>Made Broadway debut as a playwright with the opening of <em>Someone in the House</em>, co-authored with Larry Evans and Walter C. Percival</td>
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<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Member of the Algonquin Round Table luncheons</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>Second play, <em>Dulcy</em>, opened on Broadway (written with Marc Connelly)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Began a streak of 38 Broadway seasons that contained at least one play written or directed by Kaufman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td><em>Minick</em> opened on Broadway, the first of six collaborations between Kaufman and Edna Ferber</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Daughter Anne adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925, Sept. 23</td>
<td><em>The Butter and Egg Man</em> opened, the only straight play Kaufman wrote without a collaborator</td>
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<td>1925, Dec. 8</td>
<td><em>The Cocoanuts</em> opened, Kaufman’s first play with the Marx Brothers, and a collaboration with Irving Berlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td><em>The Front Page</em> opened, the first play for which Kaufman received credit as sole director</td>
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<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Collaborated with Moss Hart for the first time on <em>Once in a Lifetime</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td><em>Of Thee I Sing</em> opened, written with Morrie Ryskind, music by George Gershwin and lyrics by Ira Gershwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td><em>Of Thee I Sing</em> became first musical to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td><em>You Can’t Take It with You</em> opened, a collaboration with Hart (ran for 838 performances)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In the midst of a child custody dispute, actress Mary Astor's ex-husband disclosed entries from her diary detailing her affair with Kaufman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td><em>You Can’t Take It with You</em> won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collaborated with John Steinbeck on stage adaptation of <em>Of Mice and Men</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directed <em>Of Mice and Men</em> which ran on Broadway for 207 performances</td>
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<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td><em>Of Mice and Men</em> won Drama Critics’ Circle award as Best Play of the Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td><em>The Man Who Came to Dinner</em>, written with Hart, began its run of 739 performances on Broadway</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Directed <em>My Sister Eileen</em>, which ran on Broadway for 864 performances</td>
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<tr>
<td>1949, May 26</td>
<td>Married Leueen MacGrath (divorced 1957)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Directed Frank Loesser musical <em>Guys &amp; Dolls</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Won Tony Awards for Best Director and Best Musical for <em>Guys &amp; Dolls</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961, June 2</td>
<td>Died, New York City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Scope and Content Note

The George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers consist of materials related to Kaufman's life and career and to productions of his plays in the four decades following his death, which were managed by Schneider, his daughter. A small portion of these latter materials pertain to actress Eva Le Gallienne, a friend of Schneider, and to producer Irene Mayer Selznick, for whom Schneider's husband Irving worked. Correspondence largely falls into two categories: letters from Kaufman, primarily to Schneider, Beatrice Kaufman, Moss and Kitty Hart, and actress Mary Wickes; and letters to...
Schneider about posthumous productions of Kaufman's plays. In addition, the correspondence contains letters from Beatrice Kaufman to Schneider and friends, as well as a small amount of George Kaufman’s correspondence with Edna Ferber, Garson Kanin, Cole Porter, and others.

Photographs in the collection include portraits and candid images of Kaufman, Schneider, Beatrice Kaufman, Moss and Kitty Hart, Eva Le Gallienne, and various members of the Kaufman family. Other notable personalities present are Brooks Atkinson, Sam Zolotow, Alexander Woollcott, Harpo Marx, Howard Dietz, Sam Harris, Lorenz Hart, George M. Cohan, Richard Rodgers, Jacqueline Susann, Clifton Fadiman, Sam Levenson, Margalo Gillmore, Katherine Cornell, Helen Hayes, Ethel Merman, Frank Sinatra, Yip Harburg, Monty Woolley, Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt, Irene Castle, Mary Astor, and Ginger Rogers. Photographs from posthumous productions of Kaufman’s plays and other plays include images of Le Gallienne, Kate Burton, Jack Cassidy, Estelle Parsons, Stephen Sondheim, Kevin McCarthy, Ellis Raab, Sam Levene, Tom Bosley, Avery Schreiber, Faye DeWitt, Donny Most, Jason Robards, James Coco, Colleen Dewhurst, and Elizabeth Wilson. Several pages from a photo album kept by Schneider as a child and a variety of production stills from Kaufman plays are also included.

The remaining miscellaneous materials in the collection chiefly consist of playbills and scripts. These include a small number of items from original productions of Kaufman plays and many more from revivals and adaptations. Any notes or other annotations on the scripts are from later producers of the plays. Only a small quantity of the clippings are from Kaufman’s lifetime; the majority are critical reviews and other articles about posthumous productions of his plays. Promotional materials, scrapbooks, writings of Schneider and Beatrice Kaufman, and items related to the George S. Kaufman Award round out the series.

**Organization of the George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider Papers**

The collection is organized in three series:

- **Correspondence, 1922-1998**
- **Photographs, circa 1892-1988**
- **Miscellany, 1921-1998**
### Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, 1922-1998</strong></td>
<td>Letters and business papers to or from George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider. Arranged alphabetically by last name of correspondent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2, 9</td>
<td><strong>Photographs, circa 1892-1988</strong></td>
<td>Chiefly portraits and candid photographs of the Kaufmans, Moss and Kitty Hart, Eva Le Gallienne, and production stills. Arranged alphabetically by subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3-10</td>
<td><strong>Miscellany, 1921-1998</strong></td>
<td>Clippings, playbills, scripts, promotional materials, a scrapbook, and other assorted materials. Arranged alphabetically by subject.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX 1     | **Correspondence, 1922-1998**  
Letters and business papers to or from George S. Kaufman and Anne Kaufman Schneider.  
Arranged alphabetically by last name of correspondent. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/1 | Booth, John E., 1944  
BOX-FOLDER 1/2 | Ferber, Edna, 1956  
BOX-FOLDER 1/3 | Hart, Moss and Kitty, 1936, 1952-1961  
BOX-FOLDER 1/4 | Kanin, Garson, circa 1954  
BOX-FOLDER 1/5 | Kaufman, Beatrice, 1935-1940  
From George S. Kaufman  
BOX-FOLDER 1/6 | Kaufman, Beatrice, 1937-1945  
Miscellany  
BOX-FOLDER 1/7 | Kaufman, George S., 1929-1933, 1949  
Miscellany  
BOX-FOLDER 1/8 | Kaufman, Ruth, undated  
From George S. Kaufman  
BOX-FOLDER 1/9 | Porter, Cole, 1955  
BOX-FOLDER 1/10 | Schneider, Anne Kaufman, 1941-1943  
From Beatrice Kaufman  
BOX-FOLDER 1/11 | Schneider, Anne Kaufman, 1936-1957  
From George S. Kaufman  
BOX-FOLDER 1/12-15 | Schneider, Anne Kaufman, 1953-1998  
Miscellany  
BOX-FOLDER 1/16 | Tyler, George C., 1922-1924, 1933-1935  
BOX-FOLDER 1/17 | Wickes, Mary, 1942-1958 |
| BOX 2, 9 | **Photographs, circa 1892-1988**  
Chiefly portraits and candid photographs of the Kaufmans, Moss and Kitty Hart, Eva Le Gallienne, and production stills.  
Arranged alphabetically by subject. |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/1, 9/1 | Hart, Moss and Kitty, alone and with others, 1939-1954, and undated  
Includes: Arlene Francis, George Jessel, Alexander Woollcott  
BOX-FOLDER 2/2, 9/2 | Kaufman, Beatrice, alone and with others, 1909, 1935, and undated  
Includes: Charles Friedman, "Yip" Harburg, Moss Hart, Ethel Merman, Frank Sinatra, Alexander Woollcott  
BOX-FOLDER 2/3, 9/3 | Kaufman, George S., alone, circa 1892-1956  
BOX-FOLDER 2/4 | Kaufman, George S., with others, 1930s and undated  
Includes: Katharine Cornell, Moss and Kitty Hart, Beatrice Kaufman, Harpo Marx, Anne Schneider, Alexander Woollcott  
BOX-FOLDER 2/5 | Le Gallienne, Eva, alone and with others, 1952, 1979-1982 and undated |
<p>| BOX-FOLDER 2/6, 9/4 | Miscellaneous family members, undated |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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| BOX-FOLDER 2/7 | Miscellaneous productions, 1976-1988 and undated  
| BOX-FOLDER 9/5 | Miscellany, undated  
Interior of Kaufman home |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/8-10 | Miscellany, circa 1925-1939  
Photo album  
Chiefly childhood photos of Anne Kaufman and friends, and sightseeing photos in London and Colorado |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/11 | Other people, undated  
Includes: Mary Astor, Irene Castle, Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt, Harpo Marx, Ginger Rogers, Alexander Woollcott, Monty Woolley |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/12, 9/6 | Schneider, Anne Kaufman, 1979, 1987, and undated |
| BOX 3-10 | Miscellany, 1921-1998  
Clippings, playbills, scripts, promotional materials, a scrapbook, and other assorted materials.  
Arranged alphabetically by subject. |
| BOX 10 | Clippings, 1929-1990s  
Mostly posthumous reviews of Kaufman productions |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/1 | George S. Kaufman Award, 1987 |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/2-3 | Le Gallienne, Eva, 1980s-1990s  
Clippings, related correspondence, programs, and other materials |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/4 | Miscellany, 1953, 1972, and undated  
Programs, 1921-1997  
Kaufman productions |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/5-26 | A - M |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/1-10, 9/7 | N - Z |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/11 | Programs, 1939-1998  
Non-Kaufman productions |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/12 | Promotional materials, 1980s-1990s |
| BOX-FOLDER 9/8-9 | Scrapbooks, 1930s-1940s  
Clippings about George S. and Beatrice Kaufman, childhood writings by Anne Kaufman, and correspondence |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/1-8 | Scripts, 1925-1994  
A - I |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/1-6 | I - P |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/1-5 | R - S |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/1-2 | Y |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/3 | Writings, 1934, 1943, and undated  
Works by Beatrice Kaufman, Anne Kaufman Schneider, and Isaac Adler |