

Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks

Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



**Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2017

Collection Summary

Title: Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks

Span Dates: 1867-1964

Call No.: ML31.S33

Creator: Schildkraut, Rudolph

Creator: Schildkraut, Joseph, 1895-1964

Collector: Schildkraut, Leonora

Extent: around 1,000 items in 4 volumes

Extent: 4 containers

Extent: 4 linear feet

Language: Collection material predominantly in English with some early material in German

Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2014572559>

Summary: Rudolph Schildkraut (1862-1930) and his son, Joseph Schildkraut (1895-1964), were Austrian-American stage and film actors. The collection documents their personal and professional lives on European and American stage and screen through photographs, clippings, programs, and iconography mounted in four scrapbooks.

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

Le Gallienne, Eva, 1899-1991--Performances.

Le Gallienne, Eva, 1899-1991--Photographs.

Le Gallienne, Eva, 1899-1991.

Molnár, Ferenc, 1878-1952. Liliom.

Schildkraut, Joseph, 1895-1964--Performances.

Schildkraut, Joseph, 1895-1964--Photographs.

Schildkraut, Joseph, 1895-1964.

Schildkraut, Joseph, 1895-1964. Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut scrapbooks. 1867-1964.

Schildkraut, Leonora

Schildkraut, Rudolph--Performances.

Schildkraut, Rudolph--Photographs.

Schildkraut, Rudolph.

Schildkraut, Rudolph.

Subjects

Actors--Photographs.

Actors.

Jewish actors.

Motion picture actors and actresses--Photographs.

Motion picture actors and actresses.

Motion pictures.

Theater.

Titles

Diary of Anne Frank (Motion picture)

Show boat (Motion picture : 1929)

Form/Genre

Clippings (Information artifacts)

Photographic prints.

Programs (Documents)

Promotional materials.
Scrapbooks.

Provenance

Gift, Leonora Schildkraut, 2006.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

Anita M. Weber processed the Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut scrapbooks in 2017. Ms. Weber coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2017.

Other Repositories

The University of Southern California Libraries Special Collections holds the Leonora Schildkraut papers which includes some of Rudolph Schildkraut's annotated scripts.

The Anne Frank House holds a collection of Joseph Schildkraut materials, including correspondence with Otto Frank, photographs, and other documents.

Related Material

The Eva Le Gallienne papers (MSS84002), and Ruth Gordon and Garson Kanin papers (MSS85114) in the Library of Congress, Manuscript Division, contain correspondence with Joseph Schildkraut.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks 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 Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks 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], Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Rudolph Schildkraut

Date	Event
1862, Apr. 27	Born in Constantinople, Ottoman Empire
1880s-1893	Performed in provincial Austrian theaters in such plays as, <i>Der Goldmensch</i> , <i>Der Müller und sein Kind</i> , <i>Narzib</i> , <i>The Schmock</i> , <i>Uriel Acosta</i> , and <i>Der Veilchenfresser</i>
1893-1895	Performed in Vienna in various plays, including <i>Imagination Handcuffed</i> , and <i>Once Upon a Time</i>
1902-1905	Appeared in <i>Ghosts</i> by Ibsen, <i>The Joy of Living</i> , <i>Justice</i> , <i>King Lear</i> , <i>Merchant of Venice</i> , <i>The Parolees</i> , <i>The Robbers</i> , <i>St. John's Fires</i> , and <i>Winter's Tale</i> in Hamburg
1905	Joined the German Theatre in Berlin as part of Max Reinhardt's company First portrayed Shylock in <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
1905-1910	As a member of the Reinhardt company, performed as Lear in <i>King Lear</i> ; Mephisto in <i>Faust</i> , Muley Hassan in Schiller's <i>Fiesco</i> , the grave-digger in <i>Hamlet</i> , and Malvolio in <i>Twelfth Night</i> . Other plays in this period included: <i>God of Vengeance</i> , <i>Der Herr Kommissar</i> , <i>Lysistrata</i> , <i>Mephistopheles</i> , <i>Merchant of Venice</i> , <i>The Shadow</i> (a vaudeville one act), <i>The Well of the Saints</i> by Synge, and <i>Winter's Tale</i>
1910-1913	Performed in <i>Flachsmann als Erzieher</i> , <i>Franz Moor</i> , <i>King Lear</i> , and <i>Kittschenbum</i> at the Irving Place Theatre in New York City
1913	Performed in <i>The Prodigal Son</i> with Joseph for Reinhardt in Berlin
1913-1920	Acted in silent films in Europe: <i>Der Shylock von Krakau</i> , <i>Ivan Koschula</i> , <i>The Fool of Fate</i> , <i>Demon and Human</i> , <i>The Eighth Commandment</i> , <i>Pool Pagliacci</i> , <i>The Schlemiel</i> with Joseph, <i>The Fortune Tellers</i> , <i>The Dancing Heart</i> , <i>The Lullaby</i> , <i>The Court Musician</i> , <i>Free Fighting</i> , <i>The Pasha</i> , and <i>Justice</i>
1915	Appeared as Caliban in <i>The Tempest</i> in Berlin
1920	Moved permanently to the United States Appeared on stage in New York in <i>Silent Forces</i>
1921	Appeared, with Joseph, in his last European film, the Austrian silent film <i>Theodor Herzl</i> (released in the United States as <i>The Wandering Jew</i>) as Herb Schildt "The Struggling Israel"
1922	Made his English-speaking debut in Sholem Asch's <i>God of Vengeance</i>
1925	Founded Yiddish-language Jewish Art Theatre in New York
1927	Appeared as Caiaphas in Cecil B. DeMille's <i>King of Kings</i> with Joseph as Judas Iscariot
1928	Became, along with wife Erna, a United States citizen
1929	Appeared in his last motion picture, the silent film <i>Christina</i>
1930, July 15	Died, Los Angeles, California

Joseph Schildkraut

Date	Event
1895, Mar. 22	Born to Rudolph and Erna Weinstein Schildkraut in Vienna, Austria
1907-1910	Studied violin in Berlin
1911-1912	Performed in <i>Der Junge Fritz</i> at Irving Place Theatre in New York City
1913	Graduated from Junior Class of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts Performed in <i>The Fawn</i> at American Academy of Dramatic Arts Performed in <i>The Prodigal Son</i> with Rudolph for Reinhardt in Berlin
1915	Performed in <i>King Lear</i> , <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , and <i>The Sea Gull</i> in Berlin
1917-1918	Served as Lieutenant in the 24th Imperial Dragoon Regiment of Austria
1918	Appeared in European silent film <i>For the Glory of Her Lover</i>
1918-1919	Performed in <i>Children's Tragedy</i> , and Ibsen's <i>Ghosts</i> in Vienna
1918-1920	Performed in <i>The Green Cockatoo</i> by Schnitzler in Vienna
1920	Performed in Schiller's <i>Don Carlos</i> in Vienna Returned to United States permanently

- 1921 Performed in *Pagans* at the Plymouth Theatre in New York City
Originated the role of the Sparrow in the first American stage production of *Liliom* at the Theatre Guild with Eva Le Gallienne
- 1921-1928 Appeared in Hollywood silent films: *Orphans of the Storm*, *The Road to Yesterday*, *Meet the Prince*, *Shipwrecked*, *Young April*, *The Heart Thief*, *His Dog*, *The Forbidden Woman*, and *Tenth Avenue*
- 1922 Married actress Elise Bartlett (divorced 1930)
- 1927 Appeared as Judas Iscariot in Cecil B. DeMille's *King of Kings* with Rudolph as Caiaphas
- 1929 Played the part of Gaylord Ravenal in semi-talkie version of *Show Boat*
- 1930-1965 Appeared in numerous films, including *Night Ride*, *Cock o' the Walk*, *Carnival*, *Viva Villa!*, *Cleopatra*, *The Crusades*, *The Garden of Allah*, *Slave Ship*, *Souls at Sea*, *Lancer Spy*, *Marie Antoinette*, *Suez*, *The Baroness and the Butler*, *Lady of the Tropics*, *Idiot's Delight*, *The Three Musketeers*, *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Mr. Moto Takes a Vacation*, *The Rains Came*, *Rangers of Fortune*, *The Shop Around the Corner*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *Flame of Barbary Coast*, *The Cheaters*, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, *Northwest Outpost*, *The Big Bankroll*, and *The Greatest Story Ever Told*
- 1932 Married Mary McKay (died 1962)
- 1932-1933 Reprised role of the Sparrow in revival of *Liliom* at the Civic Repertory Theatre
Performed in *Dear Jane*, *Camille*, and *Alice in Wonderland*, (as the Queen of Hearts) at the Civic Repertory Theatre
- 1938 Received Academy Award for best supporting actor for role of Alfred Dreyfus in *The Life of Emile Zola*
- 1941 Performed in *Clash by Night* with Tallulah Bankhead at the Belasco Theatre
- 1942-1944 Performed in *Uncle Harry* with Eva Le Gallienne
- 1944 Performed in *The Cherry Orchard* with Eva Le Gallienne
- 1952-1953 Appeared in two episodes in season one of *Omnibus* CBS television program: "The Last Night of Don Juan" and "Everyman"
- 1953-1954 Hosted and starred in the anthology series *Joseph Schildkraut Presents* on the DuMont Television Network
- 1955-1957 Originated the role of Otto Frank in Broadway production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* which ran for 717 performances
- 1957-1958 Toured the United States in the role of Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* for some 381 performances
- 1959 Appeared as Otto Frank in film version of *The Diary of Anne Frank*
Published with Leo Lania *My Father and I*. New York: Viking Press
- 1960 Received Golden Globe for best supporting actor for the role of Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*
- 1961-1962 Appeared in two episodes of *Twilight Zone*, season three: "Deaths-Head Revisited" and "The Trade-Ins"
- 1962 Appeared in an episode of *Dr. Kildare*, season one: "The Stepping Stone"
- 1963, Mar. 22 Married Leonora Rogers
- 1963 Nominated for a best actor Emmy Award for his guest-starring role on NBC's legal drama *Sam Benedict*
- 1964, Jan. 21 Died, New York, New York

Scope and Content Note

The four scrapbooks that comprise this collection document the personal and professional lives of Rudolph Schildkraut (1862-1930) and his son, Joseph (1895-1964). Joseph Schildkraut's third wife, Leonora, compiled the volumes as a gift for her husband. The scrapbooks are numbered II-V; there is no volume I. The volumes contain photographs, clippings, programs, iconography, and sheet music.

Photographic material comprises the bulk of the contents. There are many family portraits of Rudolph alone and with his wife, Erna Weinstein, and Joseph as a child; the Weinstein and Schildkraut families; and the adult Joseph and his wives Elise Bartlett, Mary McKay Schildkraut and Leonora Rogers Schildkraut, as well as a succession of family chihuahuas. Friends and colleagues represented include: David Belasco, Charlie Chaplin, Cecil B. DeMille, Bob Hope, Gyula Hegedus, Al Jolson, Eva Le Gallienne, Peter Lorre, Alexander Moissi, Ferenc Molnár, Fritz Reiner, Edward Sloman, and Erich von Stroheim. Other figures represented are Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain), Otto Frank, Carl Sandburg, and Prince Ludwig Ferdinand of Bavaria. Most of these images are inscribed to either Rudolph or Joseph.

Publicity photographs and production stills document Rudolph and Joseph's acting careers. Scenes from stage productions, including *King Lear*; (Rudolph) and *Liliom*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and *Young Fritz*, (Joseph), and films *His People*, (Rudolph), and *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *King of Kings*, *The Life of Emile Zola*, *Marie Antoinette*, *Orphans of the Storm*, and *Show Boat*, (Joseph) are depicted. There are also images created during make-up and costume tests.

The photographic materials are supplemented by newspaper clippings containing performance reviews and publicity pieces; programs from *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Liliom*, *Marie Antoinette*, *Orphans of the Storm*, and *Show Boat*; sheet music for *the Thieves' Song* from *Liliom* and *Down South* from *Show Boat*; and iconography of both men in the form of pencil sketches, silhouettes, and caricatures, as well as a charcoal drawing and a lithograph.

Organization of the Rudolph and Joseph Schildkraut Scrapbooks

The materials are arranged in one series of four scrapbooks.

- [Scrapbooks, 1867-1964](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-4

Series

Scrapbooks, 1867-1964

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-4	Scrapbooks, 1867-1964
BOX 1	Scrapbook II, 1867-1921
BOX 2	Scrapbook III, 1921-1929
BOX 3	Scrapbook IV, 1929-1945
BOX 4	Scrapbook V, 1945-1964