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.
2017

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/perform.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2014572559

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu017010

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress
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
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**

**Accruals**
No further accruals are expected.

**Processing History**

**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, *Der Goldmensch*, *Der Müller und sein Kind*, *Narzib*, *The Schnick*, *Urch Acosta*, and *Der Veilchenfresser*
1893-1895 | Performed in Vienna in various plays, including *Imagination Handcuffed*, and *Once Upon a Time*
1902-1905 | Appeared in *Ghosts* by Ibsen, *The Joy of Living*, *Justice*, *King Lear*, *Merchant of Venice*, *The Paroles*, *The Robbers*, *St. John’s Fires*, and *Winter’s Tale* in Hamburg
1905 | Joined the German Theatre in Berlin as part of Max Reinhardt’s company
1905-1910 | First portrayed Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*
1905-1910 | As a member of the Reinhardt company, performed as Lear in *King Lear*, Mephisto in *Faust*, Muley Hassan in Schiller's *Fiesco*, the grave-digger in *Hamlet*, and Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. Other plays in this period included: *God of Vengeance*, *Der Herr Kommissar*, *Lysistrata*, *Mephistopheles*, *Merchant of Venice*, *The Shadow*(a vaudeville one act), *The Well of the Saints* by Synge, and *Winter’s Tale*
1910-1913 | Performed in *Flachsmann als Erzieher*, *Franz Moor*, *King Lear*, and *Kittchenbum* at the Irving Place Theatre in New York City
1913 | Performed in *The Prodigal Son* with Joseph for Reinhardt in Berlin
1915 | Appeared as Caliban in *The Tempest* in Berlin
1920 | Moved permanently to the United States
1920 | Appeared on stage in New York in *Silent Forces*
1921 | Appeared, with Joseph, in his last European film, the Austrian silent film *Theodor Herzel* (released in the United States as *The Wandering Jew*) as Herb Schildt "The Struggling Israel"
1922 | Made his English-speaking debut in Sholem Asch’s *God of Vengeance*
1925 | Founded Yiddish-language Jewish Art Theatre in New York
1927 | Appeared as Caiaphas in Cecil B. DeMille’s *King of Kings* 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 *Christina*
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 *Der Junge Fritz* at Irving Place Theatre in New York City
1913 | Graduated from Junior Class of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts
1915 | Performed in *King Lear*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Sea Gull* in Berlin
1917-1918 | Served as Lieutenant in the 24th Imperial Dragoon Regiment of Austria
1918 | Appeared in European silent film *For the Glory of Her Lover*
1918-1919 | Performed in *Children's Tragedy*, and Ibsen’s *Ghostsin Vienna*
1918-1920 | Performed in *The Green Cockatoo* by Schnitzler in Vienna
1920 | Performed in Schiller’s *Don Carlos* in Vienna
1925 | Founded Yiddish-language Jewish Art Theatre in New York
1927 | Appeared as Caiaphas in Cecil B. DeMille’s *King of Kings* 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 *Christina*
1930, July 15 | Died, Los Angeles, California
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

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

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<th>Container</th>
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## Container List

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