

Drama, Media and Film



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Collections

London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT) Lift Living Archive*

After eleven Festivals and 25 years of performances, events, workshops, and lectures, Lift has amassed a huge wealth of documentation and supporting materials - more than 300 boxes of documents, 4000 photographs, 100 Festival programmes and leaflets, 700 hours of video documentation and 60 hours of audio recordings. The Lift Living Archive project is an initiative that will open up this wonderfully rich resource to a wider public audience, offering access to a physical archive as well as a searchable, online digital resource. The physical archive will be deposited in summer 2008.

Also held are over 500 unique videos of drama sent to the organisers of the London International Festival of Theatre since 1984 by companies from around the world. New videos are added after each biennial festival. Listed.

Margot Heinemann Archive*

Margot Claire Heinemann (1913 – 1992) was a British Marxist writer, drama scholar, and leading member of the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB). She read English at Newnham College, Cambridge from 1931, was employed in the Labour Research Department from 1937 and taught in the English Department at Goldsmiths from 1965-1977. The archive was deposited in 2008. The archive contains early notes, writings and personal correspondence, her work on literature, society, politics and culture of the twentieth century, especially 1930s and Spain, and the archive of her work on 16th and 17th century drama, history, society and politics, including notes on Shakespeare. Listed.

Theatre and Ireland

This is a collection of microfilms of manuscripts, diaries and other items held in the National Library of Ireland, the British Library and Trinity College, Dublin, including: The W.A. Henderson Scrapbooks (5 reels), 1899-1911, containing newspaper cuttings, programmes, newsletters, playbills, photographs and letters relating to the Abbey Theatre and cultural life in Ireland at the beginning of the 20th century; Drury Lane under Sheridan 1776-1812 (16 reels), containing manuscript plays and managerial correspondence; The J.M.Syngé mss from the library of the Trinity College Dublin (19 reels); The diaries of Joseph Holloway, 1895-1930, recording almost every major performance at the Abbey Theatre, the Gate Theatre and amateur theatres of Dublin, as well as London and touring performances (105 reels). Kept in the main library.

International Theatre Institute Collection*

A collection of books, journals, papers, reports and pamphlets on theatre worldwide. Unsorted, therefore access is limited.

National Network for Arts in Health (NNAH) Archive & Hugh Barron Hospital Arts Archive*

This covers the work of the NNAH from its founding in 1985 up to 2004, and was given to the library in 2008. The NNAH was an advocate for the Arts in Health field, bringing together the arts and health communities. The resources contain files on art, drama and music projects in the health service together with books, reports and research materials. Not yet listed.

National Campaign for the Arts Archive (1985-1998)

This covers the work of the NCA from its founding in 1985 up to 1998, was deposited in the library in 2000. It consists of 13 boxes of papers arranged broadly according to subject, covering arts policy worldwide. A list of the contents is available.

BBC Arena Videos

A set of videos of the Arena arts documentary series, given to the Library by BBC Arena. These may be viewed in special collections or borrowed for teaching at Goldsmiths.

Deac Rossell Collection*

Books on documentary, animation, avant-garde cinema and early world cinema, acquired up to 1993 by Deac Rossell, together with studio histories and international film festival guides.

Terence Kelly Collection

A broadcast specialist reporter for the UK Press Gazette, Terence Kelly has deposited his collection of press cuttings, papers and reports, relating mainly to radio in Britain from the 1970s to 2001. Includes tenders for independent radio and television channels.

Services and facilities

Most of the printed collections can be searched from the main library catalogue (<http://library.gold.ac.uk>) under Other categories/Special Collections, or by collection. Leaflets on collections are available from the website. Finding aids are available for all collections and archive material is partly listed in the CALM catalogue, in the library.

Special Collections material is generally available for reference only in the special collections reading room. This is a dedicated, supervised study area with separate listening and viewing booths for audio, video and DVD. Slide viewing facilities, a copystand and slide scanner are available and there is also a digital piano.

Group visits and seminars can be accommodated in the adjoining Prokofiev room, seating up to 30 people, which has presentation and video-conferencing facilities.

Staff will photocopy or scan materials, or readers may use their own digital cameras to photograph items, subject to copyright and other permissions being granted and if requested in advance. There are charges for scanning and photocopies. No copying of sound or video material is permitted, unless written permission is provided by the researcher, from the copyright holder.

Admission and Contacts

Special Collections are normally open from Monday – Friday 11-4, and until 7 on Wednesdays. See the website for current opening times.

The study area is on the 2nd floor of the library and has wheelchair access, via a lift.

Visitors from outside the College should make an appointment to view material. Annual visitor reference tickets to The Library at Goldsmiths are available, applicants should bring ID.

Members of the college need not make an appointment to view collections, except those marked*.

* An appointment is required to view these collections.

General enquiries and appointments

Telephone: 020 7717 2295

Fax: 020 7919 7165

Email: special.collections@gold.ac.uk

Special Collections, Library

Goldsmiths, University of London

Lewisham Way

New Cross

London SE14 6NW, UK