

## Guide to the Rene de Haven Papers

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	De Haven, René
<b>Title:</b>	Rene de Haven Papers
<b>ID:</b>	MS-00586
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1944-2011
<b>Physical Description:</b>	4.2 Linear Feet (5 boxes and 1 flat file)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Rene de Haven Papers contain photographs, costume designs, promotional show materials, press clippings, and audio recordings of dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven from 1944 to 2011. Personal papers, prints, proof sheets, black-and-white and color photos document Rene de Haven's work in dancing and choreography in Las Vegas, Nevada and Los Angeles, California.

### Preferred Citation

Rene de Haven Papers, 1944-2011. MS-00586. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven was born Joseph Wellinton McIntosh in Oklahoma in 1922. He later moved to California to be closer to his sister and worked various jobs to earn money. De Haven and his sister enjoyed dancing at night clubs and de Haven was naturally talented at dance. After an encounter with a psychic, he decided to pursue dancing professionally. Camargo Studios gave de Haven a scholarship to train. He was soon hired to dance in Mexico, where he spent four-and-a-half years before returning to the United States. De Haven came to Las Vegas, Nevada for the first time in 1954, and he worked as a professional dancer in both Las Vegas and Los Angeles. He worked on notable films including *Singing in the Rain* and *Jailhouse Rock*. De Haven had a heart attack and a stroke in 1961 that prevented him from performing, which prompted him to transition from dancer to professional choreographer. His first job as a choreographer was "C'est la Femme" and he went on to choreograph several shows in Las Vegas and California, including notable shows at the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

Source: Betty Bunch, "Rene de Haven went from farm boy to Las Vegas dancer," *Las Vegas Review Journal*. February 1, 2012. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/betty-bunch/rene-de-haven-went-farm-boy-las-vegas-dancer>

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Rene de Haven Papers contain photographs, costume designs, promotional show materials, press clippings, and audio recordings of dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven from 1944 to 2011. Personal papers, prints, proof sheets, black-and-white and color photos document Rene de Haven's work in dancing and choreography in Las Vegas, Nevada and Los Angeles, California.

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## Arrangement Note

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Materials are arranged into two series:

Series I. Professional papers, 1944-2010;

Series II. Personal papers, 1958-2011.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

### Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2012 by Rick Hamilton, accession number 2012-002.

## Processing Note

Material was processed by Su Kim Chung in 2014. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Dallas Reiber and Lindsay Oden revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

## Revision Description

The finding aid was revised by Dallas Reiber and Lindsay Oden to bring it into compliance with DACS. July 2015

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## Names and Subjects

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- Entertainers
- Nevada dance theater
- Choreographers
- Dancers
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Photographs

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## Collection Inventory

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### Professional papers, 1944-2010

Physical Description: 4.0 Linear Feet (4 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: The professional papers of Rene de Haven include photographs of performances and performers, costume designs, show promotional material, press clippings, and audio recordings (reel to reel).

Photographic material consists of photographic prints, proof sheets, black-and-white photographs, and color photographs ranging from 2"x3" to 8"x10".

Arrangement Note: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Photos of performers, 1952-1967	box 01
Promotional material, 1966-2010	box 01
Color photos, undated	box 01
Party photos, undated	box 01
Photos of performers, undated	box 01
Show photos, 1963-2007	box 01

Show photo copies and one proof sheet, undated	box 01
Show programs with Rene Lee, 2007	box 01
Autographed performer photos, undated	box 01
Performer head shots, undated	box 01
Head shots, including the Jackson 5 Family, 1956-1986	box 01
Photographs of performers, undated	box 01
Promotional posters, 1959-2009	box 01
Promotional magazine with autographed copies, undated	box 01
Fletcher dancer alumni phone list, 1944	box 01
Entertainment management information, undated	box 01
Personal photos, undated	oversized box 02
Show posters, undated	oversized box 02
Jesus poster, undated	oversized box 02
Award: Miss Saloon Sweetheart, 2001	oversized box 02
Award: Miss Saloon Sweetheart, 1991	oversized box 02
Lambert space drawings, undated	oversized box 02
"Chi Chi" audio master track, undated Physical Description: 2 Reels	box 03
"Original complete audio copy, mono", undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
Click track stereo audio, undated Physical Description: 2 Reels	box 03
AMPEX audio tape, undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
"Get Down" promo, undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
Large AMPEX audio tape, undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
"Las Vegas on Ice" tape one master, undated	box 03

Physical Description: 1 Reels

"La Mancha and Gypsy" show audio, undated	box 03
Physical Description: 1 Reels	
Performance photos, 1963-1968	box 04
Show photographs, black and white, undated	box 04
Slides of dancers, undated	box 04
Black and white photocopies of photos, undated	box 04
Candid showgirl photos, undated	box 04
Performer photographs, 1995	box 04

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## Personal papers, 1958-2011

Physical Description: 0.2 Linear Feet (1 Box)

Scope and Contents Note: The personal papers of Rene de Haven consist of awards, personal photos of friends and family, and personal clippings.

Arrangement Note: Materials are in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Photos of parties and friends, 2001-2002	box 05
Photos of friends, 2003	box 05
Greeting cards from friends, 1987-2011	box 05
Photos of Rene, undated	box 05
Friends and family photos, 1968	box 05
Family photos black-and-white, 1968	box 05
Friends holding bottles, black-and-white photos, undated	box 05
Family hospital photos, undated	box 05
Unidentified people photos, undated	box 05
Photos of friends, 2005	box 05
Photos of suburban homes, 1986-1988	box 05
Negatives of family photos and hospital photos, undated	box 05
Business cards, undated	box 05
Photos of Rene and unidentified people, photos, 1988-1989	box 05
Personal color photographs, 1959-2000	box 05
Personal clippings, 2010	box 05

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Photos of friends and family, 1958-2005	box 05
Family photos, 1967-1981	box 05
Family photo collage, undated	box 05
Angel family tree for Rene de Haven, undated	box 05
Family photos, undated	box 05
Family and friends photographic copies, 2004-2006	box 05
Newsclippings, undated	box 05

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"The Barbary Coast" entertainment poster	flat file 01
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