

Guide to the Matt Gregory Entertainment Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Gregory, Matt, 1921-2000
Title:	Matt Gregory Entertainment Papers
ID:	MS-00381
Date [inclusive]:	1959-1986
Physical Description:	4.04 Cubic Feet (3 boxes, 1 roll)
Physical Description:	3.50 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection is comprised of the papers of Las Vegas producer, manager, and agent Matt Gregory from 1959 to 1986. Included are contracts, costume sketches, press releases, videos, show reviews, and advertisements. Also included are correspondence, public relations material, business related material, costume and set design drawings and sketches, slides, negatives, photographs, transparencies, and videos, mostly from the 1960s through the 1980s.

Preferred Citation

Matt Gregory Entertainment Papers, 1959-1986. MS-00381. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Las Vegas, Nevada producer, manager, and agent Matthias Gregory Gluchowski (a.k.a. Matt Gregory) was born November 21, 1921 in Araucaria, Parana, Brazil. He was the son of an aristocratic Polish diplomat serving as Ambassador to Brazil. Matthias was raised in southern Poland on a large estate that bordered Czechoslovakia. He was educated at the Marian Fathers Lyceum in Warsaw, Poland, and later came to New York during his father's tenure as diplomat to the United States. Gregory attended Amherst University. Shortly after returning to Poland he was forced to flee the country when the Germans invaded in 1939. Following a narrow escape via train to Italy, Matthias enlisted in the Polish Air Force, which had squadrons attached to the Royal Air Force of Great Britain. He flew missions as a bomber pilot and was decorated for his service. Following the war, he returned to the United States, where several men he had met during the war introduced him to a number of influential people, including Frank Sinatra and millionaire Reg

Newton. Newton, in turn, introduced him to others. This led to Gregory's employment as a script writer for radio and television in New York, where Gregory worked for the Milton Blackstone Agency. He applied for citizenship and was finally naturalized as a U.S. citizen in 1955 with the name Matt G. Gregory. In 1949 Gregory moved to San Francisco, California, where he continued to work in television. In 1953 he was invited to come to Las Vegas, Nevada by Moe Dalitz, one of the partners at Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Hotel and Country Club. Dalitz recruited Gregory to work in public relations on a project the owners were involved with, the Showboat Hotel and Casino, one of the first casinos designed to cater to "locals." Gregory left the Showboat in 1956 to pursue a career as a personal manager, agent and producer. He made his name in the mid-1950s by representing a number of lounge acts. He also recruited and developed talented young artists. Among his clients were Marlene Dietrich, Sandler and Young, Lee Greenwood, Jerry Fielding, and Bill Reddie and The Characters. Gregory also produced a number of shows in Las Vegas, Nevada and elsewhere. These shows ranged from large productions to smaller revues. He had a reputation of creating the "midi" and "mini" revues which brought the talent, costumes, and flair of the large shows to a smaller venue.

Some of his shows appeared in Paris, Sweden, and Japan as well as Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Gregory produced the world's largest fashion show for the Lion's Club Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. He also produced "Las Vegas Gambit," the only network television game show to originate in Las Vegas. He continued producing and managing until his retirement in the mid-1980s. He was married in December of 1964 to Ailsa Winton, a dancer and native of England. They had one son, Adam Casimer Gregory-Glochowski, born in 1965. Matt Gregory resided in Las Vegas until his death on July 29, 2000.

References

"Matthias Gregory Gluchowski," *Who's Who in the World* 1984, 7th ed. (Chicago: Marguis Who's Who, Inc., 1984).

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Scope and Contents Note

Collection is comprised of the papers of Las Vegas producer, manager, and agent Matt Gregory from 1959 to 1986. Included are contracts, costume sketches, press releases, videos, show reviews, and advertisements. There is correspondence, public relations material, business related material, costume and set design drawings and sketches, slides, negatives, photographs, transparencies, and videos, mostly from the 1960s through the 1980s.

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Arrangement

The collection is organized chronologically with the exception of the videotapes, which remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were purchased in 1996; accession number 96-22.

Processing Note

Processed by Courtney Hartford-Fuller, May 1999. In 2016 Joyce Moore revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it up to current professional standards. In 2019, Jimmy Chang added one roll of architectural set design drawings to the collection.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the photographs, negatives, and slides in the acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in Matt Gregory Entertainment Photographs, 1959-1986. PH-00308. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

The slides are of the Paul Stefen's dancers, *Kanpai*, and *USA Made* shows.

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Names and Subjects

- Entertainment -- Nevada – Las Vegas -- History
- Entertainers
- Screenwriters--United States--Biography
- Theatrical agents--Nevada--Las Vegas--Biography
- Theatrical producers and directors--Nevada--Las Vegas--Biography
- Photographs

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Shaw and Hitchcock Productions: contracts and correspondence between Gregory, Shaw, and Hitchcock, 1959-1960 Physical Description: Various contracts and correspondence between Matt Gregory and Sonia Shaw and Bill Hitchcock [husband/wife production team] and outside parties, as well as public relations information related to Shaw and Hitchcock Productions.	box 1	folder 1
"La Nouvelle Eve" correspondence between Gregory, et. al. about the show, 1959 Physical Description: Correspondence between Matt Gregory and various individuals [especially Charley Henchis] in regards to set up and close of the show. There are some public relations materials, such as newspaper clippings and special promotions pertaining to the production. Costuming information limited to photographs and negatives contained in the folder and located in Photograph Collection 0308.	box 1	folder 2
Photographs, undated	box 1	folder 2A
Paul Steffen Dancers: contracts and negotiations, newspaper clippings, 1965-1966 Physical Description: Various contracts and negotiations between Paul Steffen, Matt Gregory, and outside parties; also of newspaper clippings, and reviews of productions in which Paul Steffen's Dancers were involved. For slides refer to Box 3.	box 1	folder 3
"Bottoms Up": contracts and negotiations, public relations, and 2 negatives, 1967 Physical Description: Contracts and negotiations; public relations coverage; 2 negatives.	box 1	folder 4
"Mad Mod World": negotiations, costume information, and contracts, 1967	box 1	folder 5

Physical Description: Negotiations and contracts; public relations; costuming information [negatives]. See also photographs in Photo Collection 0308 and Josephine Spinedi color sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection.

"Pony Express": negotiations and contracts, 1968	box 1	folder 6
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Physical Description: Negotiations and contracts; See also Josephine Spinedi costume sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection.

"Mod Squad Marmalade": contracts, public relations, and extensive coverage of costuming information , 1968	box 1	folder 7
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Physical Description: Contracts; public relations material; extensive coverage of costuming information [negatives]; see also photographs located in Photo Collection 0308.

"Feminine Touch": various public relations material and negatives, 1971-1972	box 1	folder 8-9
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Physical Description: Various public relations material, press releases, advertisements, and critiques. Costuming information [black and white negatives]; see also Josephine Spinedi sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection. For additional information refer to the "Feminine Touch" videos located in Box 2.

"Fancy That": correspondence, contracts, public relations material, 1972-1973	box 1	folder 10
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Physical Description: Correspondence, contract negotiations, public relations material; costuming information [negatives]; see also photos removed to photo collection 0308, and Josephine Spinedi color sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection.

"Fancy That": business related material, 1972-1973	box 1	folder 11-12
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Physical Description: More business related material.

"Fancy That": black and white negatives of production, 1972-1973	box 1	folder 13
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Physical Description: Black and white negatives of the show, costumes, and various performers.

"Fancy That": public relations materials, 1972-1973	box 1	folder 14
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Physical Description: Bulk of public relations material, including newspaper clippings, press releases, and reviews.

"Fancy That": fliers and press releases, 1972-1973	box 1	folder 15
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Physical Description: Fliers and press releases.

"Fancy That": public relations material, 1973-1974	box 1	folder 16
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Physical Description: Public relations material, including press clippings and reviews.

"Fancy That": several photo negatives regarding costumes designs, 1973-1974	box 1	folder 17
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Physical Description: Several photos and negatives of different performances; regarding costume design see also Photo collection 0308 and Josephine Spinedi sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection.

Benihana Dancers: contract negotiations regarding five "Kanpai" dancers performing at Benihana, 1974-1976	box 1	folder 21
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Physical Description: Contract negotiations regarding the five "Kanpai" dancers who were to perform at the Benihana restaurant at the Flamingo Hilton. Also press release in regards to opening of the restaurant.

"Fancy That": public relations material, 1973-1974 box 1 folder 18

Physical Description: Additional public relations material.

"Kanpai": master and bank contracts for production, 1974 box 1 folder 19

Physical Description: Contains the master and bank contracts for the show.

"Kanpai": public relations material, and negatives, 1974 box 1 folder 20

Physical Description: Public relations material; also costuming information [negatives]. See also Photo Collection 0308 and Josephine Spinedi designs in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection. For slides refer to box 3.

"USA Made": some press clippings, stage and set photographs, and show layout notes, 1977 box 1 folder 22

Physical Description: Some press clippings, stage and set photophotographs and notes on planned layout of the show. Advertising flyers and photos of performers. Refer to Box 3 for slides.

"Dancin' Machine": contracts, budgets, entertainment schedules, publicity flyers, and correspondence, 1978-1979 box 1 folder 23

Physical Description: Contracts and budgets, entertainment schedules, reviews, publicity fliers, and correspondence.

"Feminine Touch": contracts, stage designs, insurance certificates, 1981 box 1 folder 24

"Feminine Touch": various public relations materials, 1981 box 1 folder 25

Physical Description: Various public relations material, including press releases, show critiques, and publicity shots of performers. For costume information, see Photo Collection 0308 and Josephine Spinedi costume sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection. For additional info refer to videos located in Box 2.

"Feminine Touch": publicity as provided by Silverbird Casino, 1981 box 1 folder 26

"Feminine Touch": business material, 1985-1986 box 1 folder 27

"Feminine Touch": business and public relations materials, 1985-1986 box 1 folder 28

Physical Description: Some public relations material, such as press releases, and some business material. Bulk of the folder consists of proofs displaying costumes and sets. For additional material on costume and stage design, refer to Photograph collection 0308 and Josephine Spinedi costume sketches in Las Vegas Show Costume Designs Collection To view this production, see videos in boxes 2 and 3.

"Feminine Touch" videotapes, 1971-1972 box 2

Physical Description: 17 U-Matic Videotapes

5 "Hanna Barbera Happy Hour" videotapes, undated box 3

Theater fly system set-up: diagrammatic set design drawings for "USA Made", 1976 December 20 roll 4

Physical Description: 6 Sheets