

Guide to the Bill Moore Professional Papers

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Table of Contents

| Summary Information | 3 |
|----------------------------|---|
| Biographical Note | |
| Scope and Contents Note | |
| Arrangement | 4 |
| Administrative Information | 5 |
| Names and Subjects | 5 |
| Collection Inventory | 6 |
| Show production materials | 6 |
| Audiovisual materials | 7 |

Summary Information

Repository: University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special

Collections and Archives.

Creator: Moore, Bill, 1926-2012

Creator: Arnold, George, 1921-1997

Title: Bill Moore Professional Papers

ID: MS-00597

Date [inclusive]: 1950 to 2010

Physical 26.84 Cubic Feet (24 boxes, 5 oversized boxes, 2 flat files)

Description:

Physical 29.89 Linear Feet

Description:

Physical 14 Digital Files (3.08 GB)

Description:

Language of the English

Material:

Abstract: The Bill Moore Professional Papers are comprised of documents,

designs, and promotional materials of show producer Bill Moore from 1950 to 2010. From the 1960s until the late 2000s, Moore and his partner George Arnold produced a variety of stage shows, from musicals and revues to his famous "on ice" productions like *Nudes on Ice* and *Playgirls on Ice*. Materials include three-dimensional set designs, photographic prints, financial records, promotional posters, and audio and video recordings of shows at casinos in Las Vegas, Laughlin, and Reno,

Nevada, and Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Preferred Citation

Bill Moore Professional Papers, 1950-2010. MS-00597. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Biographical Note

Show producer and designer Bill Moore was born in Gateshead, England in 1926. He moved to Las Vegas, Nevada in the 1950s to make theatrical productions. Moore, who was trained as a dancer,

[^] Return to Table of Contents

worked with George Arnold and produced shows in Las Vegas, Reno, and Laughlin, Nevada, and in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The duo became known for flashy costumes and extravagant ice shows.

With George Arnold, a former professional ice-dancer, Moore's first show *Rhythm on Ice* premiered at the El Cortez Hotel and Casino in 1960. The success of the show earned Moore and Arnold respect and opened the door for subsequent productions on the Las Vegas Strip. Moore and Arnold produced shows together for 35 years, including a series of "...on Ice" productions like *Nudes on Ice, Spice on Ice, Fantasy on Ice*, and *Playgirls on Ice*. Moore also produced revues and variety acts like *Razzle Dazzle* and *City Lites* at the Flamingo Hilton and the first stage production at Caesar's Palace, *Rome Swings*, in 1966.

During his career, Moore became close friends with the owners of the Hacienda Hotel, Doc and Judy Bayley. After Doc's death, Moore helped Judy Bayley pull the Hacienda out of debt. His acclaimed *Spice on Ice* debuted at the Hacienda and ran for several years.

Arnold died in 1997, but Moore continued to produce shows until his death in January 19, 2012. Sources:

"Veteran Las Vegas showman Moore dies." *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. January 21, 2012. http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/las-vegas/veteran-las-vegas-showman-moore-dies Hill, Roland L., *Hillsway's Who's Who with Biographies and Favorite Recipes*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Hillsway Company, 1978.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Scope and Contents Note

The Bill Moore Professional Papers are comprised of documents, designs, and promotional materials of show producer Bill Moore from 1950 to 2009. Materials include photographic prints, slides and negatives, audio and video recordings of performances, hand-drawn designs, three-dimensional set designs, promotional materials such as posters and fliers, advertisements, financial documents, contracts, newspapers, reviews, and articles. The collection also includes photographs of Judy Bayley, the Hacienda Hotel, and charity events organized by Doc and Judy Bayley, as well as born-digital use copies of selected video recordings.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Arrangement

These records are organized into two series: Series I. Show production materials, 1950-2010; Series II. Audiovisual materials, 1960-2010.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research, with the exception of materials that are restricted to protect personally identifiable information. Restrictions are noted at the file level of this inventory and will be open for research use January 1, 2075. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advance notice is required. Arrangements must be made in advance in order to access digital files; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for additional information.

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated by Sheila Hood (estate of Bill Moore) in 2012; accession number 2012-020.

Processing Note

Materials were minimally processed by Su Kim Chung in 2012. In 2014, Lindsay Oden processed the collection and wrote the collection description in compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently Lindsay Oden entered the data into ArchivesSpace. In 2019, Karla Irwin processed the digital materials stored on optical discs and created access copies. Later in 2019, Christina Lamoureux and Melise Leech rehoused the collection and revised the collection description.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Names and Subjects

- Entertainment -- Nevada Las Vegas -- History
- Casinos -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- · Ice skating

- Theatrical producers and directors
- · Costume design

Collection Inventory

Show production materials, approximately 1950 to 2010

Physical Description: 13.59 Cubic Feet (15 boxes, 4 oversized boxes, and 1 flat file)

Physical Description: 17.14 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Show production materials series (1950-2010) consists of documents, promotional materials including newspaper advertising, set and costume designs, and sheet music scores related to Bill Moore and George Arnold stage and ice shows in Las Vegas, Nevada and other locations. Also included are three-dimensional miniature set designs and other production-related objects such as fabric samples and datebooks.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

| tle/Description | Containers |
|---|---------------------|
| Sheet music: orchestral scores, approximately 1960 to 2009 | box 01 |
| | box 02 |
| | box 03 |
| | box 04 |
| | box 05 |
| | box 06 |
| Newspaper clippings and scrapbook pages, approximately 1965 to 1998 | box 07 |
| Contracts, receipts, cast agreements, and financial documents, approximately 1969 to 1999 | box 08 |
| Show production information: set design, costume design, and staging, approximately 1985 to 2008 | box 09 |
| Invoices and correspondence, approximately 1969 to 2010 | box 10 |
| Promotional material, show programs, date books, and fabric samples, approximately 1960 to 2009 | box 11 |
| | box 12 |
| Photographic prints and slides: color and black-and-white, approximately 1950 to 2007 | box 13 |
| | box 14 |
| Costume designs, newsletters, and photographic prints, approximately 1960 to 2009 | oversized box 15 |
| Sheet music, <i>Moulin Rouge</i> show program, and <i>Las Vegas 3000</i> concept proposal, approximately 1960 to 2009 | oversized box 16 |
| Three-dimensional lighted set designs, framed, approximately 1960 to 2009 | oversized box 17 |
| Dhysical Description 2 Itams | |

Physical Description: 3 Items

| | oversized box 31 |
|---|---------------------|
| Show posters, costume designs, and set designs, approximately 1960 to 2009 | oversized box 18 |
| Bronzed women's shoe on a marble base, approximately 1960 to 2009 Physical Description: 1 Items | box 28 |
| Set design drawings, mounted, approximately 1960 to 2009 | flat file 29 |
| | flat file 30 |
| Restricted materials, approximately 1950 to 2000 Physical Description: 5 Files | box SH-047 |
| Restricted: Materials are restricted to protect personally identifiable information and will be open for research use on January 1, 2075. Materials are housed in SH-47. | |

^ Return to Table of Contents

Audiovisual materials, approximately 1960 to 2010

Physical Description: 11.55 Cubic Feet (9 boxes)

Physical Description: 9.75 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Audiovisual materials series consists of audio and video recordings from Bill Moore and George Arnold show performances between 1960 and 2009. Recordings include, but are not limited to, performances of *B-Dazzled, Bravo, City Lights, Glitter, Moulin Rouge, Nudes on Ice, Playgirls on Ice,* and *Razzle Dazzle.* Material types are VHS tape, audio cassette, reel-to-reel tape, and MP4 digital files created from DVD originals.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

Access Note: Digital files are open for research. Arrangements must be made in advance to access digital files; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for additional information.

| Title/Description | Containers | |
|--|------------|--|
| Videotapes of show performances, approximately 1979 to 2006 | box 19 | |
| Physical Description: 24 VHS Tapes | | |
| Physical Description: 1 Betacam SP Videotapes | | |
| Physical Description: 2 U-Matic Videotapes | | |
| DVDs of show performances, approximately 1960 to 2009 | box 19 | |
| Physical Description: 8 Optical Discs | | |
| Reel-to-reel tape of show performances, approximately 1960 to 1990 | box 20 | |
| Physical Description: 116 Reels (0.25 inch) | | |

| | box 21 |
|--|--------------------|
| | box 22 |
| | box 23 |
| | box 24 |
| | box 25 |
| | box 26 |
| | box 27 |
| Audio cassette tapes of show performances, approximately 1970 to 2009 Physical Description: 8 Cassettes | box 20 |
| Digital files of show performances | |
| Charo: <i>Picante</i> and <i>Bolaro</i> video recording, approximately 1960 to 2006 | digital file 00 |
| Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.133 GB) MP4 | |
| City Lights, Atlantic City, New Jersey video recording, approximately 1960 to 2009 | digital file 00 |
| Physical Description: 2 Digital Files (0.96 GB) MP4 | |
| Judy Bayley: First Lady of Gambling and First Lady of Charity video recording, 2003 | digital file 00 |
| Physical Description: 2 Digital Files (0.45 GB) MP4 | |
| Musical Hall Days video recording, approximately 2000 to 2010 | digital |
| Physical Description: 3 Digital Files (0.82 GB) MP4 | file 00 |
| Promotional video to Jackie Peter, video recording, 2006 October 16 | digital |
| Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.02 GB) MP4 | file 00 |
| Showgirls at the Suncoast Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, video recording, 2010 January 31 | digital file 00 |
| Physical Description: 2 Digital Files (0.16 GB) MP4 | |
| World Trade Center, 2001 September 11 | digital |
| Physical Description: 3 Digital Files (0.52 GB) MP4 | file 00 |
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^ Return to Table of Contents