Amelia Hall Collection

Inventory

Photographs, prompt scripts and acting exercises donated by the estate of Canadian actress Amelia Hall (1915-1984). Includes material from the Canadian Repertory Theatre, Ottawa Drama League, Montreal Repertory Theatre, Stratford Festival and Shaw Festival. The photographs are copies made from originals in her personal collection, now in the Public Archives of Canada. Many had been planned for use as illustrations in the book she was writing on the Canadian Repertory Theatre. Also available in the Performing Arts Centre is a microfilm copy of the Amelia Hall Scrapbooks (the originals now in the National Archives).

2 boxes; 64 envelopes and 1 framed photograph; .8 linear metres

Box #1

Env. #1: Biographical notes

Compiled by Amelia Hall, 14pp.

Env. #1a: Reminiscences


Env. #2: Personal thoughts on life, career, etc. – 3 items

Compiled by Amelia Hall for “A Study of Twenty of Toronto’s Creative Women” by Toni Sutherland. 1976.
Letter from Sutherland, 3 pp. photocopy
Thoughts by Amelia Hall, 10 pp. photocopy and note from Sutherland.

Env. #3: Clippings, etc. – 7 items

Includes Order of Service for Requiem for Amelia Hall

Env. #4: Correspondence and Misc. – 16 items

2 cards, including 1 from AH to Mrs. Hall
1 note [1980] from Daphne Dare thanking AH for loan of book [on Chekhov, used for ideas for The Seagull]
Whiteoaks of Jalna, CBC-TV souvenir booklet and family tree
Dominion Drama Festival award to Toronto Conservatory Players for The Jar, 1947
Snapshot of Mrs. Hall.
List of books donated by estate of Amelia Hall to the Theatre Dept.
6 miscellaneous programs

Env. #4a: Programs – 27 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1949-1950 (26 programs; 1 schedule)

Env. #4b: Programs – 32 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1950-1951 (31 programs; 1 press release)

Env. #4c: Programs – 30 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1951-1952 (29 programs; 1 flyer)

Env. #4d: Programs – 23 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1952-1953

Env. #4e: Programs – 15 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1953-1954 (14 programs; 1 flyer)

Env. #4f: Programs – 8 items
Canadian Repertory Theatre, 1954-1956

Env. #4g: Programs – 28 items
Stratford Festival, 1953-1982 (26 programs; 2 flyers)
Env. #5: Photographs – 35 items

Amelia Hall, portraits, snapshots, etc.

Env. #5a: Photographs, outsize – 1 item

Env. #6: Photographs, Theatre Personalities – 8 items

Pamela Brooke, Eleanor Nickless, Sam Payne, Clayton Shields, Peter Sturges, Peter Dews, John Fillinger, Tyrone Guthrie.

Env. #7: Production Photographs, Canadian Repertory Theatre – 19 items

General (9)
Harlequinade, May 2-6, 1950 (1)
Tons of Money, May 1950, (1)
The Glass Menagerie, Feb., 1950 (1)
The Deep Blue Sea, 1953 (1)
Victoria Regina, 1953 (5)
A Doll’s House, n.d. (1)

Env. #8: Production Photographs – 9 items

Ottawa Drama League. General (1); Eros at Breakfast (1949) (2)
Mountain Playhouse, Montreal. Whiteoaks (1950) (1)
Crest Theatre, Toronto. Hay Fever (May 17- , 1955) (1)

Env. #9: Production Photographs – 7 items

CBC-TV. Tobacco Farm (1954) (1); Whiteoaks of Jalna (2)
Canadian Players, General (1955 Tour) (2); Masterpieces of Comedy (1963-64) (1)
Queen’s University. Emily Carr (1960) (1)

Env. #10: Production Photographs, Stratford Festival – 30 items

General (3)
King Richard III, 1953 (2)
King Henry V, 1956 (2)
Merry Wives of Windsor, 1956 (2)
The Country Wife, 1964 (5)
The Government Inspector, 1967 (2)
Pericles, 1973 (4)
King John, 1974 (11)

Env. #11: Heliconian Christmas Party Readings (1983)
Selection of poems marked for dramatic reading, in folder with decorative foil cover.

Env. #12: Rhetorical Gesture (Delsarte pantomime), 2pg. article

Env. #13: Speech Exercises from Clara Salisbury Baker (36 pgs. + note from Amelia Hall)

Env. #14: Lecture Notes (1943) – 1 notebook
Notebook containing (1) A Speech for Texas, (2) Panama Canal Speech and Writing Course, (3) Lesson on Period Deportment with Ginny Dailley.

Env. #15: Speech Pathology (1943) – 1 notebook
Lectures as Columbia University delivered by Dr. Kopp

Env. #16: Speech Correction (1943) – 1 notebook
Lectures as Columbia University delivered by Dr. Kopp

Env. #17: Lecture Notes – 1 binder
Plus off-prints; speech exercises, acting technique from Frances Robinson-Duff, New York 1946,

Env. #18: Lecture Notes on speech and acting techniques, 1 looseleaf binder.
Env. #19: Speech Exercises (1946)

Notes from Frances Robinson Duff on breathing exercises, physical exercises, and tongue exercises. 12 pgs. + note from Amelia Hall

Env. #20: Speech Exercises – 6 items

Vocal exercises from Amelia Hall, 4 pgs.
Breathing, 1 pg.
Exercises for … articulation, 2 pgs.
Resonance exercises, 1 pg.
Speech training, 17 pgs.
“Mad dogs and Englishmen” etc. (practice pieces), 7 pgs.

Env. #21: Annotated Book – 1 item

An Actor Prepares by Constantin Stanislavski
Theatre Arts, 1945, 295 pgs., annotated by Amelia Hall

Env. #22: Annotated Book – 1 item

The Actor’s Ways and Means by Michael Redgrave
William Heinemann, 1953, 90 pgs., annotated by Amelia Hall

Env. #23: Annotated Book – 1 item

Alec Guinness by Kenneth Tynan

Env. #24: Annotated Book – 1 item

The Empty Space by Peter Brook
Penguin, 1972, 157 pgs., annotated by Amelia Hall
Env. #25: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #26: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #27: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #28: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #29: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #30: Prompt Script – 1 item

Box #2: Prompt Scripts

Env. #1: Prompt Script – 1 item

*Early English Plays*, ed. H.C. Schweikert. Harcourt, Brace, and Co., 1928, 845 pgs. Unidentified productions. Various marking throughout; revisions, stage directions, etc. Plays include:

- *Noah* (Wakefield)
- *The Second Shepherd’s Play* (Wakefield)
- *The Judgment Day* (York)
- *Everyman*
- *Ralph Roister Doister* (Nicholas Udall)
- *The Honorable History of Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay* (Robert Greene)

Env. #2: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #3: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #4: Prompt Scripts – 2 items


Env. #5: Prompt Script – 1 item

Env. #6: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #7: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #8: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #9: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #10: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #11: Prompt Script – 1 item

Env. #12: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #13: Prompt Scripts – 2 items


Env. #14: Prompt Scripts – 2 items


Env. #15: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #16: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #17: Prompt Scripts – 2 items


Env. #18: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #19: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #20: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #21: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #22: Prompt Script – 1 item


Env. #23: Prompt Script – 1 item

Env. #24: Prompt Scripts – 2 items


(a) Marked for role of Clara Soppitt (Beatrice Brace) with rehearsal schedule tipped in at back
(b) Stage Director’s copy (David Haber) with stage directions and sound cues

Env. #25: Prompt Script – 1 item


**Box #3: Framed Photograph (oversize)**

Studio portrait of 19th century Canadian actress Ida Van Cortland (1855-1924) in the role of Galatea in W.S. Gilbert’s *Pygmalion and Galatea*, bequeathed to Amelia Hall by Mrs. Ida Tavernier McLeish. A note on the back of the photograph in Miss Hall’s hand reads:

Ida Van Courtland
1855-1924
Canadian actress who married Albert Travernier [sic]. She is probably posed here as GALATEA. This portrait left to me by their daughter, Mrs. Ida McLeish, in her will. She had described it to me as “my dearest possession”. I was running the Canadian Repertory Theatre in Ottawa, 1950-54, when Mrs MacLeish [sic] asked me if she might will to me this “dearest possession”. I did not see it until Mrs. MacL died – 1962, I think.

Amelia Hall 1981

(See also 790.20971 G57 Perart Openshlf, *Post-Confederation sources in manuscripts relating to the performing arts, radio, television and film: thematic guide*, for inventory of Public Archives of Canada, Amelia Hall Mss. Coll.)

**Photographs** – 193 items

Reproduced from the collection of Miss Amelia Hall, Toronto (stamped as follows: Original Collection of Miss Amelia Hall, Toronto). These items have been interfiled in the Theatre Photographs collection as follows:
CBC

Tobacco Farm, 1954 (1)
Death of a Salesman, 1958 (1)
The Whiteoaks of Jalna (13)
Wayne & Schuster Special, 1975 (5)

CTV

King Henry V, 1966 Stratford production (3)
Unidentified five-part story in a series about courtrooms (1)

CP

Masterpieces of Comedy, 1962-63; 1963-64 (5)
Passion and Destiny (scene from Othello), 1964 (1)
1964 Ontario Tour (3)
General file, 1955 tour (2)

Canadian Repertory Theatre, Ottawa

Harlequinade, May 2-6, 1950 (1)
Tons of Money, May 1950 (1)
The Glass Menagerie, Feb. 1950 (1)
The Deep Blue Sea, 1953 (1)
Victoria Regina, 1953 (5)
A Doll’s House (1)
General File (8) (see also: Payne, Sam in Theatre Personalities, Canadian)

Crest Theatre

Mrs. Gibbon’s Boys, Nov. 1959 (3)
Hay Fever, May 17-, 1955 (1)

Manitoba Theatre Centre

The Importance of Being Earnest, 1965 (1)
Mountain Playhouse, Montreal

Whiteoaks, 1950 (AH as Adeline Whiteoak) (1)

National Arts Centre, Ottawa

The Easter Egg, Apr. 23-May 9, 1970 (3)
The Killdeer, Apr. 1975 (4)
Can You See Me Yet?, Mar. 1976 (4)

Ottawa Drama League

Eros at Breakfast at Edinburgh Festival, 1949 (2)
General File (1)

Queen’s University, Kingston

Emily Carr, Aug. 6-8, 1960 (2)

Shaw Festival

Forty Years On, 1970 (1)

Stratford Festival

1953  King Richard III (2)
1956  King Henry V
      The Merry Wives of Windsor (2)
1957  Twelfth Night (7)
1961  The Canvas Barricade (2)
1962  Macbeth (1)
      The Tempest (1)
      The Merchant of Venice (university tour) (1)
      As You Like It (university tour)
      Two Gentlemen of Verona (university tour) (1)
1963  The Comedy of Errors (2)
      Cyrano de Bergerac (3)
      Troilus and Cressida (2)
1964  The Country Wife (4 + 5)
King Richard II (1)
Timon of Athens (1)
1966 The Last of the Tsars (2)
King Henry V (2)
1967 The Government Inspector (7; 2 by Desmond Heeley of Amelia Hall in character)
1968 Romeo and Juliet (2)
1969 Hadrian VII (1)
1973 She Stoops to Conquer (4)
Othello (3)
Pericles (4)
1974 King John (13) (11 color photos by AH)

General File (3; 1 of Governor General Massey backstage with AH + Alec Guinness, 1953)

Theatre London

Candida, Nov. 25-Dec. 11, 1976 (4)

Theatre Toronto

The Killing of Sister George, Mar. 1969 (5)

Town Theatre, Ottawa

Death of a Salesman, 1969 (1)

Theatre Personalities, Canadian

Brooke, Pamela (1)
Hall, Amelia (21)
Nickless, Eleanor (1)
Shields, Clayton (1)
Sturgess, Peter (1)
Payne, Sam (1)
Southgate, Charles (see also Canadian Repertory Theatre, General)

Theatre Personalities, Non-Canadian

Dews, Peter (1)
Guthrie, Tyrone (2)
Fillinger, John (1)