

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Mill Mountain Theatre Collection**

Collection Description:

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Title: Mill Mountain Theatre Collection

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Historical Note:

Mill Mountain Playhouse was organized in 1963 as a nonprofit professional summer regional theater using Equity (union) actors, with first performances held in 1964. Beginning in the 1970s, productions utilized a “youth ensemble” company that included a mix of professional and amateur actors. Through 1976, performances were held in the ballroom of the former Rockledge Inn atop Mill Mountain. After that facility was destroyed by fire, the 1977-83 seasons were performed in the Grandin Theater. In December 1983 the group’s name was changed to Mill Mountain Theatre, and it began holding performances in the Center in the Square Building.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists primarily of performance programs from the 1965 through 1997-1998 seasons; only in a very few instances are the playbills of all the season’s performances included. Some programs contain histories of the Mill Mountain Playhouse/Mill Mountain Theatre. For example, 1968 provides a 5-year retrospective, there is a timeline history in the 1982 program, and the 1988-89 Silver Anniversary Season playbills include photographs of prior productions. Some playbills list the entire season’s performance schedule. Season brochures are available for a number of years.

Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: 1965 Season—Program for *Mary, Mary*

Folder 2: 1966 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *South Pacific*; *A Man for All Seasons*; *The Music Man*

Folder 3: 1967 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*; *The Sound of Music*

Folder 4: 1968 Season—Season brochure; program for *Arsenic and Old Lace*

Folder 5: 1972 Season—Programs for: *Camelot*; *Oklahoma*

- Folder 6: 1974, 1975 Seasons—Programs for: *Promises, Promises* (1974); *Kiss Me, Kate* (1975)
- Folder 7: 1976 Season—Season brochure; call for summer stock auditions; programs for: *Guys & Dolls*; *Abie's Irish Rose*; *Girl Crazy*; pamphlet for the 1976-77 Winterschool
- Folder 8: 1977 Season—Season brochure; pamphlet for the call for summer stock auditions; flyers about its new location in the Grandin Theatre; programs for: *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; *The Seven Year Itch*; *The Mousetrap*; *The Sunshine Boys*; correspondence received from The Charles MacArthur Center for American Theatre
- Folder 9: 1978 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *Irene*; *Ten Little Indians*; *Vanities*; *Rodgers & Hart, A Musical Celebration*
- Folder 10: 1979 Season—Programs for: *The Pajama Game*; *Diamond Studs*, *The Life of Jesse James*; *Dames at Sea*; *Oh, Coward!*
- Folder 11: 1980 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *Annie Get Your Gun*; *A Doll's House*
- Folder 12: 1981 Season—Program for *Oklahoma!*
- Folder 13: 1982 Season—Season brochure; program for *This Bright Day*; script of *This Bright Day*, words and music by Milton Granger, book by Jim Ayers, a musical written about Roanoke to celebrate the city's 100th Anniversary
- Folder 14: 1983 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *Anything Goes*; *Guys & Dolls*
- Folder 15: 1983-84 Season—Programs for: *Camelot*; *Annie*
- Folder 16: 1984-85 Season—Season brochure; programs for: *See How They Run*; *The Music Man*; *The Most Happy Fella*; *The Wit and Wisdom of Mark Russell*
- Folder 17: 1985-86 Season—1985-1986 Annual Report; programs for: *Scrooge*; *West Side Story*; *Fiddler on the Roof*; *Henry St.!*
- Folder 18: 1986-87 Season—Program for *Noises Off*
- Folder 19: 1987-88 Season—Programs for: *Oliver*; *The Comedy of Errors*; *Man of LaMancha*; *The Wiz*

Box 2

- Folder 1: 1988-89 Season—Fundraising letter; Programs for: *O. Henry's Christmas Carol*; *The Taming of the Shrew*; *Gypsy*
- Folder 2: 1989-90 Season—Season brochures; programs for: *The All Night Strut*; *My Fair Lady*; *1776*; *The Glass Menagerie*; *You Can't Take It with You*;
- Folder 3: 1990-91, 1991-92 Seasons—Programs for: *A Christmas Carol*; *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten!*
- Folder 4: 1992-93, 1994-95, 1997-98 Seasons—Programs for: *42nd Street*; *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*; *Only a Kingdom*
- Folder 5: 2004-04 Season—Season brochure
- Folder 6: Undated Materials—Fundraising letter; information sheet on Center in the Square/Center on Church facility

