



Richard F. Mason (1929-)

Collection 1944 - 1990

Special Collections Department/University Archives

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**Professor of Drama, actor,
director, and writer**

Introduction to the Collection:

The Richard F. Mason collection at Hofstra University consists of the personal and professional papers of Mason, who was a professor at Hofstra from 1964. The Richard F. Mason papers at Hofstra University consist of scrapbooks covering his work from the late 1940's through his application for the full professor at Hofstra in 1979. In addition, correspondence, playbills, programs, reviews, flyers, and posters comprise the remainder of the materials.

Dr. Richard F. Mason is a professor of Drama as well as a talented artist, who excels as an actor, writer, and director. He arrived at Hofstra University in 1964, after receiving his B.A. in Humanities from Boston College and both his MA. and Ph.D. in Theatre Arts from the University of Wisconsin. The teaching and research interests of Dr. Mason are in theatre styles and forms, twentieth century drama, directing, acting, and cinema. By pursuing his interests, Mason has achieved greatness wherever he went. At Wisconsin, he received the award for "Best Full Length Production" in 1957, became an honorary member of the Florida Players in 1964, and in 1984 was recognized for the twenty years of service to Hofstra University. As an active member of the Hofstra community, he participates in the Annual Shakespeare Festival, has been involved in over thirty major drama productions, and teaches and works with community theatre and New York City productions. Such efforts earned him the Distinguished Faculty Service Award in 1979. In 1982 Mason wrote and directed a tribute to the late Grace Kelly. He was later elected president of the NSAL (National Society of Arts and Letters), an organization designed to encourage young artists and promote public interest.

The Richard Mason Collection is arranged in a series of scrapbooks and papers.

Scrapbooks:

1. The Beginnings
2. Hampton Beach
3. The Green Ram
4. From Wisconsin to New York
5. Richard F. Mason – Portfolio (1965-1979)
6. Richard F. Mason – The Plays (1965-1979)

Papers:

1. Before Hofstra works – arranged by place
2. Certificates
3. Correspondence
4. Print Materials
5. Productions Directed by Mason at Hofstra University
6. Posters
7. Reviews of Plays

Mason, Richard F. (1929-) Papers, 1944-1990.
4.5c.f

Professor of Drama, actor, director, and writer

Conferences: George Sand; Victorians and the World Abroad; and Sean O'Casey Review.

Box 1**Folder #****Description**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | University of Wisconsin 1951-64 flyers, reviews, playbills, Phi Beta[frat.], Alumni Magazine, notes, photographs |
|---|--|

2 Green Ham Theater c. 1957-1961. Clippings. [NOTE: Front page of The Milwaukee Journal Women's Section, August 11, 1957. "At the Sign of the Ram" removed to the Map Case]

3 Green Ham Theater 1958, 1960, 1961 Productions

Programs:

Arms and the Man July 1960 H. Mason (Actor)
Hotel Paradiso August/September, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)
Kind Sir July, 1958 H. Mason(Actor) [2]
Ladies in Retirement July, 1958 no listing
Night Must Fall July, 1961 R. Mason (Actor)
Roomful of Roses August, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)
She Stoops to Conquer August, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)
Summer and Smoke August, 1958 R. Mason (Director)
Tea & Sympathy July/August, 1961 R. Mason (Director)
The Mousetrap August, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)
The Winslow Boy July/August, 1960 R. Mason (Director)
Three Men on a Horse July, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)
Time of the Cuckoo July, 1958 R. Mason (Actor)

Flyers:

Arms and the Man n.d. Starring R. Mason
Hotel Paradiso 1958 with R. Mason [4]
Kind Sir 1958 Starring R. Mason
Ladies in Retirement 1958
Night Must Fall 1961 Starring R. Mason [2]
Roomful of Roses 1958 with R. Mason [3]
She Stoops to Conquer 1958 [4]
Streetcar Named Desire n.d. Directed by R. Mason
Summer and Smoke 1958 [4]

Summer of the 17th Doll 1960-with R. Mason [2]
Tea and Sympathy 1961 Directed by R. Mason
The Winslow Boy 1960 Directed by R. Mason
The Mousetrap 1958 with R. Mason [3]
Three Men on a Horse 1958 Starring R. Mason
Time of the Cuckoo 1958 Starring R. Mason [2]

Italy

- 4 Ridotto Dell'Eliseo (Playhouse in Rome) 1954-55 programs

Montana

- 5 University of Montana 1962 Productions

Florida

- 6 University of Florida 1963-64 Florida Players

Certificates – Personal Information

- 7 Daily Cardinal, Univ. of Wisc., 1958
National Collegiate Players, Honorary Dramatic
Fraternity, Univ. of Wisc. N.d.; Awards Council
Award for Best Full Length Production, Wisconsin
Players, Wisc. Union Play Circle, 1956-57;
Florida Players, Honorary Membership, 1964; Pen
Drawing, n.d.; 20 Years of Service, Hofstra University, May 4, 1984
Wisconsin Players Present "Awards Council Award" '56-'57
National Collegiate Players-Univ. of Wisc.
The Florida Players-Honorary Member 1964
The Daily Cardinal 1958
Resume 1958-1980
Thesis – From Script to Scenario – Univ. of Wisc. 1952

Correspondence

- 8 General Correspondence (c.1960-1991)
9 Correspondence and Print Materials Suzanne Lederer (1986-1989)
10 Correspondence and Print Materials Shahnaz Ovey [Pakravanj 1980-1989]
11 Correspondence and Print Materials Scott Eck (n.d.)

Print Materials

- 12 Student Papers (1960s & 1980s)
13 Print Materials 1971-1990)
14 Hand and typewritten notes (n.d.)
15 Hofstra – Other Productions 1975-87
16 Non-Hofstra Productions 1977-87

17 Photographs

Box 2

Print Materials

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1 | Playbills |
| 2/3 | Playbills (Signed and annotated) – Including:
Matthew Parent, Suzanne Lederer, Joe Morton, Mel Johnson Jr.,
Scott Eck, Rosemczire Santini, Susan Varon, Essen H, Susan Edwards,
Katheryn Kaufman, Jacob Harran, Tom Savage, Patrizia Norcia,
Joe Pagano, Kevine Kane, Tom Donaghy, Dave Shatran |
| 4 | Personal correspondence and Thank you's |
| 5 | Print Materials-The Theatre Annual 1967, National Society of Arts and Letters
1988-1990 |

Box 3

Productions Directed by Richard Mason – Hofstra University

- | <u>Folder #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-----------------|---|
| 1 | As You Like It – playbill – March, 1983 |
| 2 | Bell, Book, and Candle – playbills, congrats. – c. 1982 |
| 3 | The Children's Hour – playbills, memo – c. 1982 |
| 4 | A Clearing in the Woods – playbills, review of play, directorial study, congrats. –
c. 1978 |
| 5 | The Contrast – reviews – Oct., 1987 |
| 6 | The Crucible – playbill, review of play, congrats. – Dec., 1970 |
| 7 | Entertaining Mr. Sloane – playbills, reviews, press release, notes, director's note
– Nov., 1985 |
| 8 | The Frozen Deep – playbill, flyer – c. 1978 |
| 9 | Garden District - student papers, playbill – 1983 |
| 10 | The Great God Brown – playbill, photograph – c. 1988 |
| 11 | He Who gets Slapped – stage managers report, telegrams, congrats. 1966 |
| 12 | Heartbreak House – playbill, clippings, notes, congrats. – Dec., 1968 |
| 13 | Idiot's Delight – playbill, clippings, notes/memos – Oct., 1975 |
| 14 | Ladies in Retirement – clippings, notes, congrats. April, 1977 |
| 15 | Love's Labour's Lost – Playbills, revisions, notes, congrats., memo's – Mar., 1975 |
| 16 | Macbeth – playbills, notes, memos, congrats. – March 1981 |
| 17 | Measure for Measure – clippings, memos, playbills, congrats. – March, 1973 |

- 18 A Midsummer's Night Dream – telegram, playbills, clippings, press release - March 1964
- 19 The Most Happy Fella – playbill, memos, clippings, notes, congrats. – May, 1976
- 20 Othello – playbill, invitation, note – March, 1990
- 21 Rope –clippings, playbill, congrats. – c. 1977
- 22 Royal Gambit – playbill, memos, notes, clippings, telegrams – Dec., 1971
- 23 Shadow & Substance – playbills, notes, telegrams, congrats – Nov., 1973
- 24 Six Characters in Search of an Author – playbills, notes – c. 1979
- 25 The Skin of Our Teeth – playbill, memos, notes – Oct., 1982
- 26 Summer and Smoke – telegrams and mailgrams – 1969
- 27 Summer of the Seventeenth Doll – reception invite, clippings, notes, congrats. (American College Theatre Festival XI) – Poster for American College Theatre Festival XI removed to Map Case - 1978
- 28 Tango – playbill, telegram, synopsis – c. 1980
- 29 Twelfth Night – playbills, clippings, congrats – March, 1988
- 30 Twelve Angry Jurors playbills, telegrams, clippings, notes – April, 1987
- 31 Two Electra's – press release, playbill, telegrams – 1967
- 32 The Visit – playbills, notes, mailgrams, congrats. – 1976
- 33 The Winter's Tale – playbills, clippings, notes, memos, congrats. March, 1979 (posters)
- 34 A tribute to Grace Kelly – Written and directed by R. Mason

Box 4 (Oversized)

Folder

Description

Posters

- 1 A clearing in the Woods – c. 1978
- 2 The Contrast (Oversized program & posters) – 1987
- 3 Easter, The Great God Brown, The Imaginary Invalid, The Merchant of Venice, Becoming Memories, and Hofstra Dance Theatre (1 poster)
- 4 Entertaining Mr. Sloane – 1985
- 5 Garden District – 1983
- 6 The Great God Brown (Florida Players)
- 7 The Great God Brown (Hofstra) – c. 1988
- 8 Heartbreak House (flyers) – 1968
- 9 Idiot's Delight – 1975
- 10 Italian Heritage Day Symposium – 1986
- 11 Ladies in Retirement – 1977
- 12 Macbeth – 1981
- 13 The Most Happy Fella – 1976
- 14 Rope (Florida Players)

- 15 Rope (Hofstra) – 1977
- 16 Shadow & Substance – 1973
- 17 Six Characters in Search of an Author - 1979
- 18 The Skin of Our Teeth – 1982
- 19 Summer of the Seventeenth Doll (Oversized program – 1978)
- 20 Tango – 1980
- 21 Twelve Angry Jurors – 1987
- 22 The Visit – 1976
- 23 The Winters Tale – 1979

Reviews of Plays

- 24 A Clearing in the Woods – 2/10/78 – Chronicle
- 25 Bell, Book & Candle – 3/4/82 – Chronicle
- 26 Children’s Hour – 11/7/74 – Chronicle
 - Children’s Hour – 10/31/74 – Chronicle
 - Children’s Hour – 11/11/74 – Evening Forum
 - Children’s Hour – 10/10/74 – Chronicle
- 27 Contrast – 10/15/87 – Chronicle
- 28 Crucible – 12/3/70 – Chronicle
- 29 Entertaining Mr. Sloane – 11/11/85 – The Inner Voice
- 30 Frozen Deep – 4/13/78 – Chronicle
- 31 George Sands Conference – 4/24/78 – Evening Forum
- 32 He Who Gets Slapped – 11/10/66 – Chronicle
 - He Who Gets Slapped – 10/6/66 – Chronicle
 - He Who Gets Slapped – 11/3/66 – Chronicle
- 33 Heartbreak House – 12/5/68 – Chronicle
 - Heartbreak House – 2/17/69 – Evening Forum
- 34 Love’s Labour’s Lost – 3/3/75 – Evening Forum
- 35 Macbeth – Spring 1981 – Long Island Alive
 - Macbeth – 3/19/81 – Chronicle
 - Macbeth – 3/13/81 – Newsday, Part 2
 - Macbeth - 3/15/81 – Daily News
 - Macbeth – 3/5/81 – Glen Cove Pilot
 - Macbeth – n.d. – Hofstra News paper flyer
- 36 Measure for Measure – 3/12/73 – Evening Forum
 - Measure for Measure – 2/9/73 – Chronicle
 - Measure for Measure – 3/15/73 – Long Island Catholic, p. 12
 - Measure for Measure – 3/15/73 – Chronicle
- 37 Midsummer Night’s Dream – 3/1/84 - Chronicle
 - Midsummer Night’s Dream – 3/9/84 – Newsday
 - Midsummer Night’s Dream – 3/10/74 – New York Times
 - Midsummer Night’s Dream – 3/15/84 – Chronicle
 - Midsummer Night’s Dream – 3/12/84- New Voice

- 38 Othello – 3/9/90 – Newsday, Weekend, p. 10
Othello – 3/15/90 – Chronicle
- 39 Romeo & Juliet – 5/11/67 – Chronicle
Romeo & Juliet – 5/11/77 – Chronicle
- 40 Rope – 11/17/77 – Chronicle
Rope – 11/20/77 – Chronicle
- 41 Royal Gambit – 12/2/71 – Chronicle
- 42 Shadow & Substance – 10/25/73 – Chronicle
- 43 Six Characters in Search of an Author – 11/15/79 – Chronicle
- 44 Summer and Smoke – 10/27/69 – Evening Forum
Summer and Smoke – 10/24/69 – Newsday
Summer and Smoke – 10/23/69 – L.I. Commercial Review
Summer and Smoke – 10/9/69 – Chronicle
Summer and Smoke – 10/30/69 – L.I. Commercial Review
Summer and Smoke – 11/6/69 – Chronicle
Summer and Smoke – 10/31/69 – L.I. Press
Summer and Smoke – 10/30/69 – L.I. Press
- 45 Summer of the 17th Doll – 1/30/79 – H.U. Newsletter
Summer of the 17th Doll – 2/1/79 – Chronicle
- 46 Tango – 11/20/80 – Chronicle
- 47 The Great God Brown – 11/3/88 – Chronicle
The Great God Brown – 12/16/65 – Chronicle
The Great God Brown – 10/24/88 – Newsday, Part II, p. 2
The Great God Brown – 10/14/88 – Newsday, Weekend, p. 14
- 48 Twelve Angry Jurors – 4/6/87 – The Inner Voice
- 49 Two Electra's – 11/16/67 – Chronicle
Two Electra's – 11/9/67 – Chronicle
Two Electra's – 11/2/67 – Newsday
- 50 Winter's Tale – 3/11/79 – New York Times – Lively Arts
Winter's Tale – 3/19/79 – Evening Forum
Winter's Tale – n.d. - Hofstra Newspaper flyers
Winter's Tale – 2/79 – The Hofstra Report
Winter's Tale – 3/8/79 - Chronicle