

DE LAPOUYADE (ROBERT) COLLECTION
(Ms. 1011, 1040, 2629)
Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2003
Revised 2010

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SUMMARY

Size.	0.5 linear feet, 2 manuscript volumes
Geographic locations.	New Orleans, La.; Covington, La.; Atlanta, Ga.; Ocean Springs, Miss.; Memphis, Tenn.
Inclusive dates.	1848-1936
Bulk dates.	N/A
Language.	English, French
Summary.	Business correspondence, artwork, and related papers of Robert de Lapouyade (1877-1937), scenic artist of New Orleans. Includes programs of theatrical showings.
Restrictions on access.	No restrictions. If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
Related collections.	None.
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	De Lapouyade (Robert) Collection; Mss. 1011, 1040, 2629; Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack location(s).	B:63, P:19, OS:D

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Robert de Lapouyade (1877-1937), born in St. Tammany Parish, La., to Maurice and Angèle de Lapouyade, was a scenic artist of New Orleans. He married Alice Perret in 1900 and the two had five children, Olga, Robert Jr., Norman, Carmen, and Aline.

He served as an apprentice under Harry Dressel, an established stage designer in New Orleans, and in 1903, went into business for himself. De Lapouyade designed scenes for numerous New Orleans theaters, including the Grand Opera House (1902-1903), Athletic Park (1903), Newcomb Theater (1903-1904), the Lyric Theater (1904-1905), the Winter Garden Theater (1907-1908), and the Saenger Theater (1926-1937), as well as those in other southern states. He died in 1937.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Robert de Lapouyade Collection consists of correspondence, theater programs, postcards, photographs, paintings and drawings, clippings, and a scrapbook concerning his career as a professional scenic artist. The correspondence primarily is with business firms, theaters, and dramatic clubs in New Orleans, La., and Atlanta, Ga., and with schools in Louisiana and Mississippi. Programs are for plays and operas in New Orleans, postcards depict locations in New Orleans, and photographs depict his work and other subjects in New Orleans theater life. The collection also includes watercolors, drawings, printed opera libretti, and a scrapbook of clippings, telegrams, letters, and programs about de Lapouyade's work as a scenery painter, decorator, and artist throughout the South (1905-1911).

1848-1936

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**Series I, Correspondence, 1911-1935**

Correspondence consists mainly of business letters to Robert de Lapouyade from various correspondents at Maison Blanche; New Orleans Railway and Light Company; French Opera Association; Saenger Theatres. Inc.; Yaarab Temple Shrine; Mount Carmel Academy, Lafayette, Louisiana; Louisiana Academy of Motion Picture Arts, Mandeville, Louisiana; and the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Ocean Springs, Mississippi regarding jobs, the purchase of supplies, and payments. One letter, from Antonio Rovescalli, is written in French (July 3, 1911).

A postcard from John Berges mentions the fire which destroyed the French Opera House in New Orleans (Dec. 5, 1919).

Series II, Artwork, 1877-1916, undated

Artwork includes a number of De Lapouyade's sketches and watercolors of landscapes, buildings, and models for scenery.

Series III, Printed Items and Photographs, 1848-1936

A number of printed items include programs for theaters such as Tulane Theatre (1899-1929), St. Charles Theatre (1898), Saenger Theatre (1927), the Grand Opera House (undated), and others. Also included are programs for operas and ballets such as *L'Almée* (1848), *La Dame Blanche* (1859), *Jerusalem* (1860), and *Herodias* (undated). An issue of *Werlein's Journal of Music* (New Orleans, 1884) and a souvenir pamphlet of Fairyland Park in Memphis (1906) are also found in the collection.

Newspaper clippings describe and praise Mr. de Lapouyade's work at the French Opera House, his designs for carnival floats, and his decorative work in a number of New Orleans theatres, stores, and schools (1901-1936, undated).

Also included are photographs of stage sets, Mardi Gras floats, a camp at Galveston Bay, the Varieties Theatre in New Orleans, and a portrait of dancer Mlle. de Biazi (French Opera Season, 1896-97). A photograph of De Lapouyade's stencil for marking stage settings, and a photograph of a spear made for an opera at the French Opera House in New Orleans are also included (undated).

Blank postcards include images of the Orpheum Theatre, Athenaeum and Shriners Temple, Holmes Restaurant, Tulane and Crescent Theatre Arcade, Recital Hall, Southern College of Music, and the Cave in the Grunewald Hotel in New Orleans (undated).

Series IV, Manuscript Volumes, 1898-1911

Manuscript volumes include a sketchbook (1898) and a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings, telegrams, letters, and programs relating to De Lapouyade's work (1905-1911).

INDEX TERMS

Clippings.

De Lapouyade, Robert, 1877-1937.

French Opera House (New Orleans, La.)

Letters (correspondence)

Photographs.

Postcards.

Scene painters--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Scene painting--Louisiana--New Orleans.

School decoration--Southern States.

Scrapbooks.

Theater programs.

Theater--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Theaters--Decoration--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Theaters--Stage-setting and scenery--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Theatrical companies--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Watercolors (paintings)

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
B:63	1	1	Correspondence (1911-1935)
		2-3	Programs (1899-1929)
		4	Postcards (undated)
		5	Photographs (undated)
		6	Sketches (1877-1916, undated)
		7	Watercolors (1905, 1908, undated)
		8	Newspaper clippings (1901-1936, undated)
		2	9
	10		Programs (1848-1917, undated)
	11		Photographs of stencil and spear (undated)
	P:19	--	--
OS:D	--	1	Photograph of St. Charles Players (Season 1923-24) 2 photographs of French Opera House (copyright 1902 by John H. Teunisson) 2 paintings (undated)
		2	Grand Opera House Programs (undated) St. Charles Theatre Program (1898) <i>Werlein's Journal of Music</i> (1884) Portions of newspapers: <i>Times Picayune</i> (July 5, 1914; March 5, 1916) "Foto's Folly Theatre" (undated) "Moose Carnival Ball is Scene of Pretty Tableaux" (undated)