

Title: Hildegarde

Reference Code: Mss-0537

Inclusive Dates: 1950-1992

Quantity: 0.03 cu. ft.

Location: Sm. Mss.

Abstract: The Incomparable Hildegarde was an internationally known entertainer. Hildegarde Loretta Sell was born in Adell, WI, on February 1, 1906. Her family lived in New Holstein, WI, before moving to Milwaukee when Hildegarde was 12.. She began her musical career at age 16 playing piano in silent movie houses. She later studied music at Marquette University before she toured with various vaudeville acts. She achieved her first great success in London and Paris, where she refined her renowned cabaret style nightclub act. She returned to the U.S. and at one point was the highest-paid cabaret singer in the world. In 1992, she was inducted into the Wisconsin Performing Artists Hall of Fame. She passed away in 2005 at the age of 99.

Scope and Content: Contains programs, flyers, articles, clippings, and misc. items relating to this former Milwaukee entertainer, pianist, and comedienne who was born in Adell, WI in 1906. This collection also includes a cassette tape of "A Night in Old Milwaukee" by Hildegarde.

Access and Use: no restrictions

Language: English

Administrative Note: The following items were donated by UWM Urban Archives:

- 1979 20th Anniversary Symphony Ball Hildegarde recording and message on special invitation
- "A Night in Old Milwaukee" Hildegarde approx. 2 min. cassette #111

The collection was processed on May 21, 1996 by Steve Daily. Material was added to the collection on February 23, 2001 and processed by Kevin Abing.

Note: Hildegarde's gloves, dress, and handkerchief in Museum Collection

See Also: Lonnborg, Kenneth Mss. for more Hildegarde material

PROGRAMS	FOLDER #
Program and menu of Hildegarde debut from Hotel Schroeder, 1950. (2 copies)	1
Pabst Theatre program with clippings attached, 1955	1
Sample program highlighting Hildegarde's turning 86 years old, 1992 (donor: Hildegarde 4/92)	1
Program, Palace Theatre, 1968	1
FLYERS	FOLDER #
Hildegarde at Milwaukee Athletic Club's Emerald Room, n.d	1

Wisconsin Performing Artists Hall of Fame installation of Hildegard at Performing Arts Center co-sponsored by Milwaukee Sentinel, April 12, 1992. (2 copies)	1
ARTICLES AND CLIPPINGS	FOLDER #
Article on Hildegard in <i>PAC News</i> Apr/May/Jun 1992	1
Clipping in <i>Milwaukee Sentinel</i> by Jay Joslyn 4/3/92	1
MISCELLANEOUS	FOLDER #
Listing of Hildegard materials at Marquette University Memorial Library Department of Special Collections and University Archives, 1921-1982	1
Signed publicity photo made out to Milwaukee County Historical Society, 1992 (donor: Hildegard 4/92).	1
1979 20th Anniversary Symphony Ball Hildegard recording and message on special invitation	1
RECORDING	LOCATION
"A Night in Old Milwaukee" Hildegard approx. 2 min. cassette #111	Multimedia Collection