# NDSU Institute for Regional Studies & University Archives

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# Finding Aid to the R. Tal Russell Stage Drawings and Photographs Portfolio

R. Tal Russell Stage Drawings and Photographs Portfolio Russell, R. Tal, Stage Drawing and Photographs Portfolio, 1960-1963 2 linear ft.

Biography Scope and Content Box and Folder List

#### **OVERVIEW**

**Links:** Finding Aid to the Frederick G. Walsh Papers, 1944-11036

Finding Aid to the <u>Little Country Theatre – Prairie Stage</u>
Finding Aid to the <u>Little Country Theatre – Print Materials</u>
Finding Aid to the M. Joy Erickson Papers, 1981-11037

Finding Aid to the Little Country Theatre – North Dakota Repertory Theatre

Finding Aid to the <u>Little Country Theatre – Production Posters</u>
Finding Aid to the <u>Little Country Theatre – Slide Collection</u>

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives.

**Provenance:** Donated to the University Archives by Professor Don Larew, Theatre Department, in 2001 (Acc. 341).

**Property rights:** The University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. R. Tal Russell Stage Drawings and Photographs Portfolio, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

R. Tal Russell was born in Lake, Mississippi on May 31, 1931. Russell earned both his Bachelor of Fine Arts (1958) and his Master's (1959) degree at University of Arizona in Tucson AZ. He

then earned his Doctorate (1968) at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Prior to coming to NDSU in 1968, Tal Russell worked in many theatre positions and teaching positions, including High School Drama Teacher, Technical Director/Director of the Children's Theatre at American University, Summer Theatre owner (Arizona and Michigan), and Assistant Director of Student Activities at the University of Iowa. He joined NDSU as the Executive Director of Theatre in1968. Russell directed productions and taught courses in acting, directing, history of theatre and dramatic criticism. During his tenure at NDSU, Russell also coordinated summer theatre workshops for North Dakota high school teachers. One of his major accomplishments was bringing to NDSU the North Dakota Repertory Theatre in 1981, which ran summers through the 1988 season. Russell retired and was named professor emeritus in 1989, following 21 years at NDSU. After retirement Russell ran a theatre company for Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff AZ for five years. He passed away on May 4<sup>th</sup> of 2007 in Plantation, Florida.

#### **SCOPE & CONTENT**

The material in R. Tal Russell's portfolio was donated to the University Archives by Donald Larew, Professor Emeritus, Theatre Department, NDSU in 2001. The material, albeit incomplete, had been left in the department after Dr. Russell's retirement and Professor Larew felt it would be appropriate in the NDSU, University Archives. The drawing and photographs in the portfolio are from approximately 1960-1963, and were probably produced by Dr. Russell while he was the Technical Director/Director, Children's Theatre, American University, Washington, D.C., from 1960-1964.

#### **BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

#### **Case Drawer/Item**

#### MAP CASE DRAWER 103

103/1 Photograph of Russell under stage lights

#### **Miscellaneous Stage Drawings**

103/2	Clown, Ran Away Automobile Detail Drawing - May 1960
103/3	Clown, Ran Away Lamp Detail Drawing – May 1960
103/4	Clown, Ran Away Tree Detail Drawing – May 1960
103/5	Stage Drawing- Bill of Materials n.d.
103/6	Stage drawing n.d.

Stage drawing with lighting n.d.

Stage Drawing with Roll Ceiling lighting n.d.

# **Painting**

103/8 Painting Mock Up n.d

#### Fashion 1961, Scarecrow 1961

103/9	Fashion Stage photo- 1961
103/10	Fashion Stage Photo- 1961
103/11	Scarecrow Stage Photo- 1961

### Playboy of the western world

103/12 Drawing of Stage- 1962

#### **Measure for Measure- 1962**

103/13	Measure for Measure- B/W stage drawings(4)- 1962
103/14	Measure for Measure- B/W stage drawings(4)- 1962
103/15	Measure for Measure- Color Stage Painting- 1962
103/16	Measure for Measure- Color Stage drawings- 1962
103-17	Measure for Measure- B/W Stage Photograph- 1962

# **Desire Under the Elms- 1963**

103-18	Lower level Stage Drawing- 1963
103-19	Upper level Stage Drawing -1963
103-20	Color Stage Drawing of Upper and Lower stage- 1963
103/21	Color stage drawing-1963
103/22	Upper stage Photo- 1963
103/23	Performance Photo- 1963

# **Red Riding Hood-1960**

Foliage Elevation-1960

103/25	Front Elevation -1960
103/26	Rear Elevation – 1960
103/27	Rear Elevation Cave- 1960
103/28	Scaled Elevation- 1960
103/29	Ground Plan Act 1- 1960
103/30	Ground Plan Act 2- 1960
103/31	Ground Plan Act 3-1960
103/32	Color drawing House- 1960
103/33	Color Drawing Cave- 1960
103/34	Color Drawing Misc. Pieces- 1960
103/35	Color Drawing Trees- 1960
103/36	Color Drawing Foliage- 1960
103/37	Photo of House – 1960
103/39	Photo of Cave- 1960