Finding Aid to the
John Remme Theatrical Career Papers

Remme John, 1935-1992
1 linear ft.
Collection number: Mss 191

OVERVIEW

Links: Finding aid to the John Remme Photograph Collection

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BIOGRAPHY

John (Jack) Marlen Remme was born November 21, 1935 in Fargo, North Dakota. His parents were Amos Engvald and Solveig Alvina Remme. The family moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota when he was very young. He graduated from West Side High School and attended the University of Minnesota from 1953 to 1955, after which he left for New York City to pursue the theater. He appeared on the stage at dinner theaters, regional theaters, and on Broadway. He also appeared on television. He appeared in such Broadway shows as The Ritz, 1975; The Royal Family, 1976; Can Can, 1981; Alice in Wonderland, 1982;
and *Gypsy*, 1989. He was also a well known performer at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Connecticut where he performed in nineteen productions. He was a member of the Actors’ Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild, and Actors Fund of America. In 1991 he received a Drama Desk nomination for his Broadway performance as Senex in *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum*. It was also his last performance before his death on January 18, 1992. He was survived by his sister, Audrey Remme. Roseland of Palm Desert, California.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The **John Remme Theatrical Career Papers** consist of the following series: Theatrical Productions, Theaters and their Productions, Music Concerts, Types of Theatrical Productions, and Various Productions. All series are arranged alphabetically.

The **Theatrical Productions Series** consists of 43 different plays. Information includes playbills, contact sheets, reviews, newspaper advertisements, flyers, newspaper articles, and some correspondence to Remme regarding productions. *Alice In Wonderland* includes a homemade valentine with a picture of Remme as his character Tweedledee. *The Five O’clock Girl* includes color photocopies of some photographs. Productions are from 1972 to 1991 (dates were not ascertained for all productions).

The **Theaters and their Productions Series** includes productions from six different theaters. The Goodspeed Opera House is further divided by year from 1969 to 1974, excluding 1973. The organization of these productions by theater was originated by John Remme himself. Productions are dated from 1969 to 1991. Information includes play bills, contact sheets, reviews, and newspaper clippings. The Vagabond King at the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera House includes color photocopies of some photographs.

The **Music Concert Series** contains information on three music concerts in which Jack Remme participated. Information includes programs, reviews, and newspaper clippings. All three are from 1990.

The **Types of Theatrical Productions Series** is divided into two groups: Dinner Theaters and Stock Touring Shows. Information includes playbills, newspaper clippings, reviews, and souvenir programs. Productions are from 1967 to 1969.

The **Various Productions Series** is named for a number of productions that John Remme had organized together as “various productions.” Shows date from 1955 to 1976. Reviews, playbills, and newspaper clippings are included. Information on a production from when he attended the University of Minnesota is also included in the series.

**SEPARATIONS RECORD**

The following non-manuscript items have been removed from the John Remme Papers and place in the Institute photograph collection.
Photographs (Institute Photograph 2056)
- 352 photographs from many of the productions of which John Remme was a member. Photographs include pictures of scenes of plays, with or without Remme, photographs backstage, photographs of other cast members, and photographs from cast parties and other personal events.
- 4 slides from various plays

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

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Theatrical Productions Series

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1/3 Anything Goes, Equity Library Theater, 1981
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1/13 42nd Street, Coachlight Dinner Theater, 1987
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1/19 Guys and Dolls, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 1971
1/20 Gypsy, Tour and Broadway, 1989
1/21 High Button Shoes, Goodspeed Opera House, 1982
1/22 High Button Shoes, Goodspeed Opera House, 1982
1/23 How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying, Darien Dinner Theater 1981; Starlight Musicals, 1975
1/24 Kiss Me Kate, Starlight Musicals, 1991
2/1 Lock Up Your Daughters, Goodspeed Opera House, 1982
2/2 Look Homeward Angel
2/3 Louisiana Purchase, Goodspeed Opera House, 1975
2/4 Love’s Labor Lost, The New York Acting Unit
2/5 Mousetrap, Studio Arena Theater, 1980
Out of This World

Promises, Promises, Four Seasons Dinner Theater, 1974; Claridge Casino and Hotel, 1985; An Evening Dinner Theater, 1984

Promises, Promises

The Rise of David Levinsky, American Jewish Theater, 1983

The Ritz, Longacre Theater, 1974, The National Theater, 1974

Romeo and Juliet, New York Acting Unit, 1983

The Rothschilds, Morris A. Mechanic Theater, 1972; The National Theater 1972; Royal Alexandra Theater, 1972

The Royal Family, Helen Hayes Theater, 1976; Brooklyn Academy of Music, 1976

The Royal Family, Kennedy Center, 1976; McCarter Theater, 1976

1776, Paper Mill Playhouse, 1988

Sweet Adeline, Goodspeed Opera House, 1977

Teddy & Alice, Morris A. Mechanic Theater, 1987

Tomfoolery, Equity Library Theater, 1985

Tooth of Crime, Hartford Stage Co., 1986

A Touch of the Poet, Yale Repertory Theater, 1983

Vagabond King, Spring Opera at the Palace of Fine Arts, 1980

Wait Until Dark, Naples Dinner Theater

You Can’t Take It With You, Jupiter Theater, 1987

Theaters and Their Productions Series

Goodspeed Opera House, 1969

Boy Friend

Lock Up Your Daughter

Peter Pan,

Tom Piper

Goodspeed Opera House, 1970

Little Mary Sunshine,

King of Schnorrs

Goodspeed Opera House, 1971

Bloomer Girl

Girl Crazy

Hubba Hubba

Goodspeed Opera House, 1972

Good News

Sunny

Where’s Charley

Goodspeed Opera House, 1974

Dubarry Was a Lady

Lady Be Good

Harrisburg Arena Theater

Fantasticks, 1968,
Mousetrap, 1967
The Three Penny Opera, 1967

Keweenaw Playhouse

Dark of The Moon, 1965
A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, 1965
The Private Ear, The Public Eye, 1965
Rashomon, 1965
The Streets of New York, 1965

The Little Theater On-the-Square

Don't Drink the Water, 1970
The Star-spangled Girl, 1970
A Street Car Named Desire, 1970

The MUNY

Hans Christian Anderson, 1991
Kiss Me Kate, 1991

The New Amsterdam Theater Company

Jubilee, 1986
George White’s Scandal
Sweet Adeline, 1985

Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera

Cinderella, 1981
Annie Get Your Gun, 1981

Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera

The Vagabond King, 1981
Seesaw, 1981
The Sound of Music, 1981

Music Concert Series

City Lights Concert, 1990
The Gershwin Celebration, 1990
Wall to Wall Gershwin, 1990

Types of Theatrical Productions Series

Dinner Theaters—

Charley’s Aunt, The Showboat Dinner Theater, 1968
A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, Cavalier Dinner Playhouse, 1966
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Cavalier Dinner Playhouse, 1968-69
Generation, The Showboat Dinner Theater, 1967; Windmill Dinner Theater, 1969
Ninotchka, Limestone Valley Dinner Theater, 1969
Once Upon A Mattress, Cavalier Dinner Playhouse, 1969
Potpourri, The Showboat Dinner Theater, 1967
Strange Bedfellows, Cavalier Dinner Playhouse, 1967

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Stock Touring Shows—

Can Can, Cape Cod Melody Tent, 1967; North Shore Music Theater, 1967;
South Shore Music Circus, 1967; Tappan Zee Playhouse, 1968

Fantasticks, The, Cape Cod Melody Tent, 1968; Storrowton Theater, 1968

Various Productions Series

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Various shows

Anything Goes, Strawhat Theater; and The Heights Players, 1976

Auntie Mame, Strawhat Theater

Barnabas Among the Animals, Extension, Inc., 1968

Bell, Book, and Candle, Town and Country Players, 1957

Finian’s Rainbow, Strawhat Theater,

Hamlet, Shakespeare for Seven Players Co.

Home of the Brave, Strawhat Theater

I Remember Mama, Star Theater Company,

Irma La Douce, R.P. Playhouse, 1971 and Playhouse On The Mall, 1973

Misalliance, University of Minnesota, 1955

My Fat Friend, Candlewood Theater

Much Ado About Nothing, New York Acting Unit

No Way In, 1967

One for the Money, Two for the Show, Three to Make Ready, 1972

The Silver Cord, Town and Country Players, 1957

Time Out for Ginger, Star Theater Company

We Love Adventure, Forsom Productions, 1961

Wrong-Gone Dreamers, Extension, Inc.