



## THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

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| <b>NAME OF COLLECTION</b> | MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY  |
| <b>ACCESSION NO</b>       | 2003.0088  |
| <b>CATEGORY</b>           | University, official   |
| <b>ACTIVITY</b>           | Theatres, Repertory theatre company  |
| <b>DATE RANGE</b>         | 1966-1995  |
| <b>SIZE OF COLLECTION</b> | 18 boxes   |
| <b>HISTORICAL NOTE</b>    | <p>Melbourne Theatre Company was established at the University of Melbourne in 1953 where it was first known as the Union Theatre Repertory Company. It was originally administered and directed by John Sumner, an English theatre professional. Sumner was the driving force at MTC for thirty- four years, turning the Union Theatre into the nation's largest theatre company. Ray Lawler and Wal Cherry were the Artistic Directors of the company from the mid-1950s when Sumner took a position with the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust. He returned in 1959 and remained with MTC until 1987. Roger Hodgman led the company from 1984 until 1999 when Simon Phillips became Artistic Director. In 1966 the company moved from the University to the Russell Street Theatre. Its subsequent venues were St Martin's Theatre in South Yarra, the Athenaeum in Collins Street. It left the latter in 1984 for the Playhouse Theatre at the Victorian Arts Centre and in 1994 moved from the Russell Street Theatre to the Fairfax Theatre at the Arts Centre.</p> |
| <b>DATE OF TRANSFER</b>   | 10 October 2003  |
| <b>ACCESS CONDITIONS</b>  | Access: Restricted   |
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b>        | <p>Production files for plays by non-Australian authors which have not been adapted specifically for the Australian stage, containing a variable mixture of material including prompt copies of scripts, sound effects/music tapes, set designs, props lists, lighting data, rehearsal schedules.</p>  |

| <b>Box No</b> | <b>Series No</b> | <b>Description</b>                              | <b>Date</b> |
|---------------|------------------|---|-------------|
|               |                  | <b>1960's</b>                                   |             |
| 13            |                  | Romeo and Juliet (William Shakespeare)          | 1966        |
|               |                  | <b>1970's</b>                                   |             |
| 1             |                  | Much Ado About Nothing (William Shakespeare)    | 1975        |
| 4             |                  | Othello (William Shakespeare)                   | 1976        |
| 4             |                  | Merchant of Venice (William Shakespeare)        | 1977        |
|               |                  | <b>1980's</b>                                   |             |
| 3             |                  | Amadeus (Peter Shaffer)                         | 1981        |
| 5             |                  | Mourning Becomes Electra ( Eugene O'Neil)       | 1981        |
| 11            |                  | Hedda Gabler (Henrik Ibsen)                     | 1982        |
| 13            |                  | The Naked Gun (Harry Reade)                     | 1982        |
| 3 & 4         |                  | As You Like (William Shakespeare)               | 1982        |
| 2 & 6         |                  | Carmen  | 1984        |
| 17            |                  | Sweeney Todd (Stephen Sondheim)                 | 1987        |
| 2             |                  | Twelfth Night (William Shakespeare)             | 1987        |
| 6             |                  | The Proposal (Anton Chekhov)                    | 1988        |
| 6             |                  | A Respectable Wedding (Bertolt Brecht)          | 1988        |
| 12            |                  | Romeo and Juliet (William Shakespeare)          | 1988        |
| ?             |                  | Separation (Tom Kempinski)                      | 1988        |
| 4             |                  | Little Murderers (Jules Feiffer)                | 1989        |
| 6             |                  | The Cherry Orchard (Anton Chekhov)              | 1989        |
| 13            |                  | The Recruiting Officer (George Farquhar)        | 1989        |
| 18            |                  | See How They Run (Philip King)                  | 1989        |
|               |                  | <b>1990's</b>                                   |             |
| 1             |                  | The Tempest (William Shakespeare)               | 1990        |
| 6             |                  | Heidi Chronicles (Wendy Wasserstein)            | 1990        |
| 6             |                  | Mad Forest (Carol Churchill)                    | 1991        |
| 14            |                  | The Taming of the Shrew (William Shakespeare)   | 1991        |
| 2 & 14        |                  | Hayfever (Noel Coward)                          | 1991        |
| 5             |                  | The Marriage of Figaro (A. Murch & P. De Caron) | 1991        |
| ?             |                  | Hedda Gabler (Bertolt Brecht)                   | 1991        |
| ?             |                  | Macbeth Expirations (William Shakespeare)       | 1991        |
| 8             |                  | A Month of Sundays (Bob Larbey)                 | 1992        |
| 2             |                  | When She Danced (Martin Sherman)                | 1992        |
| 8             |                  | For Julia (Margareta Garpe)                     | 1992        |
| 10            |                  | Dancing at Lughnasa (Brian Friel)               | 1992        |
| 18            |                  | Game of Love and Chance (Pierre de Marivaux)    | 1992        |
| 10            |                  | A View from the Bridge (Arthur Miller)          | 1992        |
| 1 & 14        |                  | I Hate Hamlet (Paul Rudnik)                     | 1992        |

| <b>Box No</b> | <b>Series No</b> | <b>Description</b>                             | <b>Date</b> |
|---------------|------------------|--|-------------|
| 16            |                  | The Gift of Gorgan (Peter Shaffer)             | 1993        |
| 11            |                  | The Dutch Courtesan (John Marston)             | 1993        |
| 9             |                  | Much Ado About Nothing (William Shakespeare)   | 1993        |
| 18            |                  | Shadowlands (William Nicholson)                | 1993        |
| 18            |                  | Faust (R.McDonald and Goethe)                  | 1993        |
| 10            |                  | Wednesday to come (Renee)                      | 1993        |
| 14            |                  | M. Butterfly (David Henry Hwang)               | 1993        |
| 15            |                  | Angels in America (Tony Kushner)               | 1993        |
| 15            |                  | Angels in America (Tony Kushner)               | 1993 - 4    |
| 5             |                  | A Flea in her Ear (Georges Feydeau)            | 1994        |
| 7 & 16        |                  | The Sisters Rosenweig (Wendy Wasserstein)      | 1994        |
| 16            |                  | The Shaughraun (Dion Boucicault)               | 1994        |
| 9             |                  | The Grapes of Wrath (F. Galati & J. Steinbeck) | 1994        |
| 18 & 14       |                  | Hysteria (Terry Johnson)                       | 1994        |
| 9             |                  | Someone Who'll What Over Me (Frank McGuinness) | 1994        |
| 7             |                  | Arcadia (Tom Stoppard)                         | 1995        |
| 8             |                  | A Man For All Seasons (Robert Bolt)            | 1995        |
| 11            |                  | Lady Windermere's Fan (Oscar Wilde)            | 1995        |
| 1             |                  | Skylight (David Hare)                          | 1996        |
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