



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Melbourne Theatre Company Society
ACCESSION NO	2002.0043
CATEGORY	University, official
ACTIVITY	Theatres, Repertory theatre company
DATE RANGE	1981 1994
SIZE OF COLLECTION	18 cm. (whole box and part of another)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<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 for 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>
DATE OF TRANSFER	13 Sep 2002
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Restricted
DESCRIPTION	<p>Ad hoc collection of Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) Society subject files, includes a publicity files, copies of newsletters (note some newsletter files also contain copies of agenda and minutes) and a correspondence file. Please note the two MTC Society membership books contain personal information (names, addresses, etc) and access to them may need to be reviewed in relation to the Privacy Act.</p>
LISTED BY	
DATE	

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Publicity [includes photos]	1982-84
		Brian Sweeney & Associates Market Research -prepared for Melbourne Theatre Company	1992
		Ode to the MTC -Barry Humphries - launch of MTC Society 1981	1981
		MTC Society minutes & correspondence	1981-86
		MTC Society Newsletters 1982	1982
		MTC Society Newsletters 1983	1983
		MTC Society Newsletters 1985 [contains MTC Society agenda's and balance sheets for 1985	1985
		MTC Society Newsletters 1989 [contains MTC Society agenda's 1989]	1989
		Copy of MTC constitution	1982
		Correspondence received -general filing [includes: thank you letters, answer to enquiries from general public re MTC Society, correspondence related to MTC activities]	1992-94
		MTC Society Newsletters 1986 March, May, Sept	1986
		MTC Society Functions and Newsletters 1987	1987
		Original of Feb 90, Newsletter May 1990 New Renewal Original 1990 [1990 MTC Society minutes and publicity material]	1990
		MTC Society Membership No.1 Book	1983-89
		MTC Society Membership No.2 Book	1983-89

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