



## THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

<b>NAME OF COLLECTION</b>	Melbourne Theatre Company
<b>ACCESSION NO</b>	2002.0045
<b>CATEGORY</b>	University, official
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	Theatres, Repertory theatre company
<b>DATE RANGE</b>	1948-1995
<b>SIZE OF COLLECTION</b>	Part of an arkibox
<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>	13 Sep 2002
<b>ACCESS CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Access: restricted This collection may not be available for immediate retrieval. Please discuss with Archive staff.</p>
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<p>A collection of programs, flyers, handbills and newsletters from various Melbourne University Theatre groups. Material from productions held at the Melbourne University Theatre (but performed by external theatre groups) are also included in this series.</p>
<b>LISTED BY</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	

<b>Box No</b>	<b>Series No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
1		Young Elizabethan Players and Youth Theatre Tour programs	1964-68
1		Melbourne University Union Theatre programs/flyers [arranged alphabetically according to production title]	1970-85
1		Melbourne University theatre newsletters (various)	1980s
1		Theatre programs from various productions held at University of Melbourne [arranged alphabetically according to production title] A-N	1948-52
1		Theatre programs from various productions held at University of Melbourne [arranged alphabetically according to production title] O-Z	1948-52

END