



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Melbourne Theatre Company
ACCESSION NO	2002.0046
CATEGORY	University, official
ACTIVITY	Theatres, Repertory theatre company
DATE RANGE	1972-1992
SIZE OF COLLECTION	One arkibox 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 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>
DATE OF TRANSFER	13 Sep 2002
ACCESS CONDITIONS	<p>Access: Open This collection may not be available for immediate retrieval. Please discuss with Archive staff.</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>Copies of seasons brochures (detailing shows, costs, and subscription details), individual production brochures, etc all stuck onto spiral bound scrap books.</p>
LISTED BY	
DATE	

