

University of Miami Special Collections

Finding Aid - Fred Koch collection (ASM0117)

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Language of description: English

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Fred Koch collection

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Miami Special Collections
Title:	Fred Koch collection
ID:	ASM0117
Date:	1823-1944 (date of creation)
Date:	1905-1944 (date of creation)
Physical description:	13.6 linear ft.
Language:	English
Language:	French
Language:	Spanish
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Frederick H. Koch was born at Covington, Kentucky September 12, 1877. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University and graduated in 1900. In 1905 he began his professional career as instructor in English at the University of North Dakota; and held in turn the posts of assistant professor (1907), associate professor (1914), and Professor of Dramatic Literature (1917). There he founded the Sock and Buskin Society in 1901 of which Maxwell Anderson was an original member. He later founded the Dakota Playmakers in 1910.

Scope and content

The personal papers of Frederick H. Koch, dramatist and educator, were donated to the University of Miami Archives by his son Fred H. Koch Jr., a Professor in Drama here at the University of Miami from 1939 to 1977. The collection was received in the early 1950's. Frederick H. Koch was a famous dramatist and gained fame from the founding of two major college theatre troupes as well as through his involvement in the production of native American folk drama.

The Frederick H. Koch Collection contains the personal papers of Frederick H. Koch and material he collected throughout his lifetime. The material extends from 1823 to 1947, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period of time between 1905 and 1944. The bulk of the collection is composed of

theatre programs collected by Koch. These come mainly from New York but there is a good selection of theatre programs from other parts of the United States. Many of these programs date prior to Koch's birth. The personal papers are composed mainly of material from Koch's work as an English and drama professor at the University of North Dakota (1905-1918) and the University of North Carolina (1918-1944), including a large number of folk plays written by his students.

The correspondence in the collection is mainly correspondence within the Koch family, including many letters between Koch and his four sons: Robert, Fred Jr., Bill, and George.

Of special interest to the University of Miami is a folder containing material related to the University and the University of Miami Playmakers founded by Fred H. Koch Jr. in the 1940's.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

SERIES 1

Box No. 01

North Dakota Material. 1905-1918.

This series contains material pertaining to Koch's tenure at the University of North Dakota including plays written by his students (1).

SERIES 2

Box No. 02-08

University of N. Carolina/Playmakers Material. 1918-1944.

This series contains material about the Carolina Playmakers (2), articles written by or about Koch (3), lantern slides about the Carolina Playmakers (4), and class, lecture, and other university material (5-8).

SERIES 3

Box No. 09-10

Correspondence/Green, Anderson, Wolfe/Miscellaneous. 1929-1944.

This series contains Koch's correspondence and material on Thomas Wolfe, Paul Green, and Maxwell Anderson (9-10). In addition, box 10 contains Koch miscellanea.

SERIES 4

Box No. 11-32

Theatre Magazines/Theatre Programs. 1823-1944.

This series contains theatre magazines and play programs including some from the Carolina Playmakers (11-12). It also includes New York theatre programs (13-25), and copies of the Playbill for New York theatres (26-29). The final section of the series is of theater programs of community and university theatres and the New York Theatre Guild (30-32).

SERIES 5

Box No. 33-37

Koch Collection of Plays and Books.[N.d.]

This series contain plays and books collected by Koch throughout his lifetime (33-37).

Box No. 38-41

Playmakers and Rare Programs. 1823-1943.

This series contains theatre programs from the Carolina Playmakers (38), and rare theatre programs dating as early as 1823 (39-41).

Restrictions on access

This collection is open for research, but is kept in an off campus storage facility. Please allow up to 72 hours for delivery of requested materials.

Conditions governing use

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Related material

See also Helen S. Sternfels Collection (ASM0186) for other New York playbills and programs.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** ArchonInternalCollectionID:119

Access points

- Koch, Frederick H. (Frederick Henry), 1877-1944 (subject)
- Articles (documentary form)
- Books (documentary form)
- Brochures (documentary form)
- Drafts (documents) (documentary form)
- Letters (documentary form)
- Manuscripts (documentary form)
- Scores (documentary form)
- Pamphlets (documentary form)
- Periodicals (documentary form)
- Photocopies (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Slides (Photographs) (documentary form)
- American drama -- 19th century (subject)
- American drama -- 20th century (subject)
- Broadway Theatre (Organization : New York, N.Y) (subject)
- Theaters -- United States -- Stage-setting and scenery (subject)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
id375310	File - North Dakota Material	1914-1918		1
id375311	File - North Dakota Material			1 1
id375312	File - Original Plays by Koch's Students at the University of North Dakota			1 2
id375313	File -			1 3
id380545	File -			2
id380546	File -			3
id380547	File -			4
id380548	File -			5
id380549	File -			6
id380550	File -			7
id380551	File -			8
id380552	File -			9
id380553	File -			10
id380554	File -			11
id380555	File -			12
id380556	File -			13
id380557	File -			14
id380558	File -			15
id380559	File -			16
id380560	File -			17
id380561	File -			18
id380562	File -			19
id380563	File -			20
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id380566	File -			23
id380567	File -			24
id380568	File -			25
id380569	File -			26
id380570	File -			27
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id380572	File -			29
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id380577	File -			34
id380578	File -			35
id380579	File -			36
id380580	File -			37
id380581	File -			38
id380582	File -			39
id380583	File -			40
id380584	File -			41