Historical Note: Theatre South was a Regional Theatre Company based in Wollongong. It was formed in 1980 by its Artistic Director, Des Davis and his wife Faye Montgomery, under the aegis of the University of Wollongong. In July 1985 the Company acquired a permanent home at The Bridge Theatre, Coniston (formerly known as Coniston Hall). Theatre South quickly established its reputation as a regional and touring theatre company. The Company presented many new plays about the Illawarra and South Coast, Australian classics and recent works, as well as plays from overseas.

In the early 1980s Theatre South established Seagull, a theatre company which toured the schools in the region. It was also heavily involved with the Theatre in Education (TIE) programme.

Theatre South ceased its operations in 2002.

Record Summary: Theatrical production records and business records - Productions, play scripts, publicity material, press clippings, photographs, posters, contracts, box office records, annual reports, subject files, correspondence and other administrative papers.

Date Range: 1980-2002

Quantity: 15m.

RAAM No: N/A

Access Conditions: Available for reference. Contact the Archives in advance to arrange access.

Note: Theatre South arranged its records by production date and kept its various records for each production in separate folders. These included correspondence, cast lists, contracts, costume details, promotional materials, music, advertisements, invitations, budget/expenditure, bookings/box office and touring information, press releases, press clippings, reviews, fan mail, photographs, submissions for financial assistance and brief biographical notes on actors. This arrangement was preserved during the original preparation of the collection for deposit into the Archives. With the subsequent assistance of Mr Davis, certain file categories were merged to better reflect how the records were actually used by the Company at the time.

Inventory: Initial summary list compiled December 2003. Last revised 19 November 2012

Note: Collection still requires further processing.
Series List

1. Productions
2. Scripts and Prompt Copies
3. Touring records
4. Programmes, Flyers and Posters
5. Newsletters (Bridge in Brief)
6. Press clippings (general)
7. Audiovisual recordings
8. Photographs
9. Friends of Theatre South
10. History and Anniversary memorabilia
11. Administrative records (includes Annual reports, Board, Artistic Directorate)
12. Box Office records
13. Correspondence - Australia Council / The Ministry
14. Correspondence - General (includes Wollongong City Council)
15. Theatre in Education (TIE) / Theatre for Young People (TYP)

Series Descriptions

Detailed listings available for certain series, other series still in processing. Contact the Archivist for more information.