

Guide to the Rene de Haven Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1bg7p>

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement Note	4
Administrative Information	4
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	5
Professional papers	5
Personal papers	7

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	de Haven, René
Title:	Rene de Haven Papers
ID:	MS-00586
Date [inclusive]:	1944 to 2011
Physical Description:	5.89 Cubic Feet (8 boxes, 1 oversized box, and 1 flat file)
Physical Description:	8.78 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Rene de Haven Papers contain photographs, costume designs, promotional show materials, press clippings, music manuscripts and production notes, and audio recordings of dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven from 1944 to 2011. Personal papers, prints, proof sheets, black-and-white and color photographs document de Haven's work in dancing and choreography in Las Vegas, Nevada and Los Angeles, California.

Preferred Citation

Rene de Haven Papers, 1944-2011. MS-00586. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1bg7p>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven was born Joseph Wellinton McIntosh in Oklahoma in 1922. He later moved to California to be closer to his sister and worked various jobs to earn money. De Haven and his sister enjoyed dancing at night clubs and de Haven was naturally talented at dance. After an encounter with a psychic, he decided to pursue dancing professionally. Camargo Studios gave de Haven a scholarship to train. He was soon hired to dance in Mexico, where he spent four-and-a-half years before returning to the United States. De Haven came to Las Vegas, Nevada for the first time in 1954, and he worked as a professional dancer in both Las Vegas and Los Angeles. He worked on notable films including *Singing in the Rain* and *Jailhouse*

Rock. De Haven had a heart attack and a stroke in 1961 that prevented him from performing, which prompted him to transition from dancer to professional choreographer. His first job as a choreographer was "C'est la Femme" and he went on to choreograph several shows in Las Vegas and California, including notable shows at the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

Source: Betty Bunch, "Rene de Haven went from farm boy to Las Vegas dancer," *Las Vegas Review Journal*. February 1, 2012. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/betty-bunch/rene-de-haven-went-farm-boy-las-vegas-dancer>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Rene de Haven Papers contain photographs, costume designs, promotional show materials, press clippings, music manuscripts and production notes, and audio recordings of dancer and choreographer Rene de Haven from 1944 to 2011. Personal papers, prints, proof sheets, black-and-white and color photographs document de Haven's work in dancing and choreography in Las Vegas, Nevada and Los Angeles, California.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement Note

Materials are arranged in two series:

Series I. Professional papers, 1944-2010;

Series II. Personal papers, 1958-2011.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2012 by Rick Hamilton, accession number 2012-002. Additional materials were transferred by Jonathan Rhodes Lee (Director, Arnold Shaw Popular Music Center) in 2024; accession number 2024-034.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Su Kim Chung in 2014. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Dallas Reiber and Lindsay Oden revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2024, Sarah Jones rehoused the additional materials and added the 4 boxes into the finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Entertainers
- Choreographers
- Dancers
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- photographs
- Nevada Dance Theatre

Collection Inventory

Professional papers, 1944-2010

Physical Description: 4.0 Linear Feet (4 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: The professional papers of Rene de Haven include photographs of performances and performers, costume designs, show promotional material, press clippings, and audio recordings (reel to reel). Photographic material consists of photographic prints, proof sheets, black-and-white photographs, and color photographs ranging from 2"x3" to 8"x10".

Arrangement Note: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Photographs of performers, 1952 to 1967	box 01

Promotional material, 1966-2010	box 01
Color photographs, undated	box 01
Party photographs, undated	box 01
Photographs of performers, undated	box 01
Show photographs, 1963-2007	box 01
Show photographs (copies) and one proof sheet, undated	box 01
Show programs with Rene Lee, 2007	box 01
Autographed performer photographs, undated	box 01
Performer head shots, undated	box 01
Head shots, including the Jackson 5 Family, 1956-1986	box 01
Photographs of performers, undated	box 01
Promotional posters, 1959-2009	box 01
Promotional magazine with autographed copies, undated	box 01
Fletcher dancer alumni phone list, 1944	box 01
Entertainment management information, undated	box 01
Personal photographs, undated	oversized box 02
Show posters, undated	oversized box 02
Jesus poster, undated	oversized box 02
Award: Miss Saloon Sweetheart, 2001	oversized box 02
Award: Miss Saloon Sweetheart, 1991	oversized box 02
Lambert space drawings, undated	oversized box 02
"Chi Chi" audio master track, undated Physical Description: 2 Reels	box 03
"Original complete audio copy, mono", undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
Click track stereo audio, undated Physical Description: 2 Reels	box 03
AMPEX audio tape, undated Physical Description: 1 Reels	box 03
"Get Down" promo, undated	box 03

Physical Description: 1 Reels

Large AMPEX audio tape, undated	box 03
Physical Description: 1 Reels	
"Las Vegas on Ice" tape one master, undated	box 03
Physical Description: 1 Reels	
"La Mancha and Gypsy" show audio, undated	box 03
Physical Description: 1 Reels	
Performance photographs, 1963-1968	box 04
Show photographs, black and white, undated	box 04
Slides of dancers, undated	box 04
Black and white photocopies of photographs, undated	box 04
Candid showgirl photographs, undated	box 04
Performer photographs, approximately 1995	box 04
Music manuscripts (handwritten and photocopies) and production notes for shows on the Las Vegas Strip directed by de Haven including "Oklahoma!", "Girls, Girls, Girls", "Fashion Show", and more, approximately 1960 to 1989	box 07
	box 08
	box 09
	oversized box 10

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Personal papers, 1958-2011

Physical Description: 0.2 Linear Feet (1 Box)

Scope and Contents Note: The personal papers of Rene de Haven consist of awards, personal photos of friends and family, and personal clippings.

Arrangement Note: Materials are in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Photographs of parties and friends, 2001-2002	box 05
Photographs of friends, 2003	box 05
Greeting cards from friends, 1987-2011	box 05
Photographs of Rene de Haven, undated	box 05
Friends and family photographs, 1968	box 05
Family photographs, black-and-white, 1968	box 05
Friends holding bottles, black-and-white photographs, undated	box 05
Family hospital photographs, undated	box 05

Unidentified individuals photographs, undated	box 05
Photos of friends, 2005	box 05
Photographs of suburban homes, 1986-1988	box 05
Business cards, undated	box 05
Photographs of Rene and unidentified people, 1988-1989	box 05
Personal color photographs, 1959-2000	box 05
Personal clippings, 2010	box 05
Photographs of friends and family, 1958-2005	box 05
Family photographs, 1967-1981	box 05
Family photograph collage, undated	box 05
Angel family tree for Rene de Haven, undated	box 05
Family photographs, undated	box 05
Family and friends photographs (photocopies), 2004-2006	box 05
Newsclippings, undated	box 05

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

"The Barbary Coast" entertainment poster	flat file 06
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