



Guide to the Nancy Austin Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Austin, Nancy
Creator:	London, David
Collector:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Arnold Shaw Popular Music Research Center
Title:	Nancy Austin Papers
ID:	MS-00613
Date [inclusive]:	1966-1978
Physical Description:	0.46 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Physical Description:	0.42 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Nancy Austin Papers (1966-1978) consist of newspaper clippings and photographs documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Nancy Austin. The photographs document Austin's entertainment career as well as other business ventures, including her own clothing line for plus-size women, called Pudgy Playmates.

Preferred Citation

Nancy Austin Papers, 1966-1978. MS-00613. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Las Vegas, Nevada comedic entertainer Nancy Byrne Austin was born in Silver Springs, Maryland in 1934. She received her education at the University of Maryland, earning a degree in Education. She taught elementary school for a short time before committing full time to show business. She began performing comedy in New York City in the 1950s and moved to Las Vegas in the early 1960s. Austin made an initial impression as one of the original cast members of the popular Las

Vegas daytime review Bottoms Up. She and her husband, Las Vegas entertainer David London, also performed a morning radio show in the 1970s called "Coffee with the Londons."

Austin appeared in many movie and television programs including *The Carol Burnett Show* and several television episodes of *Vega\$*. She was also involved with charities and organizations in Las Vegas and opened the first women's plus-size dress shop in Las Vegas in 1970. She designed and made many of the clothes herself. The store expanded to three locations and operated successfully for 15 years. Austin died in 1995 at the age of 60.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Nancy Austin Papers (1966-1978) consist of newspaper clippings and photographs documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Nancy Austin. The photographs in the collection document Austin's entertainment career as well as other business ventures, including her own clothing line for plus-size women, called Pudgy Playmates.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1998 by David London to the Arnold Shaw Popular Music Research Center and subsequently transferred to the Special Collections Department, Lied Library, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Accession number; 2005-031.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Joyce Moore in 2005. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Ian M. Baldwin revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently, Ian M. Baldwin entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised by Ian M. Baldwin to bring it into compliance with DACS. June, 2014

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Related Materials

Separation Note

A six-hour taped interview with Nancy Austin's husband, David London, has been removed from this collection and housed in Special Collections with the other Arnold Shaw tapes.

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Names and Subjects

- Entertainment -- Nevada -- Las Vegas

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Newspaper articles, 1968-1975	box 01	folder 01
Photographs: clothing line, undated	box 01	folder 02
Photographs of David London, undated		

box 01 folder
03

Photographs of the various shows in which Nancy Austin starred, 1966-1978

box 01 folder
04