



Guide to the Rich Rizzo Professional Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1xr2t>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Rizzo, Rich
Title:	Rich Rizzo Professional Papers
ID:	MS-01106
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1960 to 2022
Physical Description:	0.46 Cubic Feet (1 box, 1 flat file (shared box))
Physical Description:	0.42 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Rich Rizzo Professional Papers (approximately 1960-2022) are comprised largely of photographs documenting the life of Las Vegas, Nevada dancer and choreographer Rich Rizzo in shows such as <i>Jubilee!</i> and <i>Lido de Paris</i> in Las Vegas and in Paris, France. The photographs show rehearsal and performances, Rizzo with his partner and fellow choreographer Winston Helmsley, dancers and showgirls, Donn Arden, and Miss Bluebell. Other types of material include business and personal correspondence, contracts, production prospectives and set designs, show programs, and costume design photographs.

Preferred Citation

Rich Rizzo Professional Papers, approximately 1960-2022. MS-01106. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1xr2t>

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Biographical Note

Rich Rizzo was a Las Vegas, Nevada dancer and choreographer known for his work with Donn Arden on *Lido de Paris* and *Jubilee!* in Las Vegas and *Lido de Paris* in Paris, France throughout the 1970s and 1980s. His partner, Winston DeWitt Helmsley, was also a dancer and choreographer. Rizzo later produced and choreographed the Las Vegas Folies show at the Starbright Theatre in

Summerlin in the 2000s. Originally from Niagara, New York, Rizzo passed away in Las Vegas on May 24, 2022.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Rich Rizzo Professional Papers (approximately 1960-2022) are comprised largely of photographs documenting the life of Las Vegas, Nevada dancer and choreographer Rich Rizzo in shows such as *Jubilee!* and *Lido de Paris* in Las Vegas and in Paris, France. The photographs show rehearsal and performances, Rizzo with his partner and fellow choreographer Winston Helmsley, dancers and showgirls, Donn Arden, and Miss Bluebell. Other types of material include business and personal correspondence, contracts, production prospectives and set designs, show programs, and costume design photographs.

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Arrangement

Materials are grouped by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Material was donated in 2022 by Rich Rizzo and Nick Rizzo; accession number 2022-073.

Appraisal

Acquired by Su Kim Chung, curator, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings in entertainment. All material that formed the original gift has been retained.

Processing Information

In 2023, Sarah Jones organized, rehoused, and described the material and entered the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. The collection had no discernable order, so materials were grouped by subject.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Rich Rizzo oral history interview, 2003 June 19. OH-01573. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Choreographers
- Lido de Paris (Las Vegas)
- Jubilee!
- Entertainment -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Male dancers
- Photographers

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Newsclippings featuring Rich Rizzo, 1972 to 1996	box 01

Photographs of costume designs, 1980 to 1989	box 01
"In Loving Memory" funeral card for Rich Rizzo, 2022	box 01
Rich Rizzo with friends and as a child: personal photographs, 1960 to 1989	box 01
Performance and backstage photographs, 1970 to 1989	box 01
Rehearsal photographs, 1970 to 1979	box 01
<i>After Dark: the National Magazine of Entertainment</i> magazine, 1975 May	box 01
Souvenir photographs at Las Vegas and Paris shows with Rich Rizzo, Winston Helmsley, and others, 1970 to 1989	box 01
Rich Rizzo headshots: photographic prints, 1970 to 1979	box 01
Las Vegas, Nevada and Paris, France show programs, 1970 to 1999	box 01
"Erotica: the living legends" production treatment, 1996 October 27	box 01
Rich Rizzo choreographer/performer resume, 1980	box 01
Set designs for "Magical Adventure" show in Seoul, Korea, 1992	box 01
Character reference letters and immigration documents, 1990	box 01
Contracts and signed performance agreements, 1982 to 1996	box 01
"American Rhythm and Blues" revue concept and budget for Australia show, 1990 to 1999	box 01
"East Meets West" performance and rehearsal photographs, 1989 August	oversized folder box 02 SH-011