

Guide to the Valda and Esper Esau Photographs

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement Note	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	5

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Esau, Valda, 1937-
Title:	Valda and Esper Esau Photographs
ID:	PH-00348
Date [inclusive]:	approximately approximately 1958-2006
Physical Description:	0.3 Linear Feet (2 hanging folders)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Valda and Esper Esau Photographs (approximately 1958-2006) depict the Lido de Paris show. The collection consists of forty-three images. The images depict of Bluebell girls, Las Vegas landmarks, behind the scenes of the Lido de Paris show at the Stardust Hotel, and personal photographs of Valda Boyne Esau.

Preferred Citation

Valda and Esper Esau Photographs, approximately 1958-2006. PH-00348. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

A native Australian, Valda Boyne Esau moved to Las Vegas, Nevada in the 1950s to become a professional dancer. She starred in the Lido de Paris show, which debuted at the Stardust Hotel and Casino in 1958 and was one of the most popular nightlife attractions in Las Vegas in the late 1950s and 1960s. Valda Boyne Esau danced in the first and third editions of the famed production as well as the first Cést Magnifique, a Las Vegas-inspired rendition of the Parisian show. The final Lido shows were held at the Stardust in 1991.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Valda and Esper Esau Photographs document the history of the Lido de Paris show in Las Vegas, Nevada from approximately 1958 to 2006. The images in this collection depict Bluebell performers, publicity shots, and Valda Boyne Esper. In addition to materials focusing on day-to-day activities of Valda Boyne Esper (such as photo shoots, personal time, and travel), the documentation provides insight into the show's entertainment and public relations activities, such as advertising and promotion. The materials provide historical documentation on the famed Strip show that began in 1958 and ended in 1991.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement Note

Materials remain in original order.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access

The collection is open for research. Portions of this collection have been digitized and are [available online](#).

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in December 1, 2006 by Valda Esau; accession 2006-23.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2016, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Maryse Lundering-Timpano wrote the collection description in compliance with current professional standards.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

Valda and Esper Esau Collection on Lido de Paris, 1958-1991. MS-00520. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Donn Arden Papers, MS 2001-05, Special Collections, UNLV Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Donn Arden Photographs, approximately 1920-1989. PH-00328. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Showgirls -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Southern Nevada
- Las Vegas Strip (Nev.)
- Stardust Resort and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Showgirls at first Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0001) (view online)	folder 01
Bluebell Girls hanging Christmas decorations at Red Rock Canyon, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0002) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne at Golf Manor Apartments, Paradise Road, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Bluebell Girls looking at bird in a cage, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Bluebell Girls eating at a Las Vegas restaurant or diner, 1958 (0348_0005) (view online)	folder 01
Three Bluebell Girls posing for a photo, 1958 (0348_0006) (view online)	

	folder 01
Bluebell Girls poolside at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Two Bluebell girls hanging Christmas decorations at Red Rock Canyon , Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau posing in costume for Lido show at Stardust hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 September 08 (0348_0009) (view online)	folder 01
Bluebell Girls posing at Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 July (0348_0010) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau dancing at Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 October (0348_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other showgirls in the Lido at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 October (0348_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other Bluebell girls in the Lido Show at Stardust, Las Vegas, 1958 October (0348_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other dancers in Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0014) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other Bluebell Girls at Carillon Hearing Aid Convention at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 November (0348_0015) (view online)	folder 01
Carole Sharpley and Buddy Bryan's wedding reception set at the Lido in the Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 September 15 (0348_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Celebration of the Lido show closing at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1959 (0348_0017) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other dancers in Lido de Paris at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1959 (0348_0018) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and others in Roman dance number at Stardust hotel, Las Vegas, 1958 (0348_0019) (view online)	folder 01
Bluebell Girls posing near airplane in Chicago, Illinois, 1958 June 20 (0348_0020) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and other Bluebell girls on steps of airplane in Chicago, Illinois, 1958 June 20 (0348_0021) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau posing in costume for third Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1960 October (0348_0022) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau and others at the Stardust Golf Course opening on Desert Inn Road, Las Vegas, 1961 (0348_0023) (view online)	folder 01
Valda Boyne Esau with others at the opening of Stardust Golf Course, Las Vegas, 1961 (0348_0024) (view online)	folder 01
Esper Esau and Pete Dante in light booth at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1964 April (0348_0025) (view online)	folder 01

Valda Boyne Esau and two other Bluebell girls in the third Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1961 October (0348_0026) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau and two Bluebell Girls for third Lido show at the Stardust, Las Vegas, 1961 (0348_0027) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau in Lido Program, Las Vegas, 1960 May (0348_0028) (view online)	folder 02
Susan Briggs and Valda Boyne Esau at Stardust pool, Las Vegas, 1960 (0348_0029) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau in publicity shot at the Stardust pool, Las Vegas, 1960 November (0348_0030) (view online)	folder 02
Susan Briggs and Valda Boyne Esau posing at Stardust Pool for the National Beverage Association, Las Vegas, 1960 November (0348_0031) (view online)	folder 02
Jill Salsbury and Valda Boyne Esau posing at the new tennis courts at the Desert Inn Hotel, Las Vegas, 1961 July (0348_0032) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau at Stardust Hotel pool, Las Vegas, 1960 November (0348_0033) (view online)	folder 02
Madame Bluebell with her children, 1963 (0348_0034) (view online)	folder 02
Donn Arden and Valda Boyne Esau on a boat in Tres Vistas California, 1984 July 19 (0348_0035) (view online)	folder 02
Donn Arden and others discussing his upcoming production at the MGM, 1984 July 19 (0348_0036) (view online)	folder 02
Specialty acts in the Lido show at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1960 (0348_0037) (view online)	folder 02
Esper Esau in light booth at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1959 (0348_0038) (view online)	folder 02
Marvin Roy and Carole in Lido Act at Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1960 (0348_0039) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau and Jill Salisbury at new Stardust Golf Course, Las Vegas, 1960 (0348_0040) (view online)	folder 02
Wilbur Clark with Patrice, Sylvia Harris, and Valda Boyne Esau at New York airport, 1958 June 20 (0348_0041) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau and Esper Esau with Sylvia Harris at the closing of the Lido, Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 1991 February 1 (0348_0042) (view online)	folder 02
Valda Boyne Esau and some of the Bluebell girls for a mini- reunion at the Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, 2006 October 18 (0348_0043) (view online)	folder 02