

Marilyn Pettit
5/29/03

**DESCRIPTION OF
POTENTIAL TEXT DIGITIZATION PROJECT**

Selector: Marilyn H. Pettit, Director

Holding Library: Columbia University Archives – Columbiana Library

Collection Title (Please Provide a Name for this Project):

Varsity Shows, 1894-1995

1. Nature of Digitization Project

- a. Briefly describe the materials to be digitized, including their subject or discipline-related content, chronological or geographical coverage, languages and character sets, etc.

Student theatrical group (Columbia University Players) produced yearly variety show, often with original book and music, filled with a mixture of high and low comedy, satire and farce, original music and doggerel verse fitted to pre-existing music. Chiefly male students in all roles until very recently. Artists included Lorenz Hart, Oscar Hammerstein II, and Richard Rodgers, who seem to have participated even after their departure from Columbia. The Programs have wonderfully artistic covers that reflect their own time periods; examples attached.

- b. *[Optional: Indicate whether the project assumes external funding or should be considered for accomplishing in-house with existing staff resources; indicate too whether the project might be considered a demonstration project for the purposes of attracting funding for a larger project.]* **In-house.**

- c. Describe the priority this project has relative to other possible projects in your area by selecting one of the following options:

Immediate Short-Term Medium-Term Long-Term

2. Scope of Digitization

- a. Specify the types/genres and amount of material to be digitized (e.g., 10 volumes amounting to ca. 1800 pages of text, ca. 100 volumes amounting to ca. 30,000 pages of text with many black and white illustrations, 2 folio volumes of ca. 400 pages with ca. 150 oversized color images)

Collection is not complete and may never be complete, which fact does not diminish the value of the collection. There are 40 folders for 40 programs in 40 years, containing the names of songs and student performers, with unique photos of the students in costume. Color covers, B/W internal images. We should digitize only the art-work and program pages, not the many pages of advertisements; estimated at 500 pages, including cover sheets, plus about 100 images from the Photo Collection.

Our Photo Collection contains about 100 images of the Varsity Show productions, including 40 cabinet cards, in exceptionally good condition, of the 1899 production of "Cleopatra," for which we do not have the original program. (See accession record, attached.)

- b. For textual materials, indicate whether they will be also need to be OCR'd and presented as searchable text, or whether page images only are needed.

OCR the textual pages to make them searchable; page images only of photos.

- c. *[Optional :For other materials, please indicate any requirements or assumptions about the quality of scans, derivatives, indexing, etc.]*

Indexing needed.

3. Value to Columbia Libraries Collections

- a. How would this project strengthen, complement or otherwise relate to existing paper (etc.) or digital collections at CUL? **Permanent retention; high priority for preservation.**
- b. Does this material relate to the collection development policies of the holding library or the Libraries as a whole?
- c. Are there other comparable or related digital collections already available publicly? **Unique student historical collection.**

4. Value to Columbia Research & Teaching

- a. How would this project serve current, recognized research, study or curricular needs of Columbia?

- d. *[Optional: Will any conservation treatment or other physical work be needed to enable the materials to be digitized? For instance, it may not be possible to digitize a book that is tightly bound and has narrow margins without disbinding it.] Programs are loosely bound.*
- e. For archival and manuscript collections, have the materials been fully processed and arranged? **Yes. Some preservation photocopying needed.**

- b. Which Columbia faculty members work in the area covered by this project? Have they indicated they would make use of these materials, or materials of this type, in digitized form?

5. Partnerships

- a. Are there other Columbia groups that we can or should partner with in this type of project?
- b. Are there other institutions that are particularly strong in these or related materials that we can or should partner with?

6. Scope of Cataloging

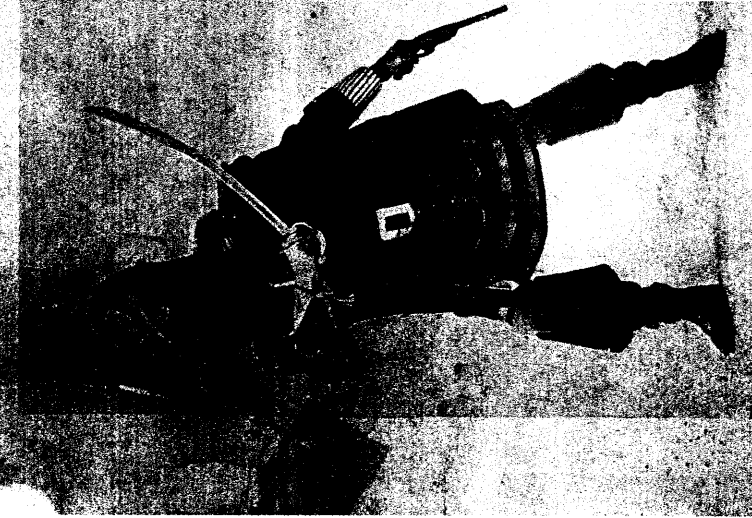
- a. Have these materials been cataloged, described in a finding aid, or have another kind of metadata? Please describe and include links to cataloging or finding aids if available. **No finding aid or metadata available.**
- b. *[Optional: If not, please give details of type and amount of cataloging / description being proposed within the context of this grant and how it would be accomplished.]* **WE will catalog into CLIO.**

7. Rights / Permissions

- a. Identify copyright issues and other potential restrictions. Are these materials in the public domain? Does Columbia hold rights for copying and dissemination? (If you are not sure of the answers to the preceding, what percentage of the material was published prior to 1923? What percentage between 1923 and 1963?) **Copyright wholly owned by CU.**
- b. *[Optional: Describe approach to resolving or managing these restrictions within the context of the project.]*

8. Physical Condition

- a. Are the physical items intact, in good condition, and playable (where appropriate, e.g. videotapes)? **Some preservation photocopying needed.**
- b. *[Optional: If not, describe in general terms what types of physical problems are present.]*
- c. Are the materials appropriately housed, or will rehousing be part of the project? **Are appropriately housed.**



COLUMBIA COLLEGE
MUSICAL SOCIETY

THE BUVVANNER

Lyrics by GUY WETMORE CARRYL

Music by KENNETH M MVRCHISON, JR

COLUMBIA VARSITY SHOW

red, blue, brown,
white



AT THE
HOTEL ASTOR

JUN 11
1907



96 COLVMBIAN 96
BOB SPURGEON



THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

PRESENT

THE 1916 VARSITY SHOW

"THE PEACE PIRATES"

A Musical Comedy in Two Acts

AT THE

HOTEL ASTOR GRAND BALLROOM

APRIL 12 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 1916

and SATURDAY MATINEE

Book and Lyrics by Herman J. Mankiewicz, 1917

Music by Ray Perkins, 1917

Additional Music and Lyrics by Walter Atkinson, 1915, and M. S. Wolff, 1915

Staged under the direction of Kenneth S. Webb, 1906, assisted by George Sanford
Parsons, 1902

Under the management of John Arthur Strang, 1916

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in the order of their first appearance)

The Pirate Steward.....Fritz Nyland, 1916S
Lafitte, a Pirate.....Frederic W. Norton, 1917
Morgan, not J. P., but still a Pirate.....David Friedenberg, 1918
Drake, also a Pirate.....Samuel Spingarn, 1916
Captain Kidd, the Pirate Chief.....William M. Hughes, Jr., 1917
Blackbeard, a polite Pirate.....Leonard S. Sower, 1918J
Vanderdecken, the Flying Dutchman.....W. A. Dietz and C. S. Laub, 1919
Dr. Aking { Just about ready for }.....H. William Hanemann, 1917
Dr. Bones { the chloroform }.....Archibald C. Curry, 1917
Andy Rockyford, a jitney pacifist.....John D. Beals, Jr., 1917
Mrs. Rockyford, his better 99-100.....Lorenz M. Hart, 1918J
Celestine, their daughter.....Percival E. Cowan, 1919
Dorothy Fairface, sob reporter for the *Evening Crime*.... Philip B. Leavitt, 1918
William J. Tryan, a perpetual candidate.....Claus A. Osterholm, 1915
Washington Snow, a dark secret.....Oscar Hammerstein, 1918L
Billy Montague, Tryan's nephew.....Elliot M. Sperling, 1918L
Tansy Collins, a dancing teacher.....Donald W. Lee, 1917
Leo, a lion.....Lewis N. Moeller, 1916
R. L. Perkins, an entertainer.....Ray Perkins, 1917
Hermann, the darndest, a magician.....Bradley M. Fischer, 1919
A violinist.....Glenn Scofield, 1916