

**The New York Public Library  
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center  
Billy Rose Theatre Division**

Guide to the

## **Barbara Barrie papers**

1949-2008

\*T-Mss 2008-004

Compiled by Joyce LeeAnn Joseph, Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science, Class of 2012, February 2012

### **Summary**

**Creator:** Barrie, Barbara

**Title:** Barbara Barrie papers, 1949-2008

**Size:** .84 linear foot (2 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by Barbara Barrie, May 2008.

**Abstract:** These papers of American actress and author Barbara Barrie include awards, correspondence, notes, photographs, and programs. The collection documents her professional career, including her award-winning roles in *One Potato, Two Potato* and *Breaking Away*, and the publication of her memoir, *Second Act: Life after Colostomy and Other Adventures* in 1997.

**Access:** Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying and photography will apply. Advance notice may be required.

**Copyright information:** For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Billy Rose Theatre Division.

**Preferred citation:** Barbara Barrie papers, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

### **Related collections**

Miscellaneous manuscripts: Barbara Barrie. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

### **Creator history**

Barbara Barrie is an American actress and author. She was born as Barbara Ann Berman on May 23, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois to Louis Berman and Frances Rose Boruszak. She was raised in Corpus Christi, Texas and graduated from Corpus Christi Senior High School. In 1953, Barrie received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin. In July of 1964, she married Jay Malcolm Harnick, a director and producer. They had two children, Jane Caroline Harnick and Aaron Louis Harnick.

Barrie's career as an actress began in the 1950s. The *Wooden Dish*, 1955, was her Broadway debut, and in 1956 she began television appearances. Barrie won the Cannes Film Festival's Best Actress Award (shared with Anne Bancroft) for *One Potato, Two Potato* in 1964. In 1971, she was nominated for a Tony Award for her role in the musical, *Company* and in 1979 she was nominated for a Best Supporting Actress Academy Award for her role in *Breaking Away*. She received another nomination for *Breaking Away* in 1981: an Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series. Barrie is the author of two novels, *Lone Star* (1989) and *Adam Zigzag* (1995), and a memoir, *Second Act: Life after Colostomy and Other Adventures* (1997). *Second Act* was written after Barrie's battle with rectal cancer. From 1996 to 2000, Barrie played the grandmother on the television series *Suddenly Susan*. She continues to act, making episode appearances in television series; her most recent appearance was in 2011 as Carol in *Enlightened*, Season 1, Episode 9.

### **Scope and content note**

The Barbara Barrie papers consist of awards, biographical information, correspondence, notes, photographs, playbills, programs, and reviews. The collection documents Barrie's professional career from the early 1950s until 2008. These papers provide insight into the various plays, television series and films in which she performed, and the books she wrote. The photographs provide a visual sense of Barrie's stage performances and some also offer a glimpse into her personal life.

### **Arrangement**

The papers are arranged alphabetically by subject.

### **Key terms**

#### **Subjects**

Actresses -- United States -- 20th century  
Actresses -- United States -- 21st century  
Authors, American -- 20th century  
Motion picture acting  
Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States  
Television acting  
Television actors and actresses -- United States  
Theatre and performance practices

#### **Names**

Barrie, Barbara

#### **Special formats**

Photographs

## Container list

- b.1 f.1 *Adam Zigzag*, 1993-1995 (Correspondence and Notes)
- b.1 f.2 *After-Play*, 1995 (Correspondence, Playbill, and Photos)
- b.1 f.3 Awards Correspondence, 1964-1980 (Contents of Scrapbook)
- b.1 f.4 Barrie, Barbara, 1999, undated (Biographical Information)
- b.1 f.5 *Breaking Away*, 1980 (Academy Award Documents)
- b.1 f.6 *Breaking Away*, 1981 (Emmy Award Program)
- b.1 f.7 Columns, Correspondence, and Reviews, 1975-1999
- b.1 f.8 *Company*, 1970-1971 (Correspondence and Playbill)
- b.1 f.9 *Fugue*, 1992 (Award)
- b.1 f.10 *Judy Berlin*, 2000 (Award)
- b.1 f.11 *The Killdeer*, 1974-1975 (Award, Photo, and Program)
- b.1 f.12 *Little Foxes*, 1971 (Program)
- b.1 f.13 *Lone Star*, 1990, 1994 (Correspondence and Reviews)
- b.1 f.14-18 Photographs, 1949-2008
  - b.2 f.1 *One Potato, Two Potato*, 1964-1965 (Photo and Reviews)
  - b.2 f.2 *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, 1972-1973 (Correspondence and Program)
- b.2 f.3-8 Programs and Playbills, 1960-2007
  - b.2 f.9 *Second Act*, 1996-1998 (Correspondence and Notes)
  - b.2 f.10 *Suddenly Susan*, 1997-1999 (Correspondence and Photo)
  - b.2 f.11 Television Shows, 1980-1994 (Awards and Program)