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Memphis music collection

Title: Memphis music collection
Collection No: MSS.473
Extent: 0.7 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1966-2016 and undated

Abstract: The collection contains various items related to the rich musical heritage of Memphis, Tennessee.

Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, 2015-2022.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: Memphis music collection, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: 2022 March
Scope and contents

The collection is an artificial one of items related to the musical heritage of Memphis, Tennessee. It contains a program and posters from the Memphis Blues Festival held in Overton Park in June 1967, organized by the Memphis Country Blues Society. Other items include posters for performances at a Beale Street venue, including the Handy Club, other festivals, images of Muddy Waters and Rufus Thomas, and some recordings. A set of DVDs from Tim Curry’s project “Furry Sings the Blues: Beale Street 1980-1981” is also included.

Subject terms

Lewis, Furry, 1893-1981.
Music festivals—Tennessee—Memphis.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder

Poster:
OS 1 Second Annual Memphis Blues Festival, Overton Park, 1967 June. (2)
OS 2 “The Original Drifters, Louis Candy and his Orchestra”, undated. (2)
Club Handy: Gala Review featuring Lavetta, Mitchellettes, Sarayo, Funny Bones, Charles Friday and his band, 1966 July 16. (2: 1 undated)
Rufus “The Dog” Thomas and orchestra, undated.
Rufus Thomas and his band, undated.
“Funky Music Festival at Crump Stadium, Saturday July 29th,” undated.
Aaron Copeland conducts music for large ensembles & ballet, Cook Convention Center, Memphis, 1978 November 12.

Performers included: Thomas Pinkston and his Handymen, Furry Lewis, Memphis Piano Red, Phineas Newborn, Jr., Lum Guffin, Joe Willie Wilkins & His King Biscuit Boys, Houston Stackhouse, Charlie Banks and the Beale Street Originals, Little Laura Dukes, Sam Chatmon.

Photographs:
2 Publicity image of Muddy Waters, undated.
Reception in honor of Rufus Thomas re: scholarship at Shelby State Community College, BRZ, 740 Court Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., 1988. (3) Includes images of Rufus Thomas, Carla Thomas, B.B. King, Daniel S. Beasley, Stephanie Beasley. Photographer: Robert Townsend Jones, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.

Broadsheet: Preservation Hall Jazz Band to perform at 11 South Main, May 12-15, 1960s?

Calendar: 2006 Memphis Music Calendar by Ron Hall and Shangri-La Projects.


Christmas card: Contains printed text by William C. Handy which refers to a foundation for the blind, 1951?


Restriction: Non-commercial use only.

Includes:
Furry Lewis – Unedited Footage.
Furry Lewis Performance and “B” Roll – Unedited Footage.
Beale Street “B” Roll and MOS Interviews – Unedited Footage.
Abe Schwab – Unedited Footage.
Prince Gabe – Unedited Footage.
Rufus Thomas – Unedited Footage.

LOS Poster:

OS Vinyl lamp post sign: Welcome to Memphis, Home of the Blues, Birthplace of Rock ‘n’ Roll, Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau; Verso: “Northwest is for Memphis” written above a caricature of B.B. King, with “Northwest Airlines” written below, undated.