Introduction

The archives holds institutional records, collections of private papers and archives of organisations in a range of formats, visual as well as written, such as letters and papers, manuscript, parchment, photograph, audio-visual and digital media and microfilms, dating from the 18th century to present day. The collections also include rare prints and artefacts dating from 16th century to 1960s.

The Archives provides convenient access to a wealth of primary sources for enhancing knowledge of history and conducting original research. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Mile End Library, the Archives Reading Room provides a dedicated quiet study space for anyone wishing to view items held in the Archives. Email archives@qmul.ac.uk, telephone 020 7882 3873 or visit the website www.library.qmul.ac.uk/archives for more information.

Modules and Research Degrees

The archives holds sources of relevance to the following:

Undergraduate

- Performance in History

MA

- Historiography and Archives
- Contemporary Theatre and Performance

Research Areas

- Cultural histories of performance
- Transnational performance
- Socially Engaged and Applied Performance

Catalogues and Finding Aids

Collections can be searched via the Archives Catalogue: http://archives-catalogue.library.qmul.ac.uk/CalmView/default.aspx Digital records and online exhibitions are available through the archives website http://www.library.qmul.ac.uk/archives For some uncatalogued collections only a summary description is available in the Archives Catalogue. Alternative finding aids such as draft box lists are available. Email the archives to request a copy: archives@qmul.ac.uk or for advice about your area of research.
Relevant Collections

**Jenkins, Harold (1909-2000):** Papers of the literary scholar include notes for lectures on Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, Shakespeare and Hamlet, dating from 1946-1970 (Ref No: PP28).

**Isaacs, Jacob (1896-1973):** Papers of the literary scholar, include notes on the Elizabethan stage, Shakespeare, drama, modern drama, poetic drama, some programmes and newspaper articles about plays, dating from 1930-1960 (Ref No: PP17).

**People’s Palace:** Records of the “palace of delights” from its development in the People’s Palace scheme which first emerged in 1885 to its closure in the early 1950s, the collection dates from 1728 to 1987. Documents the entertainments, facilities, available and performances held, and the impact of key events such as the opening ceremony of the Queen’s Hall by Queen Victoria, and the devastating fire of 1931 (QMC/PP).

**Queen Mary College and Queen Mary University of London:** Institutional records not only contain records relating to the People’s Palace from the 1950s to present day, but also document student and staff performance and entertainment over the years (Ref Nos: QMC, QMW).

**Queen Mary Players:** Documents all the performances of the students and staff drama group, which operated from 1979 to 2009 (Ref No: QMC - email the archives and request access to M82).

**Westfield College:** Institutional archives of the pioneering higher education college for women, documents the students and staff involvement in drama and performance, in clubs and societies including the Glee Club, from 1882 to 1989 (Ref No: WFD).