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ROBERTSON, Jean, actress

PRG 898  
Series List

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Jean Robertson took elocution lessons from Mabel Best and underwent her early theatrical training with the Adelaide Amateur Company, forerunner of the Repertory Theatre. She began her acting career with the J.C. Williamson Company, touring Australia with Julius Knight before leaving for America where, after initial difficulties, she joined David Belasco's company to star in The Wanderer in which she toured widely in 1918. She played in other productions in the United States and Canada opposite George Arliss before moving to the United Kingdom. There, in 1923, she played the lead in If Winter Comes. She returned to Australia to tour with Maurice Moscovitch in The Merchant of Venice and The Outsider in 1925. 1937 saw her back with the Adelaide Repertory Theatre for their August production of The Outsider. Jean Robertson died in Sydney on 24 August 1967. Her scrapbook, telegrams, portrait photographs and programmes, comprising a small collection were donated to the Mortlock Library by her sister in law, Mrs D. R. Robertson, in 1990.

Sources : Scrapbook. PRG /1  
Programme The Outsider, Adelaide Repertory Theatre. 1937. PRG

R.N.A., February, 1990

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| Scrapbook.  | <u>1</u> |
| 1918-1925. 1 volume + 1 cm loose items. Printed.<br>[Chiefly comprises press cuttings relating to career of Jean Robertson and Maurice Moscovitch. Includes photograph and several programmes]  |          |
| Telegrams.  | <u>2</u> |
| c.1916-22. 9 items. Typescript.<br>[Includes telegram addressed to Miss Robertson at the Criterion Theatre, Sydney. Otherwise consists of telegrams sent by well wishers to theatres in New York and Stamford Connecticut.]   |          |
| Programmes.   | <u>3</u> |
| 1919-42. 6 items. Printed.<br>[Comprises theatre programmes for <u>The Unknown Woman</u> , <u>The Outsider</u> and <u>Watch on the Rhine</u> listing Jean Robertson, together with programmes for a recital listing Dr. H.L. Brose, husband of Jean Robertson, as pianist and for lecture by Professor Albert Einstein listing him as translator.<br>See also Series 1] |          |
| Portrait photographs.   | <u>4</u> |
| c.1918-30. 6 items.<br>[Comprises photographs of Jean Robertson, George Arliss and Maurice Moscovitch.]   |          |

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- Letter to Miss Leeson. 5  
1938. 1 item. Typescript carbon.  
[Relates to a performance of Antigone.]
- Press cuttings relating to Kenneth Robertson. 6  
c.1942-80. 1cm. Printed.  
[Relates to Jean Robertson's brother]