

Library

Theatre Collection Library

The Theatre Collection Library contains over 20,000 books on all aspects of theatre. The majority of our books are on open access for browsing but, in addition, the library has a large collection of rare books which are held in our strong rooms and are available to view on request. We also have more than 300 periodical and magazine titles relating to theatre, film, television and dance, dating from the 19th century to the present day.

Entry to the library

The library is open to everyone and entry is via the Theatre Collection on Floor 2 of the Vandyck Building. Our main entrance is at 21 Park Row - you will need to ring the buzzer labelled Theatre Collection.

Study Spaces

The Theatre Collection has a reading room where you are welcome to view the library holdings. It is a quiet study zone so please respect other users' needs. There is also a comfortable corner in the library for reading. Food and beverages, are not permitted in the reading room or library and mobile phones should be switched to silent. Pencils must be used at all times to prevent potential damage to archival material.

Computers

There are a number of general use, open access computers available in the reading room. Priority is given to researchers wishing to consult the Theatre Collection's catalogues.

Photocopying

A self-service copier for university staff and students is available on Floor 4 of the Vandyck Building. Other researchers will need to ask Theatre Collection staff to copy material on their behalf. Items may also be scanned if appropriate. Details of our charges for copying may be found at www.bris.ac.uk/theatreollection/reprographics.html

Printing

There are no printing facilities available in the Theatre Collection.

Finding a Book

Most of our books are on open access. They are catalogued on the University of Bristol Library catalogue (www.bristol.ac.uk/library) and the catalogue entry will state 'Theatre Collection' in the *library* field if the item is held by us. Our books are classified under the BLISS system with the BLISS categories clearly displayed at the end of each bay in the library.



Rare Book Collection

Our rare books are held in our strong rooms and can be accessed by completing a retrieval slip and passing it to a member of Theatre Collection staff.

Finding a Journal

Our journals are catalogued on the University of Bristol Library catalogue and there is a 'quick journal list' on our website (www.bris.ac.uk/theatreollection/). Current and recent journal issues are on open access in the reading room and library. Back issues are held in our strong rooms and can be accessed by completing a retrieval slip and passing it to a member of Theatre Collection staff.

Borrowing and returning items

As our library holdings act as a key to the Theatre Collection archives, they must be available to researchers at all times, and are therefore **REFERENCE ONLY** and are not to be taken out of the Theatre Collection except for photocopying with the permission of Theatre Collection staff.

Inter-library loans

The Theatre Collection library does not participate in the inter-library loan service, however, copies of material, subject to copyright restrictions, may be supplied on request.



Opening hours

Mon 12.00 pm - 4.45 pm
Tue - Fri 9.30 am - 4.45 pm

We are closed at weekends, on Bank Holidays, University closure days and occasional other days - you can check our forthcoming closure dates on the Theatre Collection website.



Contacts

Tel (0117) 33 15086

Email theatre-collection@bristol.ac.uk

Web Bristol.ac.uk/theatreollection

The Theatre Collection is one of the world's largest and most significant collections relating to the history of British theatre. It is an accredited museum and research facility that is open to all. Its Collections cover all aspects of theatre from the 17C up to the present day and include original documents, photographs, artwork and artefacts. Significant archive collections include London Old Vic, Bristol Old Vic and the world renowned Mander & Mitchenson Collection. Although its holdings centre upon theatre, the Collection has relevance beyond the discipline into areas including historical studies, art history, music and English. Research visitors range from local students to international academic scholars and from family historians to the public who visit our small, regularly changing exhibitions.