

**Finding Aid for  
George Latshaw Collection  
Nancy Staub Puppetry Research Library  
Center for Puppetry Arts**

Originally Prepared by Litz, Ashley  
Last Update: March 28, 2025

**Collection Summary**

**Title:** George Latshaw Collection Finding Aid

**Span Dates:** 1949-2005, unknown

**Bulk Dates:** 1940s, 1960s, 1970s

**Creator:** George Latshaw (1923-2006)

**Extent:** 3 boxes

**Accession:** 1996.006

**Fonds Record:** 1996.006.002

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Nancy Staub Puppetry Research Library, Center for Puppetry Arts

**Abstract:** Contains a collection of materials owned by George Latshaw, American puppeteer, puppet builder, and author. Donation date and origin unknown.

**Administrative Information**

**Provenance:** This collection contains materials donated by an unknown source owned by George Latshaw, American puppeteer, puppet builder, and author. George Latshaw was the founder of the 'Puppetry Journal' (official magazine of Puppeteers of America), and president of Puppeteers of America in 1950. He made a career of performing and instructing puppetry in a wide variety of styles.

**Processing History:** Donated to CPA in 1996, complete cataloging and finding aid on March 28, 2025.

**Copyright Status:** Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

**Access and Restrictions:** Materials and records in the Nancy Staub Puppetry Research Library are available to researchers by appointment only. The library is open Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 to 4:00, it is suggested that researchers call two weeks in advance to set up an appointment.

**Preferred Citation:** Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information Folder Title, Series Title, Collection Title, Nancy Staub Puppetry Research Library, Center for Puppetry Arts.

**Scope and Content Note:** Contains several publications from Puppeteers of America, folders organized by year containing notes, advertisements, and pictures on shows he performed or directed, miscellaneous folders categorized by subject matter – Jim Henson, Scripts, Miscellaneous Correspondence – and large envelopes containing photos, organized by show. 3 notebooks contain hand-written notes regarding puppetry tactics.

**Organization of the Papers:** Three boxes. Folders organized by year or subject matter. Large collection of separate photos. Majority of the collection retains original organization created by George Latshaw.

### **Organization of Papers**

<b>Fonds Record</b>	<b>1996.006.002)</b>
Series: Personal Files	1996.006.002.1
Series: Career Files	1996.006.002.2
Subseries: By Year, By Subject Matter, Scripts	
Series: Photos	1996.006.002.3
Series: Publications	1996.006.002.4

### **Series: Personal Files**

Folder: Notebooks and Miscellaneous

- Composition notebook with several pages of notes (2)
- Spiral notebook with several pages of notes
- "Grab your Goggles, 3-D is back!" TIME article, 1990
- PuppetFest booklet, July 2005
- Cairo Puppet Theatre booklet, undated
- "Cleveland Junior League Topics" booklet, February 1955

Folder: Jim Henson

- Brochure from Henson Foundation Puppetry Festival, 1994
- Jim Henson Foundation Festival Newsletter, 1995
- Folder from J. Henson Foundation International Festival of Puppet full of event articles and brochures
- Folder of many newspaper clippings regarding Jim Henson's death and the aftermath regarding his company and children

Folder: Cartoons

- Folder of cartoons from various newspapers and magazines, ranging from Matt Groening to Punch&Judy, all related to puppetry

### **Series: Career Files**

**Subseries: By Year** (*half of donation organized by year*)

Folder: 1949-1964

- 1949
- 1956
- Latshaw-Straight '58
- 1957
- 1958
- 1959
- 1960
- 1962
- 1963
- Quillow Script 1963
- 1964

Folder: 1966-1970s

- 1966
- 1963
- 1965
- 1969
- 1972
- 1973
- Higbees' 75
- 1975
- Press 1970s

**Subseries: By Subject Matter**

Folder: Misc. Shows: (*half of donation organized by show*)

- Bonzai Boy
- Cain Park – Youtheatre TV
- Center – Atlanta
- Cleve Healthy Ed Muse Pala Mountain
- Workshop Design
- Elephant Spell – Cain park
- Emperor – Trunk
- Handkl Bag Puppet
- Hands On Puppet
- Jack Tales
- J. C. C. C. Workshops
- La Boite A Joujoux Dia
- WOAHA – J. C. C.
- U. Wisc. Green Bay

Folder: NBC Correspondence

- Folder full of letters, contracts, paystubs, and notes from NBC for shows performed 1963-1964

Folder: Performances

- Flyer: The Emperor's New Clothes, 1969
- Flyer: The Flattening of Dexter Foster, 1969
- Booklet: Lansing Symphony Orchestra, 1976
- Flyer: Wilbur and the Giant, 1967
- Flyer: Dallas Symphony Orchestra, undated
- Misc. (More flyers, booklets, and announcements for performances)

Folder: Workshops: 1973- undated

- Booklet: Aspen Theatre Institute Child Drama", 1974
- Center for Continuing Education pamphlet, 1973
- Akron Art Institute Calendar, 1974
- Book: Alternative Arts Experience 1984-85 Puppetry: With George Latshaw

Folder: News Clippings and Miscellaneous

- Contains news clippings about G. Latshaw shows and workshops, notes and calendar of production, letter from Smithsonian Institute on article submission and subsequent pamphlet with article

**Subseries: Scripts**

- "Noah from A to Z" by George Latshaw (2 copies)

- “Pinocchio” by George Latshaw
- “The Wizard of Oz” by George Latshaw (3 copies)
- “Look up and Live” by George Latshaw
- “To Dream a Dinosaur” by George Latshaw
- “The Prince with the Elephant Spell” by George Latshaw
- “Bug in a Rug” by George Latshaw
- “Pin the Blame” uncredited, presumably by George Latshaw
- “NBC Children’s Theatre: Quillow and the Giant” by James Thurber

### **Series: Photos**

- File full of loose photos and some negatives, unsorted
- Small White Envelope: The Nancy’s (color photo)
- Small White Envelope: Latshaw w Female hand puppet and suitcase (b&w – 6)
- White Envelope: Wilbur with Granny Hangeborg 5x7” b&w photo
- White Envelope: Granny Hangeborg 5x7” b&w photo
- White Envelope: Chinese Puppets on Display 1993 Taipei Gallery
- White Envelope: 19 slides of Guangzhou puppet Co. sent to George Latshaw
- White Envelope: Nikolai Zykov w puppets 4x6” color photograph
- White Envelope: Puppet stage w 4 rod puppets 5x7” color photograph
- White Envelope: Wilbur and the Giant 5x7” b&w photo
- Grey Envelope: Other Hand Productions: Letter to Latshaw, 2 8x10 photos
- Grey Envelope: Handwritten Notes, sketches
- Grey Envelope: Design-a-Graph from C.G. Burns to Mildred Latshaw 1969
- Grey Envelope: B&W photographs (7)
- Grey Envelope: Photocopied articles
- Grey Envelope: Pics from 1996 O’Neill Conference (9)
- Grey Envelope: Hand puppet patterns by Lewis Mahlmann
- Grey Envelope: 8x10’ b&w photo of Wilbur with Burd (8)
- Grey Envelope: Wilbur w sword and shield: 8x10’ negative (1), 8x10’ b&w photo (7)
- Grey Envelope: 8 ½ x 11’ b&w photos of Latshaw performance 7
- Grey Envelope: Original prints: articles, ads
- Grey Envelope: The Lesselli Marionettes: 2 print-offs, 3 8 ½ x 11 b&w photos
- Grey Envelope: 8 ½ x 11 b&w photos: Bob Baker Productions
- Grey Envelope: Latshaw and fellow puppeteer work hand and rod puppets: 8 x 10 b&w photos
- Grey Envelope: 8 x 10 b&w photos(20): Performances, sets, construction, Latshaw w puppets
- Grey Envelope: Original print-offs: Follow-up to Latshaw workshop, Detroit puppeteers guild’s 50<sup>th</sup> bday, memoirs: 1<sup>st</sup> 2 decades of Detroit puppeteers guild, institute of professional puppetry arts annual report 1985-1986
- Grey Envelope: 8 x 10 b&w photo Poko puppets, inc “The Adv’s of Peer Gynt”
- Manila Envelope: “A Puppet Play” 6 panel Japanese screen Edo Period, 18<sup>th</sup> Century, 2 posters
- Manila Envelope: Lesselli Marionettes present “The Sleeping Beauty” (with puppet design template)
- Manila Envelope: Puppet Patterns

- Manila Envelope: Puppet Patterns (not a repeat, 2 packets called this)
- Manila Envelope: Flyer 'Meet George Latshaw" 1980

**Series: Publications**

- "The Grapevine, The Puppeteers of America", undated
- "The Grapevine, The Puppeteers of America", 1949
- "The Puppeteers of America, Inc. Directory & Handbook", 2004
- "The Puppetry Journal" hardcover, 1997
- "The Puppetry Journal" hardcover, 1998
- Black binder containing a Timeline Draft of human history alongside puppetry history, range of 1685-1993