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Inventory

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Southern Light Opera Company, Edinburgh

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Minute books, financial records, membership records, diaries, photographs, programmes and year books, 1896-2005, of the Southern Light Opera Company, Edinburgh.

The Southern Light Opera Company was founded in 1896 by a group of about forty amateur men and women gathered in the Union Hotel, Edinburgh. They wanted to perform light operas, most of them lived in the south part of the City, hence the name of their company. Their first production was *HMS Pinafore*, by Gilbert and Sullivan, in May 1897. Their first mention of distribution of funds to charity appears in April 1901, and from that date onwards charity is a major identifying element of the southern Light Opera Company.

Deposited, 2006.

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1-11 MINUTE BOOKS, 1897-1972

[The First Minute Book seems to be missing].

1. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 2, 4 June 1897 – 14 December 1900.
2. Executive Meetings, Minute Book, 4 January 1901 – 7 April 1905.
3. Executive Meetings, Minute Book, 7 April 1905 – 11 April 1911.
4. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 5, 26 April 1911 – 26 June 1921.
5. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 6, 6 July 1921- 15 March 1932.
6. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 7, 29 March 1932 – 19 June 1940.
7. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 8, 19 June 1940 – 13 June 1956.
8. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 9, 13 June 1956 – 11 June 1969.
9. Executive Meetings, Minute Book 10, 11 June 1969 – 29 May 1996.
10. Casting Committee Minute Book, 20 November 1938 – 8 January 1964.
11. Casting Committee Minute Book, 30 September 1964 – 6 December 1972.

12-18 FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1906-1981

12. Ledger, 1906-1965.
13. Ledger, 1965-1984.
14. Ticket Sales Ledger, 1938-1984.
15. Cash Book, 24 September 1935 – 19 May 1952.
16. Cash Book, 2 June 1952 – 21 May 1965.
17. Southern Light Opera Company Social Committee Cash Book, 2 June 1934 – 13 March 1959.
18. Southern Light Opera Company Social Committee Ledger, October 1952 – 26 May 1981.

19-22 MEMBERSHIP RECORDS, 1896-2005

19. Southern Light Opera Company Register, 1983-1990.
20. Southern Light Opera Company Register, 1990-1993.
21. The Southern Light Opera Company, Membership Register, 1896-2005.
22. Statistics: Various lists.

23 DIARY

23. Southern Light Opera Company's diary, complete chronology from 1896 to 1997.

24-29 PROGRAMMES, 1899-1996

24. Programmes of company's performances, containing the names of the cast, prices and local businesses' adverts, 1899-1972. The date is the first performance. *means laminated copy.
The Yeomen of the Guard, Operetta House, Edinburgh, 30 March 1899.
The Pirates of Penzance, Operetta House, Edinburgh, 22 February 1900.
* *The Gondoliers* and *The Mikado*, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, 5 March 1901.
* *Iolanthe* and *Patience*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 4 March 1902.
* *The Rose of Persia*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 5 May 1903.
* *The Yeoman of the Guard*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 5 May 1903.
Utopia, Limited, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 May 1904.
* *The Gondoliers*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 May 1904.
* *The Grand Duke*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 9 May 1905.
* *The Pirates of Penzance*, followed by *Trial by Jury*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 9 May 1905.
* *Merrie England*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 8 May 1906.
* *The Mikado*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 8 May 1906.
* *The Emerald Isle*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 7 May 1907.
* *Princess Ida*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh 7 May 1907.
* *Dorothy*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 5 May 1908.
* *The Gondoliers*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 5 May 1908.
* *The Yeomen of the Guard*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 4 May 1909.
* *The Rose of Persia*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 4 May 1909.
* *Véronique*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 4 April 1910 (twice).
* *Merrie England*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 4 April 1910.
* *The Vicar of Bray*, preceded by *Forty Winks*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 3 April 1911.
* *Tom Jones*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 3 April 1911 (twice).
* *Ma Mie Rosette*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 18 March 1912.
* *A Princess of Kensington*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 18 March 1912.
* *Patience*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 March 1913.
* *Les Manteaux Noirs (The Black Coats)*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 March 1913.
* *The Nautch Girl*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 16 March 1914.
* *The Gondoliers*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 16 March 1914.

- * *A Greek Slave* [and *The Midado*], Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 1 March 1915 (twice).
- * *Véronique*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 8 May 1917.
- * *A Country Girl*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 7 May 1918.
- * *San Toy*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 6 May 1919.
- * *Havana*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 3 May 1920.
- * *A Country Girl*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 2 May 1921.
- * *The Pirates of Penzance*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 2 May 1921.
- * *The Lady Dandies*, Lyceum Theatre, 30 April 1923.
- * *A Runaway Girl*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 21 April 1924.
- Havana*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 23 March 1925.
- The Messenger Boy*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 22 March 1926.
- The Arcadians*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 23 March 1931.
- The Desert Song*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh 3 February 1936.
- The Vagabond King*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 28 February 1938.
- Merrie England*, Braidburn Open-Air Theatre, 3 June 1946.
- The Vagabond King*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 3 March 1947.
- The Vagabond King*, Braidburn Open-Air Theatre, 21 June 1947.
- Showboat*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 1 March 1948.
- Carissima*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 17 March 1952.
- Balalaika*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 16 March 1953.
- Pink Champagne*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 29 March 1954.
- Showboat*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 12 March 1956.
- White Horse Inn*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 11 March 1957.
- Wild Grows the Heather*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 March 1958.
- Naughty Marietta*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 14 March 1960.
- Sweethearts*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 26 March 1962.
- Bittersweet*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 25 March 1963.
- The Land of Smiles*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 16 March 1964.
- The Vagabond King*, in Playbill, vol.1, No.1, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 14 March 1966.
- Waltzes from Vienna*, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, 20 March 1972.

25. Laminated copies of programmes, 1901-1924.

26. Programmes of various performances by the Company.

- Choruses, solos, duets, trios, and quartets from Sir Arthur Sullivan's Operas, Paterson & Sons' Tenth Concert, 28 February 1903.
- Song and Story*, Dunbar, 30 March 1921.
- Concert at West Princes Street Gardens, 26 June 1939.
- Concert at the Central Hall, Tollcross, 19 April 1940.
- Concert at the Central Hall, Tollcross, 20 April 1940.
- Concert at Usher Hall, 12 May 1940.
- Festival of Remembrance, Usher Hall, November 1951.
- "Spotlight", Edinburgh Students' Charities Appeal, 27 April 1952.
- King's Theatre's programme, Edinburgh, 25 April 1960.
- The Edinburgh Revue*, souvenir programme, April 1960.
- Songs from the Shows*, Portobello Town Hall, 11 May 1962.
- King's Theatre's programme, March 1964.

Thirty Seventh National Conference, Peebles Hydro, May 1964.
Songs from the Shows, Edinburgh, 25 October 1970.
Thanksgiving Concert, Edinburgh, 7 November 1980.

27. The Southern Light Opera Company, souvenir programmes, vol.1, 1930-1956.
28. The Southern Light Opera Company, souvenir programmes, vol.2, 1957-1976.
29. The Southern Light Opera Company, souvenir programmes, vol.3, 1977-1996.

30-38 YEAR BOOKS, 1896-1999

30. Year Book 1, 1896-1914.
31. Year Book 2, 1915-1927.
32. Year Book 3, 1928-1945.
33. Year Book 4, 1945-1957.
34. Year Book 5, 1958-1969.
35. Year Book 6, 1970-1982.
36. Year Book 7, 1982-1992.
37. Year Book 8, 1992-1999.
38. David McBain, "*More a way of life*", *100 Years of Southern Light Opera Company*, Edinburgh, 1997.

39-52 POSTERS, 1898-1924

- 39-40. *The Midado*, Operetta House, 3 November 1898.
41. *The Gondoliers* and *Utopia, Limited*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 May 1904.
42. *The Emerald Isle* and *Princess Ida*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 7 May 1907.
43. *Tom Jones*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, 7 March 1916.
44. *Patience* and *Les Manteaux Noirs*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 10 March 1913.
45. *A Greek Slave* and *The Mikado*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 1 March 1915.
46. *Véronique*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 8 May 1917.
47. *A Country Girl*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 7 May 1918.
48. *San Toy*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 6 May 1919.
49. *Havana*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 3 May 1920.
50. *The Marriage Market*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, 24 April 1922.
51. *The Lady Dandies*, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 30 April 1923.
52. *A Runaway Girl*, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, 21 April 1924.

53-63 PHOTOGRAPHS, 1908-1994

53. Photographs taken from programmes, showing actors of the company. Some include captions, 1915-1994.

Photographs of members of the company, with names, dates and titles of the shows, 1908-1959.

54. 1908-1941.
55. 1915-1919.
56. 1920-1921.
57. 1922.
58. 1923-1924.
59. 1925-1926.
60. 1927-1939.
61. 1957.
62. 1959.

63. Newspaper cutting: *The People's Journal*, 25 February 1967, "70 years of song from the Southern Light".