

## Guide to the Charley Henchis Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f10j44>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Henchis, Charley
<b>Title:</b>	Charley Henchis Papers
<b>ID:</b>	MS-01145
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately 1945 to 1987
<b>Physical Description:</b>	17.46 Cubic Feet (22 boxes, 7 oversized boxes, 3 flat files)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	14.35 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	The majority of material in this collection is written in French with some materials in English.
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Charley Henchis Papers (approximately 1945-1987) document the career of international cabaret show producer Charley Henchis and the shows he produced in Las Vegas, Nevada and Beirut, Lebanon. Materials include Henchis' business files which includes correspondence, files on specialty acts, photographs, and press about Henchis. Shows represented in this collection includes <i>La Parisienne</i> which was performed at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas in 1960 before moving to Casino du Liban in Beirut. Other shows represented in this collection that were produced for Casino du Liban includes <i>Mais Oui, S'il Vous Plait, Flash!</i> , and <i>Hello!</i> . Additional materials include press and publicity files, music arrangements and scores, recordings of musical numbers used for the productions, and film footage of shows and production reels. Also included is film footage of the Charley Ballet, Henchis' dance troupe who were featured in his shows.

### Preferred Citation

Charley Henchis Papers, approximately 1945-1987. MS-01145. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f10j44>

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## Biographical Note

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Charley Henchis was a cabaret producer who was born on August 15, 1909 in Hlinaia, Moldova and grew up in the south of France. He founded the dance troupe, the Charley Ballet, who performed in his productions. In 1960, Henchis was contracted by the Dunes Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada to produce *La Parisienne*, a revue performed in the Arabian Room. The show opened on February 18, 1960 and featured original music by Michel Legrand played by Bill Reddie & his Orchestra, and featured a cast of 80 performers from Europe. In 1961, Henchis moved to Beirut, Lebanon to produce *La Parisienne* for the Casino du Liban. Henchis produced additional shows for the Casino du Liban throughout the 1960s and 1970s including *Mais Oui, S'il Vous Plait*, *Hello!*, and *Flash!*.

Henchis died on July 12, 1994 in Paris, France.

Sources:

Duke, Forrest, "Monday Mumblings," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. October 30, 1961, NewsBank. *Fabulous Las Vegas*, February 13, 1960: 17.

Philippe Dumont, email message to curator Su Kim Chung, November 3, 2023.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Charley Henchis Papers (approximately 1945-1987) document the career of international cabaret show producer Charley Henchis and the shows he produced in Las Vegas, Nevada and Beirut, Lebanon. The French spelling of Beirut (Beyrouth) is used throughout the materials. Materials include Henchis' business files which include correspondence, files on specialty acts, photographs, and press about Henchis. Shows represented in this collection includes *La Parisienne* which was performed at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas in 1960 before moving to Casino du Liban in Beirut. Other shows represented in this collection that were produced for Casino du Liban includes *Mais Oui, S'il Vous Plait*, *Flash!*, and *Hello!*. Additional materials include press and publicity files, music arrangements and scores, recordings of musical numbers used for the productions, and film footage of shows and production reels. Also included is film footage of the Charley Ballet, Henchis' dance troupe who were featured in his shows.

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## Arrangement

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Materials are arranged by topic.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

### Publication Rights

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### Acquisition Note

Materials were donated by Philippe Dumont in memory of Jacques and Sylvia Dumont in 2023; accession number 2023-019.

### Appraisal Note

Acquired by Su Kim Chung, curator, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings in entertainment history. The original acquisition included 2.17 linear feet of duplicate photographs that were de-duplicated and securely disposed during processing. One 35mm film that was topically out-of-scope with the collection materials and exhibiting conservation concerns including vinegar syndrome was reviewed and securely disposed during processing.

### Processing Note

In 2023, Tammi Kim processed the collection and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. Materials were rehoused, arranged, and described at the box level.

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## Names and Subjects

- Music-halls (Variety-theaters, cabarets, etc.)
- Entertainment
- Revues
- sheet music
- Music (Arrangement)
- Beirut (Lebanon)
- Dunes Hotel and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Casino du Liban

## Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Charley Henchis personal and business files	
Show contracts, 1968 to 1972 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 15
Orchestra, musicians, specialty act contracts, 1963 to 1968 Physical Description: 9 Files	box 16
Specialty act files: correspondence and photographic prints, 1966 to 1978 Physical Description: 27 Files	box 18
Press clippings and scrapbook, production notes and song lists, <i>Jubilee!</i> show program, personal legal files and correspondence, approximately 1960 to 1984 Physical Description: 8 Files	box 20
Jose Luis Vinas costume drawings, approximately 1964 to 1974	box 16
Personal and professional correspondence regarding <i>Mais Oui</i> and <i>Hello!</i> , approximately 1960 to 1980 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 16
Various French revue show programs, approximately 1960 to 1980 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 17
French magazines: <i>Air France Maine Montparnasse</i> , <i>Air France Atlas</i> , <i>Vogue</i> , 1975 Physical Description: 3 Items	box 17
Charley Henchis with Charley Ballet dancers in presumably <i>Mais Oui</i> production: photographic prints, approximately 1945 to 1970	box 15

Physical Description: 5 Files

Charley Ballet audiovisual materials	
Charley Ballet film footage: 35mm film reels, approximately 1960 to 1971 Physical Description: 3 Reels (35mm film)	box 01
Charley Ballet film footage: 35mm film reels, approximately 1960 to 1971 Physical Description: 3 Reels (35mm film)	box 02
Charley Ballet film footage: 35mm film reels, approximately 1960 to 1971 Physical Description: 2 Reels (35mm film)	box 03
Charley Ballet at Casino du Liban: 35mm film reel, approximately 1960 to 1971 Physical Description: 1 Reels (35mm film)	box 02
<i>La Parisienne</i> show files	
<i>La Parisienne</i> Las Vegas and Casino du Liban productions: press clippings, photographic prints, and show programs, 1953 to 1965 Physical Description: 7 Files	box 19
<i>La Parisienne</i> scrapbook with press clippings and show programs, 1960	oversized box 26
<i>La Parisienne</i> publicity files and press clippings, 1959 to 1960	oversized box 30
Music recordings for <i>La Parisienne</i> : 1/4 inch open reel audio tape, approximately 1960 to 1963 Physical Description: 3 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	box 06
Music recordings for <i>La Parisienne</i> : 1/4 inch open reel audio tape, approximately 1960 to 1963 Physical Description: 2 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	box 07
<i>La Parisienne</i> footage: 35mm film reel, approximately 1960 to 1963 Physical Description: 3 Reels (35mm film)	box 03
<i>La Parisienne</i> music arrangements by part, 1960	box 32
Casino du Liban files	
Publicity files and press clippings, approximately 1963 to 1974 Physical Description: 6 Files	box 15
Various Casino du Liban revues: photographic prints, approximately 1964 to 1974 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 15
Press clippings about Casino du Liban, production notes, song lists, and venue contract, approximately 1966 to 1975 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 15
Casino du Liban theater set design drawings, approximately 1968	

flat file  
31

Press clippings, 1972	oversized box 21
Casino du Liban footage: 35mm film reel, approximately 1963 to 1971 Physical Description: 1 Reels (35mm film)	box 01
Beirut, Lebanon footage: 35mm film reel, approximately 1963 to 1971 Physical Description: 1 Reels (35mm film)	box 04
"Our France" Beirut footage: 35mm film reels, approximately 1963 to 1971 Physical Description: 2 Reels (35mm film)	box 05
Music recordings used for Casino du Liban productions: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1963 to 1971 Physical Description: 8 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	box 06
Music recordings used for Casino du Liban productions: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1963 to 1971 Physical Description: 8 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	box 07
Sheet music and arrangements for Casino du Liban productions, 1946 to 1972 Physical Description: 5 Files	box 20
Sheet music for Casino du Liban productions, 1968 to 1973 Physical Description: 3 Files	oversized box 21
Sheet music and arrangements presumably by Jean Alfano for Casino du Liban, approximately 1962 to 1972 Physical Description: 7 Files	box 20 oversized box 21
<i>Mais Oui</i> show files	
<i>Mais Oui</i> press clippings, production photographic prints, production notes, and show program, 1964 to 1968 Physical Description: 9 Files	box 19
<i>Mais Oui</i> press clippings, 1966	oversized box 21
<i>Mais Oui</i> press clippings and sheet music page, 1967	oversized box 30
<i>Mais Oui</i> prologue and finale acts set designs, 1968	flat file 29
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968 Physical Description: 11 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	box 06
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 07



Physical Description: 3 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 08
Physical Description: 6 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 09
Physical Description: 6 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 10
Physical Description: 5 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	
Music recordings for <i>Mais Oui</i> production: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 11
Physical Description: 3 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)	
Music arrangements by part for <i>Mais Oui</i> , approximately 1963 to 1968	box 12
	box 14
Music arrangements by part <i>Mais Oui</i> , approximately 1968	oversized box 22
	oversized box 23
	oversized box 24
	oversized box 25
<i>Mais Oui</i> production: 35mm film reel, approximately 1965 to 1968	box 05
Physical Description: 1 Reels (35mm film)	
<i>S'il Vous Plait</i> show files	
<i>S'il Vous Plait</i> show program, approximately 1963	box 19
Physical Description: 1 Files	
<i>S'il Vous Plait</i> press clippings and production photographic prints, approximately 1963	oversized box 30
Physical Description: 1 Files	
<i>S'il Vous Plait</i> production: photographic prints, approximately 1963	box 27
Physical Description: 9 Files	
<i>S'il Vous Plait</i> production: negatives, approximately 1963	box 27
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Music arrangements by part for <i>S'il Vous Plait</i> , approximately 1963 to 1965	box 13
Music recordings for <i>S'il Vous Plait</i> : 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, approximately 1963 to 1965	box 06

Physical Description: 5 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)

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Music recordings for *S'il Vous Plait*: 1/4 inch open reel audio tapes, 1963 to 1965      box 07

Physical Description: 2 Reels (1/4 inch open reel)

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*S'il Vous Plait* production: 35mm film reel, approximately 1963 to 1965      box 04

Physical Description: 1 Items

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*Flash!* show files

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*Flash!* show program and press clippings, approximately 1974 to 1975      box 19

Physical Description: 2 Files

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*Flash!* press clippings, 1974 to 1975      oversized  
box 21

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*Hello!* show files

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*Hello!* production notes and press clippings, approximately 1962 to 1975      box 19

Physical Description: 4 Files

flat file  
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Press clipping about *Hello!* in *L'Orient* newspaper, 1969      flat file  
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*Hello!* press clippings, approximately 1962 to 1975      oversized  
box 30