



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Ricki Covette Burlesque Collection

NMAH.AC.1335

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Ricki Covette Burlesque Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1335
Date:	1950 - 1980
Extent:	1.25 Cubic feet (1 box, 1 map folder)
Creator:	Covette, Ricki Jewell, Irene
Language:	English
Digital Content:	Image(s): Ricki Covette Burlesque Collection

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives Center in 2014 by Irene Jewell.

Processing Information

Collection is unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

Ricki Covette Burlesque Collection, ca. 1950-1980, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Born in 1926 in Alberta, Canada, Covette (Irene Jewell) had a twenty year career in show business, including theater, small parts in television and film, but especially burlesque. She was billed as "The

World's Tallest Exotic Dancer" at 6'8". After leaving show business, she started a successful second career as a real estate broker in the Los Angeles area. Covette died in February 2016.

Scope and Contents

Six scrapbooks documenting the Burlesque career of Irene Jewell (stage name:Ricki Covette), who was billed as "The World's Tallest Exotic Dancer" at 6'8". The albums contain clippings; letters; certiicates; photographs, including photographs of her act; ephemera, such as postcards, travel brochures, postcards and decals, from her travels; advertisements; and theater programs.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into one series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Burlesque (Theater) -- 1920-1970
- Burlesque shows -- 1920-1970
- Postcards -- 20th century
- Striptease -- 1920-1970
- Stripteasers -- 1920-1970

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements -- 20th century
- Brochures -- 20th century
- Certificates -- 20th century
- Clippings -- 20th century
- Decals
- Letters (correspondence) -- 20th century.
- Photographs -- 1950-2000
- Scrapbooks -- 20th century
- Theater programs -- 1950-2000