



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Dawn V. Rogala Circus Photographs and Papers

NMAH.AC.1427

Dawn Rogala and Kira Leinwand

2020

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Dawn V. Rogala Circus Photographs and Papers
<b>Date:</b>	1990-2015 (bulk 1992-1999)
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.1427
<b>Creator:</b>	Rogala, Dawn V. (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	4 Cubic feet (12 boxes)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Dawn V. Rogala Circus Photographs and Papers</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Dawn V. Rogala, 2017.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Kira Leinwand, intern, 2019.

### Preferred Citation

Dawn V. Rogala Circus Photographs and Papers, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Reproduction restricted due to copyright or trademark. Photographer retains copyright until death.

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## Biographical / Historical

A paintings conservator and photographer, Rogala traveled with every tented, full time, traveling American circus which traveled at least eight months of every year, during the years 1992-1998. She photographed not only the performances, but the behind-the-scenes activities of setting up and breaking down, and activities such as animal care (especially elephants), costuming, make-up, and day-to-day life on the road.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection, compiled and photographed by Dawn Rogala, documents daily life in traveling, tented circuses in America, including: Clyde Beatty-Cole Brothers, Circus Vargas, Sterling & Reid Brothers, Culpepper and Merriweather, Carson and Barnes, Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus, Big Apple Circus, Carson and Barnes Circus, Culpepper and Merriweather Circus, Franzen Brothers Circus, Roberts Brothers Circus, Sterling and Reid Brothers Circus, and Walker Brothers Circus. The collection consists primarily of photographic materials such as slides, prints and negatives. It also includes Rogala's project files containing schedules, programs, notes, correspondence, pictures of Rogala on the road, etc., and transcribed interviews that Rogala conducted.

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## Arrangement

The collection is divided into seven series.

Series 1: Black-and-White Negatives, and Color Transparencies, 1992-1995

Series 2: Xerographic Prints, 1992-1998

Series 3: Low Resolution Xerographic Prints, 1992-1998

Series 4: Interview Transcripts, 1995, 1998

Series 5: Early Organization of the Book, 2005

Series 6: Miscellaneous Ephemera, 1990-2015

Series 7: Miscellaneous Materials, 1993-1996

Series 8: Oversize, 1992-1993

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Acrobats
- Circus
- Circuses (performances)
- Clowns
- Elephants

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence -- 1990-2000
- Interviews -- 1990-2000
- Negatives -- 1990-2000
- Notes -- 1990-2000
- Photographs -- 1990-2000
- Photographs -- Color photoprints -- 1990-2000
- Programs -- 1990-2000
- Schedules -- 1990-2000
- Slides (photographs) -- 1990-2000

Names:

Big Apple Circus  
Carson & Barnes Circus  
Circus Vargas  
Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus  
Culpepper and Merriweather Circus  
Franzen Bros. Circus  
Kelly Miller Circus  
Roberts Bros. Circus  
Sterling and Reid Bros. Circus  
Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus  
Walker Bros. Circus

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Black and White Negatives, Color Transparencies, 1992-1995

Scope and Contents: This series consists of black-and-white negatives, color transparencies and negatives, contact sheets and contact proofs prints; primarily 35 mm, some medium format. Some contact sheets include markings and notes related to selection for printing. The materials are arranged by circus.

Box 1	Big Apple Circus, color slides and transparencies; also color negatives and black-and-white prints, 1992-1994
Box 1	Big Apple Circus, black-and-white negatives, primarily 35mm, with contact sheets and some enlargements, 1992-1994
Box 2	Big Apple Circus, color slides and transparencies, 1995
Box 2	Big Apple Circus, black-and-white negatives, with contact sheets, 1995
Box 3	Carson & Barnes Circus, color slides, black-and-white negatives, contact sheets, 1995
Box 5	Circus Vargas and Sterling & Reid Bros. Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1998
Box 4	Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1995
Box 5	Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1996
Box 3	Franzen Brothers Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1994-1996
Box 4	Kelly Miller Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1995
Box 3	Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1993
Box 3	Roberts Bros. Circus black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides; some Roberts Bros. Circus images include Franzen Brothers Circus (from a shared lot), 1994
Box 5	Walker Bros. Circus, black-and-white negatives and contact sheets, color slides, 1995

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## Series 2: Xerographic Prints, 1992-1998

Scope and Contents: This series includes xerographic prints of color transparencies and black and-white contact sheets with notes on the back.

Box 9, Folder 1-2	Big Apple Circus, 1992-1994
Box 9, Folder 3	Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus, 1995
Box 9, Folder 3	Roberts Bros. Circus, 1993-1994
Box 9, Folder 4	Franzen Brothers Circus, 1994-1995
Box 9, Folder 5	Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 9, Folder 6	Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros.Circus, 1995
Box 9, Folder 7	Kelly Miller Circus, 1995
Box 9, Folder 8	Walker Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 9, Folder 9	Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, 1996
Box 9, Folder 10	Sterling & Reid Bros.Circus, 1998
Box 9, Folder 10	Circus Vargas, 1998

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## Series 3: Low Resolution Xerographic Prints, 1992-1998

Scope and Contents: This series consists of low resolution xerographic prints and selected images from each circus. The materials are arranged circus.

Box 9, Folder 11	Big Apple Circus, 1992-1995
Box 10, Folder 1	Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 10, Folder 4	Franzen Brothers Circus, 1994, 1996
Box 10, Folder 4	Vidbel's Old Tyme Circus, 1993
Box 10, Folder 4	Roberts Bros.Circus, 1994
Box 10, Folder 2	Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 10, Folder 3	Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 11, Folder 1	Kelly Miller Circus, 1995
Box 11, Folder 2	Walker Bros Circus, 1995
Box 11, Folder 3	Culpepper Merriweather Circus, 1996
Box 11, Folder 4	Circus Vargas, 1998
Box 11, Folder 4	Sterling & Reid Bros.Circus, 1998

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## Series 4: Interview Transcripts, 1995, 1998

Scope and Contents: This series consists of typescript and annotated interview transcripts. Interviews were conducted by Dawn Rogala.

Box 7, Folder 1	Angel, midway worker (snakes and other animals), Sterling and Reid Bros. Circus, 1998
Box 7, Folder 2	Paul Binder, co-founder and artistic director, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 3	Katherine Schumann Binder (10 years old), performing company member (and daughter of Paul Binder and Katja Schumann) Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 4	Bill Brickie, ringmaster and animal trainer (dogs), Walker Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 5	Barbara Byrd, director and co-owner, daughter of D. R. Miller, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 6	Al Calienes, performing company member. Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 7	Martin Espana, performer and tent boss, Sterling and Reid Bros. Circus, 1998
Box 7, Folder 8	Doady Fornasari, performer (and ringmaster's father), Circus Vargas, 1998
Box 7, Folder 9	Jimmy James, performance director and ringmaster, Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 10	Jerry, "24-hour man" Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 10	Jim Judkins, vice-president (and owner of midway snakes), Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 11	R. Lara, house crew, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 12	David LeBlanc, director of operations and tent boss, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 13	Reginald "Reggie" Lindsey, Sr., exotic animal handler, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 14	Barry Lubin, performing company member ("Grandma"), Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 15	Eli Milcheva, performing company member, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 16	Jim Moran, assistant ring crew chief, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 17	John Moss, ringmaster, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 18	Tuffy Nicholas, lot boss. Sterling & Reid Bros. Circus, 1998

Box 7, Folder 19	Lucio Nicolodi acrobatics trainer, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 20	Denise Loyal Pickup, production office, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 21	Guy Pickup, assistant tent manager, Big Apple Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 22	Graham Polakovs, performer, Walker Bros, Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 23	Rambo, Mechanic, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 24	Armando Rosales, bareback rider, with Peter Coolidge and Megan Murray (daughter of lot manager), midway and concessions and horses, Carson & Barnes Circus (1995)
Box 7, Folder 25	Tim and Gigi Tegge, performers, Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 26	Alice Walker, owner's mother, Walker Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 27	Laura Herriot Walker, performer and horse trainer, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 28	Unidentified man, horse groom, Carson & Barnes Circus, 1995
Box 7, Folder 29	Unidentified man, Sterling & Reid Bros. Circus, 1998

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## Series 5: Early Organization of Book, 2005

Box 7, Folder 30      Selection of unedited interviews, includes notes and editor's questions, circa 2005

Box 7, Folder 31      Selection of edited interviews, includes notes regarding thematic groups, circa 2005

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## Series 6: Miscellaneous Ephemera, 1990-2015

Scope and Contents: This series contains miscellaneous publications, programs, documents, model releases, contracts, correspondence, advertising, route cards, notes and memorabilia. The materials are arranged by circus.

Box 8, Folder 1	Big Apple Circus, 1993-1994
Box 8, Folder 2	Carson & Barnes Circus, 1993-1994
Box 8, Folder 3	Circus Flora (not part of documentary group), 1990-1994
Box 8, Folder 4	Circus Vargas, 1998
Box 8, Folder 5	Cirque du Soleil (not part of documentary group), 1993
Box 8, Folder 6	Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 8, Folder 7	Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, 1994-1995
Box 8, Folder 8	Franzen Brothers Circus, 1995
Box 8, Folder 9	Kelly Miller Circus, 1995
Box 8, Folder 10	Roberts Bros. Circus, undated
Box 8, Folder 11	Royal Hanneford Circus (not part of documentary group), 1994
Box 8, Folder 12	Sterling & Reid Bros. Circus, 1998
Box 8, Folder 13	Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus, 1993
Box 8, Folder 14	Walker Bros. Circus, 1995
Box 8, Folder 15	Miscellaneous circus publications, 1998-2015

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## Series 7: Miscellaneous Materials, 1993-1996

Scope and Contents: This series contains publications, programs, contracts, correspondence, advertising, memorabilia, ephemera, and snapshots related to travel.

Box 6, Folder 1	Notes regarding circus contact information and selection of circuses for travel, notes regarding visits to circus winter quarters to obtain travel permission, example of model release used by other photographers, and miscellaneous (Polaroids of RV used for some travel, greeting cards, etc.), 1993-1995
Box 6, Folder 2	Notes regarding personal expenses (film, travel) for project, final tally of rolls of film (color and black-and-white) used for each circus, 1994
Box 6, Folder 3	Xerographic copies of page spreads from circus book used as reference during early preparation of book proposals, materials from early book proposals, and transcribed notes taken while on the road, 1994
Box 6, Folder 4	Lists of images to print as thank you's for each show; lists are in a notebook that also includes notes from photography classes taken after travel was complete, 1996
Box 6, Folder 5	Snapshots of Rogala during travels, 4" x 6" color prints and 35mm color negatives; letter regarding publication of an image in White Tops magazine (1994); announcements for Soho Arts Festival exhibition , undated
Box 6, Folder 6	Point and shoot, 1994

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## Series 8: Oversize, 1992-1993

Box 12, Folder 1	Black-and-white studio portraits (8 x 10), 1992-1993
Box 12, Folder 3	Photographic copies of color transparencies
Box 12, Folder 2	Black-and-white prints (8 x 10), undated
Box 12, Folder 4	Color prints (8 x 10), undated
Box 12, Folder 5	Color prints (8 x 12), undated
Box 12, Folder 6	Color prints (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 7	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, preparations and miscellaneous (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 8	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, backstage in costume (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 9	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, daily life (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 10	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, getting in and out of costume (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 11	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, set-up and take down outside of the big top and miscellaneous (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 12	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, set-up and take down, laying out the tent (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 13	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, set-up and take down, under the big top (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 14	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, performance, audience (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 15	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, domestic animals (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 16	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, exotic animals (11 x 14), undated
Box 12, Folder 17	Various circuses, black-and-white prints, elephants (11 x 14), undated

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