

Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann  
National Library of Ireland

Collection List No. 145

Additional Mícheál Mac Liammóir and Hilton Edwards Papers

MSS 45,858-45,874

Acc. Nos. 6663, 6679, 6729

Additional papers of Mícheál Mac Liammóir and Hilton Edwards of the Gate Theatre, Dublin. Playscripts, correspondence, trophies and other material relating to the two theatre figures dating from the 1920s to the 1980s.

Compiled by Máire Ní Chonalláin, 2009

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## Introduction

This collection of the papers of the late Hilton Edwards and Mícheál Mac Liammóir is supplementary to another larger collection of their papers listed at the National Library of Ireland in Collection List 117. Edwards and Mac Liammóir were the founders of the Gate Theatre, Dublin, in 1928, and had been in business for almost fifty years when Mr Mac Liammóir passed away in 1978. They lived at No. 4, Harcourt Terrace, Dublin and the Gate Theatre was and is situated in Parnell Square. The two artists were immensely talented and used their gifts as actors, producers, set-designers and writers of scripts. The papers date from the 1920s to the early 1980s.

Hilton Edwards was an actor of considerable and varied experience who came to Ireland in 1927 to work for Anew McMaster. In the company was Mícheál Mac Liammóir, artist and actor, who had left the London stage to come to Ireland and devote his time to painting. He spoke six languages including Irish in which he wrote his first play. Under the direction of the two actors, a small company was formed. The Peacock was leased from the Abbey and in October 1928, they opened with *Peer Gynt*, followed it almost immediately with an English translation of Mac Liammóir's legend play, *Diarmuid and Gráinne*, and ended their second season with the first production of Denis Johnston's *The Old Lady Says No!* Having now given ample proof that they were serious workers and genuine men of the theatre, plans were made by Michael Scott to transform part of the Rotunda Buildings into a permanent home for them. The Dublin Gate Theatre Company Limited was registered on Christmas Eve, 1929. Edwards and Mac Liammóir continued to construct the theatre of their imagination. They chose the plays together and Edwards produced and lit them while Mac Liammóir designed costumes and settings, and painted all the scenery himself. A new play was presented every fortnight, and the little Gate grew steadily in reputation and following. They toured abroad with great success. The Gate Theatre continues to produce plays of an exceptional standard and is now in its 80<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Content and structure:**

The collection consists of 14 archival boxes dealing with the script writing, published works, professional and personal correspondence, scrapbooks and professional achievements of the two artists, and also documenting the death of Mícheál Mac Liammóir.

### **Custodial history and access:**

These papers were purchased by the National Library of Ireland in 2007 and are accessible in the Manuscripts Reading Room of the library. They are in good condition for the most part.

### **Associated Materials:**

Further materials associated with the careers of Hilton Edwards and Mícheál Mac Liammóir may be found at the following call numbers in the National Library of Ireland: Collection List No. 117 [MS 41,246-MS 41,340]; MS 20,710; MS 24,562; MS 24,292; MS 24,829 and in the archives of Dublin City Council and the Papers of the Dublin Gate Theatre are in North Western University, Evanston, Illinois, USA.

## I. Playscripts

These have been arranged in alphabetical order according to title of play.

- MS 45,858 /1      Typescript of Welsh version of *Diarmuid and Gráinne* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Seren Serch: Drama Wyddelig gan Michael Mac Liammoir wedi ei chyfieithu gan J.E. Caelwyn Williams. For a performance 12 May 1960.  
60 pages.
- MS 45,858 /2      Hilton Edwards's printed copy of a section of the play, Man and Superman by George Bernard Shaw, entitled *Don Juan in Hell*, in which he played The Devil. Cover marked in manuscript 'Hilton Edwards. The Devil: in Don Juan in Hell. Heavily annotated by Hilton Edwards in pencil and in red and blue crayon. No date.  
Pages 83-132.
- MS 45,858 /3      Carbon typescript description of *Full Moon for the Bride*, a Ballet by Mícheál Mac Liammóir, probably for the benefit of the composers of the music for same, Mícheál Mac Liammóir and A.J. Potter. No date.  
6 pages.  
Also, piano score for *Full Moon for the Bride*. No date.  
49 pages of musical score in manuscript.
- MS 45,858 /4      Typescript of the play, *Home for Christmas (or The Grand Tour): A Masquerade* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir with Music by Patrick Murray. No date.  
126 pages.
- MS 45,858 /5      Additional typescript of the play, *Home for Christmas (or The Grand Tour)* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. No date.  
121 pages.

- MS 45,858 /6 Folder marked *The Importance of Being Oscar* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Marked Hilton Edwards's script complete with lighting plot, setting instructions, running instructions. Dated: 25 November 1962.
- Item 1 in folder: *The Importance of Being Oscar* Light Plot – Lamp Settings and Requisition Sheet. 5 pages.
- Item 2 in folder: Printed flyer of Some Opinions of Mícheál Mac Liammóir in his “*The Importance of Being Oscar*” directed by Hilton Edwards. 4 pages.
- Item 3 in folder: Printed flyer to advertise Mícheál Mac Liammóir in “*The Importance of Being Oscar*”. 2 pages.
- Item 4 in folder: 5 illustrations/photographs for *The Importance of Being Oscar*.
- Item 5 in folder: Requisition sheet for the performance. 2 pages.
- Item 6 in folder: Presentation details of Mícheál Mac Liammóir's show. Dated 24 April 1962. 4 pages.
- Item 7 in folder: Programme for South African Tour May-July 1962. Inserted are two advertising flyers. 8 pages.
- Typescript copy of *The Importance of Being Oscar*. Written by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Directed by Hilton Edwards. (Cut and revised version). 67 pages.
- Inserted at back is the stage layout in manuscript 1 page and a photograph of the set.
- MS 45,858 /7 Note on Radio Telefís Éireann headed paper from ‘Lucy’ to Hilton Edwards. 1 page. With typescript copy of *The Importance of Being Oscar* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Part I. 28 pages. Part II. 27 pages.
- MS 45,858 /8 Typescript of Part of St. John Rivers in the adaptation for the stage of *Jane Eyre*. 15 pages.
- MS 45,858 /9 Hard bound folder with the following items:
- Flyer for *I Must be Talking to my Friends* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir at the Town Hall Theatre Killarney. August 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>. No year given.
- Typescript copy of *I Must be Talking to my Friends*. Part I. 17 pages. Part II. 22 pages.
- Second typescript copy of *I Must be Talking to my Friends*. Heavily annotated with many MS alterations in Hilton Edwards's hand. Part I. 22 pages. Part II. 28 pages.

- MS 45,858 /10 Published copy bound in red of William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. London: J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd. Small format. 1943 reprint of 1935 edition. xii, [2], 124 pages.
- MS 45,858 /11 Published copy of The Dramatic Works of Bernard Shaw. No. VI. *The Man of Destiny: A Trifle*. London: Constable and Company, 1927. Stamped Hilton Edwards and marked Production Copy 1955. 203 pages.
- MS 45,859 /1 Typescript copy of *The Mountains Look Different: a play in three acts* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 55 pages.
- MS 45,859 /2 Published copy bound in red of William Shakespeare's *Othello*. London J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd. Small format. 1955 reprint of 1934 edition. Hilton Edwards's production copy (1970). Manuscript annotations. 170 pages.
- MS 45,859 /3 Published copy of volume of two plays: *Androcles and the Lion*; *Pygmalion* by Bernard Shaw. Copyright edition. Leipzig: Bernhard Tauchnitz, 1921. Covered in brown marked *Pygmalion*: Freddy Eynesford Hill. Inside marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Marked in pencil throughout. 275 pages.
- MS 45,859 /4 Typescript copy of *Sophocles' King Oedipus, a version for the modern stage* by W.B. Yeats. Part of *Oedipus*. Marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 39 pages.
- MS 45,859 /5 Typescript of the story of *The Red Petticoat*. 8 pages.  
 Inserts to *The Red Petticoat* written in manuscript. 5 pages.  
 Some suggestions for song titles and themes. 2 pages.  
 Musical score for *The Speckled Shawl*. Music and lyrics: Patrick Murray. Additional lyrics: Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 36 pages.
- MS 45,859 /6 Folder with *An Seáilín Breac* and *The Speckled Shawl* written on it. Typed lists of song titles in *The Speckled Shawl*. 8 pages.  
 Extract of dialogue from the musical. 3 pages.  
 Words of two songs in the musical. *The Mountain Dew* and *The Pioneer*. 2 pages.  
 2 copies of the musical score. 10 pages.  
 Second folder with extract of dialogue from musical. 14 leaves.

- MS 45,859 /7      Published copy of William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. London: J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd. First published this edition 1934. Small format. Red volume. Prompt copy. With MS annotations. 130 pages.
- MS 45,859 /8      Published copy of *Three Plays for Puritans: Caesar and Cleopatra; The Devil's Disciple; Captain Brassbound's Conversion* by Bernard Shaw in one volume. Leipzig: Bernhard Tauchnitz, 1919. Inscribed: Máire ó Mhícheál, Feabhra, 1924. 384 pages.
- MS 45,859 /9      Typescript copy of *Trilby*, adapted by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Taffy's part. 105 pages.
- MS 45,859 /10      Published copy of *Tristram and Iseult: a dramatic poem* by An Philibín. Dublin: The Talbot Press Limited, 1924. Lacks front cover. MS insertions and annotations. 47 pages.
- MS 45,859 /11      Typescript copy of *Where Stars Walk*: a play by Mícheál Mac Liammóir adapted for radio by Philip Rooney. Stamped Hilton Edwards (his copy). MS annotations. Pages 32-80.
- MS 45,859 /12      Typescript copy of *Where Stars Walk*: a play in three acts by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Marked, in Mac Liammóir's hand: 'Original version: for use it must be revised.' MMacL. 130 leaves.

## II. Production Copy Notebooks re Performances

These have been arranged in alphabetical order.

- MS 45,860 /1      Red notebook for story of play ***Border-Journey*** and for ***Bright Mountain***. Also, drafts for letter replies and other jottings mainly in Mícheál Mac Liammóir's hand. Some of it appears to have been written while in London and Sicily. No dates. 100 pages approximately.  
Also, blue notebook marked ***The Bright Mountain***: a play in three acts with music by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Only 4 pages have been written on.
- MS 45,860 /2      Small black notebook marked on first page ***Diarmuid and Gráinne***. Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Finn Mac Cool. Inside is the script for Act II Scene II The Hut. All in black ink in Mac Liammóir's hand.  
16 pages approximately have text.



Box with much material relating to a production of *The Informer* by Liam O'Flaherty adapted by Mícheál Mac Liammóir in 1958 to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dublin Gate Theatre.

Selection of nine copybooks and production notebooks about the play.

Educational Standard Exercise Book *The Informer* marked Hilton Edwards. Production Book 1. Nos. 1 to 208. Part 1.

Educational Standard Exercise Book *The Informer* marked Hilton Edwards. Production Book 2. Nos. 209 to 437. Part 2.

Educational Exercise Book *The Informer* marked MMacL. Book 1.

Educational Exercise Book. *The Informer* marked MMacL. Book 2.

The Student's Exercise Book marked *The Informer* Book 3 with notes in Mícheál Mac Liammóir's hand.

Educational Exercise Book marked *The Informer* Book 4 with notes in Mícheál Mac Liammóir's hand.

Plain red copybook marked *The Informer* Book 5 with notes in Mícheál Mac Liammóir's hand.

Red exercise book with buff spine marked *The Informer*: Moves.

Leabhar Cleachta. Blue exercise book marked *The Informer*: wardrobe. Includes loose inserts with drawing of woman.

Stage layout for *The Informer* at the Olympia Theatre. Director Hilton Edwards. Décor Robert Heade.

Set of three paintings by Robert Heade to illustrate plan of set for *The Informer*.

2 folded sheets marked Informer Cast Breakdown by Hilton Edwards. Dated 6 September 1958. Manuscript format.

Second set of cast suggestions for the Informer, Hilton Edwards copy, dated 14 September 1958. Typed format.

The Informer Cast Breakdown in Hilton Edwards hand with Mícheál Mac Liammóir's suggestions in pencil on the right hand side. 7 leaves.

Circular letter informing cast of arrangements for two plays, and mentioning that in both these plays the cast will be headed by Orson Welles.

Large Exercise Book marked Informer with Scenes 16 and 18 and Scene 19 Revision.

Large Exercise Book marked Hilton Edwards at top right hand side. *The Informer*. Breakdown of Scenes.

6 sheets of lighting cues and arrangements for *The Informer*.

Two sheets of sound cues for *The Informer*.

Three sheets with list of items required for play.

10 sheets with plans for the set for the different scenes.

1 box.

- MS 45,860 /4      Brown exercise book marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir. *Mirabelle* – book 1.  
Inside marked *Mirabelle* Act 1 Scene 1. 6 pages.  
At the other end of the book is a brief description of some of the characters in *Mirabelle*. 1 page.
- MS 45,860 /5      Collegiate Exercise Book marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir on the cover. Sketches of faces, one on cover and two on inside covers, originals in pencil by Mac Liammóir. Exercise book almost completely full of writing with final drafts of compositions and sketches of settings. Ca 73 pages.  
Also, The Shandon Drawing Book, with three rough sketches in pencil.
- MS 45,860 /6      *The Speckledy Shawl* Act 1 written in manuscript in Mac Liammóir's hand. 14 pages.  
Student's Manuscript Book marked on cover 'Notes for extensions of "*The Speckledy Shawl*" by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Dialogues at end of this book.' However, pages have been cut out of the end of the exercise book. Extensions and possible inserts for *The Speckledy Shawl*. Date 1968. 24 pages.

Stage plans for *Twelfth Night*. One large sheet. Two fairly large sheets. Two smaller sheets and two paintings of how the set should look. 7 items.

Note marked 1 December 1969 in Hilton Edwards's writing with suggestions for performances at the Gate for the forthcoming season. 1 page.

Letter from Molly (McEwen), set designer, 5 London Street, Edinburgh, dated 26 January [1970], to Hilton Edwards, enclosing above stage plans for *Twelfth Night*. 1 page.

Further three paintings for set, probably for *Twelfth Night*. 3 pages.

Two plans for *Twelfth Night* and two drawings, one of the Kitchen Scene and one of the Garden Scene, probably by Molly McEwen.

Correspondence between Molly McEwen and Mícheál Mac Liammóir, January 1970. 6 pages.

Further correspondence, March 1970, indicating that *Twelfth Night* has been postponed, but asking to hold on to the drawings. 3 pages.

Correspondence between Hilton Edwards and Brian Boydell, Composer, November 1969, regarding possible musical arrangements for *Twelfth Night*, no date yet for performance. Also, asking Brian Boydell to be musical advisor to the Gate which he accepts. 4 pages in folder with further notes.

Letter from Molly McEwen, designer, to Hilton Edwards, re plans for *Twelfth Night*. 25 November [1969]. 3 pages.

Telegram from Molly Mc Ewen, Edinburgh, to Edmoir Dublin (Hilton Edwards and Mícheál Mac Liammóir) suggesting trip to Dublin to discuss project. 1 item.

A note in Hilton Edwards's hand regarding the cast for *Twelfth Night*. 1 page.

Another letter from Molly McEwen enclosing further plans for *Twelfth Night* taking account of Gaiety stage and looking any suggestions. Asking to be informed in time if it is to go ahead, dated 12 February [1970].

Item marked 'List given to Molly McEwen' re *Twelfth Night*, 1969. List of the various scenes in the play. 1 page.

Further letter from Molly [McEwen] to Hilton Edwards November 17 [1969]. 1 page.

Document, in Hilton Edwards's hand and marked 1969 and then 1970, indicating the music from Vivaldi's Four Seasons to be played at certain stages during the play, *Twelfth Night*. The music numbers refer to the jacket of The Four Seasons by Vivaldi. 5 pages.

### III. Published Material and Material for Publication

These have been arranged in alphabetical order.

- MS 45,861 /1      Typescript copy of *Bláth agus Taibhse*, a collection of poetry by Mícheál Mac Liammóir, to be published by Sáirséal agus Dill. [2], 62 pages.
- MS 45,861 /2      Manuscript item in Mac Liammóir's hand marked [Rediffusion Malta]: *The Dublin Gate Story*. 9 pages.
- MS 45, 861 /3      Proof copy of *Each Actor on his Ass* with manuscript annotations, stamped 'Please return to Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd.' (publishers). 30 pages.
- MS 45,861 /4      Typescript copy of *Elephant in Flight*: poems by Hilton Edwards. 80 leaves.  
Published copy of *Elephant in Flight* by Hilton Edwards. The Dolmen Press, 1967. On dust jacket: The New Dolmen Chapbooks 5. One hundred copies signed by the author. This copy signed at front and back by Hilton Edwards. 56 pages.
- MS 45,861 /5      Two published copies of *Enter a Goldfish: memoirs of an Irish actor, young and old* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Published London: Thames and Hudson, 1977. One is inscribed by the author to Patrick [Bedford] and the other to Hilton [Edwards]. Hilton Edwards's copy has an insert in typescript at page 129.  
2 items with 192 pages in each.
- MS 45,861 /6      Published copy of *Enter Certain Players: Edwards-Mac Liammóir and the Gate 1928-1978* edited by Peter Luke. The Dolmen Press, 1978. Inscribed by Hilton Edwards to Patrick Bedford. In bad condition without cover. [104 pages] illustrated.
- MS 45,861 /7      Handwritten notes for filming project. Preparatory notes in Mac Liammóir's hand. 5 pages in manuscript + 2 pages in typescript with manuscript annotations.
- MS 45,861 /8      Plans and sketches for play *A Hundred Years Old*. Photocopies. 6 pages.
- MS 45,861 /9      Hardback copybook with jottings on the Irish Ritual Calendar, probably by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 6 pages of manuscript text.

- MS 45,861 /10 List of plays produced by Dublin Gate Theatre Productions Ltd. (from March 1940 to June 1946). 4 pages.
- MS 45,861 /11 Two notebooks with notes by Hilton Edwards describing Mícheál Mac Liammóir, possibly for publication. The first notebook is an Educational Standard Exercise Book with Mícheál Chapter II marked on the cover in Hilton Edwards's hand. 6 pages in manuscript.  
The second notebook is in hardback with a sticker marked The Educational Company of Ireland Limited. It is marked Hilton Edwards, 4 Harcourt Terrace, Dublin, Ireland on the inside cover. 50 pages of manuscript text.
- MS 45,861 /12 Typescript copy of an autobiographical book by Hilton Edwards, entitled *Not in the Script* and later renamed *Adventures in Theatre-Craft* (and subsequently called *The Mantle of Harlequin*). Inserted at front are 4 typescript pages about Edwards probably written by Mac Liammóir as a foreword to the book. 169 pages with manuscript additions.
- MS 45,861 /13 Loose typescript pages of an autobiographical work by Hilton Edwards, as yet unnamed, dictated from a tape made by him 'as a kind of therapy' and dedicated 'to the brilliant shade of Mícheál Mac Liammóir.' [111] loose leaves.
- MS 45,861 /14 Typescript copy in poor condition of *The Mantle of Harlequin* otherwise known as *Adventures in Theatre-Craft* and previously called *Not in the Script*, revised script for Dolmen Press, February 1958, by Hilton Edwards. With many manuscript alterations and additions. 169 pages.
- MS 45,861 /15 Notebook, missing its front cover, of notes for The Observer and various other jottings on the subject of theatre. Probably Mac Liammóir's hand as well as another hand. Ca 85 pages of rough manuscript notes.
- MS 45,861 /16 Three printed copies of a pamphlet or offprint entitled *Three Shakespearian Productions: a conversation* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Reprinted from Shakespeare Survey, No. I, 1948. Printed in Great Britain. Three copies. 3 x 9 pages.

- MS 45,862 /1 Egyptian Diary proofs. Appeared under the title “Each Actor on his Ass” translated from the Irish of “Aisteoirí faoi Dhá Sholas” in 1956. (The proofs are in English.) Typescript with manuscript annotations.  
Proofs 96-187.
- MS 45,862 /2 Egyptian Diary proofs continued. See above.  
Proofs 188-246.
- MS 45,862 /3 Diary style typescript notes of anecdotes, some of them mentioning Orson Welles. Loose pages with numbers. No date. Possibly preparatory notes for ‘Put Money in Thy Purse’ – the making of Othello, 1952.  
21 loose leaves.
- MS 45,862 /4 Typescript account of a working visit to Rome and other places by Mícheál Mac Liammóir and Hilton Edwards. Starts in May 1949 and finishes in October of the same year. Written by MMacL. Some pages appear to be missing at the beginning. 87 pages.
- MS 45,862 /5 Manuscript notes in various hands, including Brief Thematic Analysis of ‘A Fugue of Cinderellas’ and the final page of the story of Lorcán Mac Luirc, and of Fionn Mac Cumhail of the Fianna Éireann. 8 pages.
- MS 45,862 /6 Manuscript in Irish, entitled ‘Turas Dearg’, describing various journeys, probably of Mícheál Mac Liammóir, written circa 1934 in ink, all in the Irish language.  
82 pages.
- MS 45,862 /7 Manuscript in Irish, entitled ‘Eachtraí Aisteora’ – the adventures of an actor, largely autobiographical, by Mícheál Mac Liammóir, written in ink all in the Irish language, no date, outlining his early life and career, and mentioning what a great effect an essay he read entitled ‘Ireland and the Arts’ by W.B. Yeats, had on him. He read it while he was attending the Slade Art School in England.  
37 pages.

#### IV. Miscellaneous Items

- MS 45,863 /1      Hardback Everyman's Duplicate Book marked in pencil An Amharclann Ghaedhilge, Gaillimh and inside first page dated Sat 30 June 1928. Hilton Edwards: Stage Director; Mícheál Mac Liammóir: Fear Léirithe. This is an order book with accounts for materials required to run An Amharclann Ghaedhilge such as curtains, costumes, labour, lights, salaries and petty cash. 1 item.
- MS 45,863 /2      Wardrobe lists and costume lists for various Gate Theatre productions. 1 folder.
- MS 45,863 /3      Reference list for casting plays in the 1970s. Contacts for actors and actresses. Folder with miscellaneous insertions re same. 1 folder.
- MS 45,863 /4      Copy of printed work *Lettres et poésies d'amour de Charlotte Bronte* inscribed by Mícheál Mac Liammóir 'For my darling Nana – who taught me to love Charlotte and the family at Haworth Parsonage, always Mícheál.' Paris, June 5<sup>th</sup>, [19]49. 1 volume.
- Also hardback cover of some other publication with Irish/English vocabulary in Mac Liammóir's hand and a printed list of Irish language related publications.
- MS 45,863 /5      Copy of *An Branar* for Feabhra (February), 1920. Imleabhar (Volume) I, Uimhir (Number) 5. A periodical in Irish with articles, poems and stories. Cover wanting. iv, 170-222 pages.
- MS 45,863 /6      The following printed works were found with the Edwards/Mac Liammóir collections deposited in the National Library:  
Copy of an extract from *Finnegans Wake* by James Joyce, Caedmon Publishers, New York, to accompany recording of same. 27 pages.  
Copy of *The Last Galway Hooker* by Richard Murphy, The Dolmen Press, Dublin, 1961. Inscribed by the author for Hilton Edwards. 12 pages.  
Copy of *Life Styles*, poems by Ulick O'Connor with nine translations from the Irish of Brendan Behan, The Dolmen Press, Dublin, 1973. Inscribed by the author for Hilton Edwards. 39 pages.  
Copy of *The Challenger*, a choric ode, by Rupert Strong, The Runa Press, Dublin, 1968. Inscribed by the author for Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 40 pages.

MS 45,863 /7

Eight photographs found in an envelope marked 'Miss Pyer'. Scenes from a play. One of the photographs features Mícheál Mac Liammóir. 8 black and white photographs + envelope.



## **V. Scrapbook**

MS 45,864      Large format scrapbook of news cuttings with no dates. 127 pages of news cuttings relating to performances in Dublin theatres and concert halls: theatre reviews, photographs, concert reviews, opera and orchestral reviews, letters to the editor regarding performances. No dates but probably 1950s. 127 pages.

## VI. Theatre Programmes

- MS 45, 865 /1 Two copies of a pamphlet called *Did you know that the Gate...* outlining the history of the Gate Theatre and with photographs to illustrate its activities. 2 x 12 pages.
- MS 45,865 /2 Copy of *Dublin Gate Theatre Productions 1928 to 1937*, presented by Hilton Edwards, direction, and Mícheál Mac Liammóir, design. Secretary: Mrs. Hughes. Detailed chronological account with cast lists of all the performances of the Dublin Gate Theatre, at home and abroad for the years 1928 to 1937. 9 pages.
- MS 45,865 /3 Programme for *King Herod Explains* by Conor Cruise O'Brien preceded by *The Liar* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir, production for the Dublin Theatre Festival 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1969. 4 pages.
- MS 45,865 /4 Six copies of a programme for the show *Talking About Yeats* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge 28-30 September 1970. The programme also includes details of a show with Joyce Grenfell at the same venue, the same week. 6 x 12 pages. In addition there is a flyer relating to shows at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge the following week.
- MS 45,865 /5 Programme for *Educating Rita* by Willy Russell. Performance at the Gate Theatre. Performed around Christmas 1981. 8 pages.

## VII. Personal Correspondence

These folders contain letters, postcards and telegrams from Mícheál Mac Liammóir to his partner, Hilton Edwards, written mainly while he was away on tour in the early 1960s. The contents are mainly personal and conversational, but with some references to business concerns. The letters are divided into x folders, sorted according to location from which they were sent. They are mostly manuscript letters and were kept by Hilton Edwards but do not include Hilton Edwards responses.

- MS 45,866 /1      Important personal correspondence between Mícheál Mac Liammóir and Hilton Edwards.  
-Includes last letter sent by MMacL to HE before his death, dictated to P.B. [Paddy Bedford], and signed by MMacL. Undated [c 1978].  
-With it is a small newspaper photograph of MMacL.  
-Also letter from HE to MMacL dated 18 Dec 1958.  
-Thought record, MMacL, Egypt, 1964.  
-Note on brown envelope by HE dated 20 Mar 1978: “Despite his instant interest in O.W. [Orson Welles], he was hardly at all influenced by him – if anything the strongest influence in M’s life was his cousin Máire O’Keefe and W.B. Yeats”.  
-MMacL’s life membership card for the Oscar Wilde Fan Club.  
5 items.
- MS 45,866 /2      HE family papers.  
-Includes HE’s birth certificate  
- The death certificate of HE’s mother.  
-Last will and testament of Robert Stephen Henry Edwards.  
-Letters from relatives whom HE believes are related to him through his father’s first wife (who died).  
7 items.
- MS 45,866 /3      5 postcards from MMacL to HE from: Cape Town, South Africa; Seville, Spain; Toledo, Spain; Geneva, Switzerland; Dierelwe, South Africa.  
11 holy pictures – some from Lourdes.  
3 telegrams from MMacL to HE.  
19 items.
- MS 45,866 /4      Letter from MMacL to HE from Buenos Aires, 2 July 1961.  
1 item.

- MS 45,866 /5 Letters from MMacL to HE from locations around Europe, including The Hague; Anvers; Geneva; Rome; Venice; 1962 and 1963.  
6 items.
- MS 45,866 /6 Letters from MMacL to HE from London. No dates.  
3 items.
- MS 45,866 /7 Letters from MMacL to HE from locations in South Africa including Bloemfontein; Durban; Port Elizabeth; East London; Pretoria; Johannesburg; Cape Town. Dates in May, June and July 1962.  
9 items.
- MS 45,866 /8 Letters from MMacL to HE from locations in the United States of America including Cambridge, Massachusetts; Toledo, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; Wisconsin; New York; Boston, Massachusetts; London, Ontario. October, 1961.  
10 items.
- MS 45,866 /9 Postcard and two letters from friends and acquaintances. *3 items.*
- Also, bills from Spic and Span, Same Day Cleaners, 81 Lower Camden Street, Dublin. *12 items.*
- MS 45,866 /10 Photographs of Mícheál Mac Liammóir - one at a dinner table with the waiter and two others; the other possibly for sending out to fans, of Mac Liammóir with a little dog. There are 26 of these and one negative.  
29 items.
- MS 45,866 /11 Folder of letters and photocopies of same from Dame Sybil Thorndike also known as Dame Sybil Casson, Chelsea, London. It includes a photograph of her and her husband, Lewis inscribed by her to Mícheál and Hilton. Date years unclear but possibly early 1970s.  
9 items + 44 photocopies.
- MS 45,866 /12 Letter and photocopy of same from 'Elizabeth', 42 Eaton Square, London S.W. 1. Dated 9 Dec 1968 [69?]  
1 item + 1 photocopy.

- MS 45,866 /13 Letters from Fay Compton to Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Years not given.  
6 original letters + 54 pages of photocopies.
- MS 45,866 /14 Letters from Turner Layton [no date] and Alfred Sidgwick 13 Sep 1935.  
2 original letters + 7 pages of photocopies.
- MS 45,866 /15 Letter from Rachel Kempson. 4 Sep 1970.  
1 letter + 2 photocopies of that letter.

### VIII. Correspondence relating to Plays

- MS 45,867 /1 Correspondence with drama groups re the rights of Mícheál Mac Liammóir's adaptation of *The Informer* by Liam O'Flaherty. 1970-71.  
4 items.
- MS 45,867 /2 Correspondence re staging of *The Mountains Look Different*, a play by Mac Liammóir. September, 1970. 6 items.
- MS 45,867 /3-4 Correspondence and other material re staging of *Philadelphia, Here I Come* by Brian Friel, 1964 and 1965. Includes attendance list for cast, correspondence with firms who sponsored the props for the play, salaries, letters of engagement, contracts, letters from cast members, accounts, budget.  
Includes the following correspondents:  
-Patrick Bedford, actor  
-Brian Friel, playwright  
-Éamon Kelly, actor  
-Mary Cannon, secretary  
-Brian Tobin, manager  
Circa 120 items.
- MS 45,867 /5 Correspondence relating to *Philadelphia, Here I Come* by Brian Friel, which went on tour very successfully in the United States of America in 1966. Includes programme, cast list, financial matters, sheet of music manuscript, correspondence with HE, telegrams.  
Circa 30 items.
- MS 45,867 /6 Correspondence regarding the staging of *The Speckledy Shawl* in 1969. Letters from Paddy Murray, Brendan Smith, Fred O'Donovan of the Gaiety Theatre, Ann O'Dwyer, A.J. Potter (composer).  
Circa 28 items.

## **IX. Diaries and Personal Papers**

- MS 45,868 /1 Two British passports belonging to Hilton Edwards, 1970 – 1980 and 1980 - 1990. Also wallet belonging to HE with a photograph and other material such as emergency contact numbers. Includes check list for travelling, HE, 1975. In addition, membership cards for the actor's union, Equity and The United Arts Club, Dublin, and a circular letter outlining requirements for membership of The United Arts Club.  
9 items.
- MS 45,868 /2 One Irish passport belonging to Mícheál Mac Liammóir, one World Health Organization International Certificate of Vaccination, also belonging to MMacL. Wallet.  
3 items.
- MS 45,868 /3 Pocket diaries belonging to Mícheál Mac Liammóir for 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1965. Most entries are in the Irish language. Also larger diary for 1972 and three brown notebooks.  
11 items.
- MS 45,868 /4 Two copybooks which belonged to Mícheál Mac Liammóir with diary style entries in Irish.  
Leabhar a hAon agus Leabhar a Dó – Books one (Round Tower Exercise Book) and two (The “Challenge” Exercise Book).  
2 items.
- MS 45,868 /5 Ten copybooks recording trip to Egypt in 1956 in diary style but also in preparation for a book called “Aisteoirí faoi Dhá Sholas” or “Actors in Two Lights”, also temporarily given the title “Aisteoirí faoi Sholas Gréine” which described a tour of Egypt, including Cairo, of the Gate Theatre Company.  
10 items.
- MS 45,868 /6 Copybook in diary style with only three pages written on of a trip to Malta in 1956.  
1 item.
- MS 45,868 /7 Copybook entitled Béaloideas 1930 [Folklore]. Entire content is in Irish in the hand of someone with the initials S. Ó hO. Collected stories from native speakers of Irish in the Galway area.  
1 item.

- MS 45,868 /8      Typescript of *Tush, never tell me... : the diary of the film Othello* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir. October 18<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup> 1949. 17 pages.
- MS 45,868 /9      Additional typescript of *Tush, never tell me ... The Diary of the Film Othello* by Mícheál Mac Liammóir, December 11<sup>th</sup> 1949 to February 15<sup>th</sup> 1950. 34 pages.
- MS 45,868 /10      Further typescript of diary for the filming of Othello: January 23<sup>rd</sup> 1950 to March 7<sup>th</sup> 1950 when filming ended. 16 pages.
- MS 45,869 /1      Diary of Máire O'Keefe, cousin of Mícheál Mac Liammóir. Journal July 1925- Ireland. Vol. III. Written in manuscript. 127 pages.
- MS 45,869 /2      Capital Exercise Book and Lion Brand Exercise Book with notes by Mícheál Mac Liammóir from 1960 for a drama festival held in Ballyshannon, County Donegal. 2 copy books, 1 with additional inserted pages.
- MS 45,869 /3      Hardback green copybook from The Educational Company Limited belonging to Máire Ní Chatháin and marked 'Stair na hÉireann' - the history of Ireland, manuscript notes on the history of the Tuam region but includes folk tales from the Galway locality. 1 copy book.
- MS 45,869 /4      Hardback black copybook with red spine with old stories, songs and prayers in Irish, written in manuscript. 1 copybook with some inserted pages.



## **X. Legal Agreement**

MS 45,870      Photostat copy of 'The Old Contract', Hilton Edwards's copy. Agreement prepared by McCann Fitzgerald, Roche and Dudley Solicitors, 51/52 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin 2, between "Edwards Mac Liammóir, Dublin Gate Theatre Productions Limited" and "The Visiting Company", no date but possibly 1970s.  
6 pages.

## **XI. Hilton Edwards and Radio [Telefís] Éireann – Irish Television**

- MS 45,871      Hardback file marked Hilton Edwards, 4 Harcourt Terrace, Dublin, 4 May 1961. Plan of Organisation and Directives for the Drama Department, Radio Éireann – Irish Television, 34-37, Clarendon Street, Dublin 2.
- Includes memoranda, circulars, plans, notes, mainly typescript, for various operations within RTE in the early years of television in Ireland. Hilton Edwards played a key role as Head of Drama in the early 1960s.
- 119 pages.

## **XII. Material relating to the Funeral of Mícheál Mac Liammóir**

- MS 45,872 /1      Record of Attendance at the Funeral of Mícheál Mac Liammóir. (On sheets provided by Jennings & Co., Ltd., Funeral Directors, 81 Amiens Street, Dublin 1). The funeral took place in University Church, Saint Stephen's Green, Dublin, in March 1978. 21 pages.
- MS 45,872 /2      Book of Condolences inscribed at front in Hilton Edwards's writing:  
Mícheál Mac Liammóir  
Born, Cork October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1899  
Died, Dublin March 6<sup>th</sup> 1978: at seven pm.  
Rest in Peace.  
To the beloved memory of a great actor, artist, Irishman and the best friend, partner and companion that a man could wish for for 51 years; Mícheál Mac Liammóir from his devoted Hilton Edwards and Mícheál's friends and admirers: Gate Theatre, Dublin, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 1978.  
1 hardback volume, black.
- MS 45,872 /3      Box of mass cards mainly addressed to his partner, Hilton Edwards, on the occasion of Mícheál Mac Liammóir's death on March 6<sup>th</sup> 1978, with sympathy from family, friends, fans, admirers, from all over the world, but mainly Ireland. 152 cards.
- MS 45, 872 /4      Box of letters of condolence mainly addressed to his partner, Hilton Edwards, on the occasion of Mícheál Mac Liammóir's death on March 6<sup>th</sup> 1978, with sympathy from family, friends, fans, admirers, from all over the world, but mainly Ireland. 259 letters.
- MS 45, 872 /5      Additional box of letters of condolence addressed to Hilton Edwards, on the death of Mícheál Mac Liammóir, from family, friends, colleagues, fans and admirers, with some copy replies. 157 letters.
- MS 45,872 /6      Folder with telegrams received by Hilton Edwards from family, friends, colleagues and admirers from all over the world. Ca 70 telegrams.

- MS 45,872 /7      Script of news bulletin reporting Mac Liammóir's death, marked "Lead on all bulletins". Also, script of "It says in the papers..." for March 7, 1978. Accompanying letter from the presenter, Derek Davis, addressed to Hilton Edwards, with a tape of the news stories and enclosing above scripts.  
3 items + tape.
- MS 45,872 /8      Poem by John Montague 'In memoriam Mícheál Mac Liammóir'.  
1 page + covering note.  
Also, poem in Irish by Maighr  ad U   Lochlainn, entitled '  r do M  che  l Mac Liamm  ir, 6 iii 1978'.  
1 card.

### **XIII. Plaques, Trophies and other material**

Memorabilia mainly associated with the careers of Mícheál Mac Liammóir and Hilton Edwards in recognition of their excellence in the field of Theatre.

- MS 45,873      Two plaques marked 'Comhar' and then 'Comhar Drámaíochta', 1933 and 1934. *2 items.*  
Plaque with laurel wreath or garland, with inscription in a foreign language, dated 5 May 1939, and probably presented to Mícheál Mac Liammóir or Hilton Edwards in appreciation of a performance. *1 item.*  
Liberty Bell presented by City of Philadelphia. *1 item.*  
Trophy: Times Pictorial Stage Award 1951. Best actor (dual award) Hilton Edwards and Mícheál Mac Liammóir. *1 item.*

Two marble bookends marked ‘I gcuimhne ar chuairt Mhíchíl Mhic Liam(m)óir ar ócáid léirithe “The Importance of Being Oscar” Nollaig 1964 ó Phádraig Ó Flaitheartaigh, Méara na Gaillimhe.’ 2 *items*.

Medal with red and white ribbon marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir Hamlet 1952 and on reverse of medal Spectacula in Croneburga Helsingorae. This was to celebrate MMacL’s performance of Hamlet in Elsinore. 1 *item in red case*.

Gold star marked Hilton Edwards and on reverse Gaiety Theatre 25<sup>th</sup> November 1955. 1 *item in gold case*.

Gold star marked Mícheál Mac Liammóir and on reverse Gaiety Theatre 25<sup>th</sup> November 1955. 1 *item in gold case*.

Medal with bust of the French dramatist Molière 1622-1673, on reverse a replica of a monument to the artist with the words ‘Inauguré en 1844. Souscription Nationale. Visconti (architecte). Gaunois (sculpteur).’ 1 *item in burgundy case*.

Medal of the Order of the Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur presented to Mícheál Mac Liammóir by His Excellency, Le Comte d’Harcourt, Ambassadeur de France en Irlande, on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1973. With accompanying letter in French from Le Comte d’Harcourt. 1 *item in red case*.

Medal mounted in wood as a plaque and marked ‘The Irish Academy of Letters – Mícheál Mac Liammóir, 1960’. 1 *item*.

Trophy with four masks depicting comedy and tragedy: Harveys of Bristol Irish Theatre Awards 1979-80, for outstanding services to Irish Theatre, Hilton Edwards. 1 *item*.

Framed cheque from Orson Welles to J.G. Ryan for ten shillings. Mounted with the following inscription: “Chimes at Midnight” with Orson Welles as Falstaff, produced by Hilton Edwards at the Grand Opera House, Belfast, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 1960. With Orson Welles there appeared in the cast for one night only Dr Jim Ryan as the Archbishop of Canterbury and this cheque, signed by Orson Welles, goes to prove it. 1 *item, framed*.

Banner in blue, white and orange stripe, marked Hilton Edwards and probably to honour him in some way. 1 *item*.

Two sets of well-worn rosary beads. 2 *items, 1 in pouch*.