

## FINDING AID

### EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

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#### Deanna Durbin Collection

Listed by Jody Hanshew

Date: 30 January, 2004

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**Accession #:** 2004-02

**Size:** 1 regular size doc box and 1 newspaper size box.

**Date Span:** 1937-1995 (bulk 1974-1995)

**Scope/Content:** Includes a scrapbook containing newspaper and magazine clippings, twenty-eight letters and postcards (mostly short notes and acknowledgements, some in French) signed by Deanna Durbin, *Deanna Durbin and the Feather of Flame* (1941), magazine and movie advertisements, Decca 78 rpm recordings and four videocassettes.

**Biographical Sketch:** Deanna (Edna Mae) Durbin was born on December 4, 1921 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In 1936, at the age of 14, Durbin signed a contract with MGM. Her first movie with MGM was *Every Sunday with Judy Garland*. After being dropped from her MGM contract she signed with Universal Pictures, appearing in *Three Smart Girls* and *One Hundred Men and a Girl*, the latter of which saved the studio from bankruptcy. She appeared in *That Certain Age*, *Mad About Magic*, and *Three Smart Girls Grow Up*, and shared the Academy Award's 1939 Juvenile Award with Mickey Rooney. She appeared in over twenty films, but abruptly retired in 1948, at the age of 27.

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Box 1:

1. *Deanna Durbin and the Feather of Flame*, by Kathryn Heisenfelt. Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman Publishing Company, 1941.
2. Letters: 1974-1995, mostly short notes and acknowledgements, some in French.
3. Newspaper/Magazine clippings.
4. Handwriting analysis of Deanna Durbin.
5. Scrapbook containing newspaper and magazine clippings: 1937-1980, bulk late 1930s and early 1940s (Time, Life, but many source unknown).
6. Hollywood Studio Magazine, Volume 18 No. 9.
7. Videocassette (VHS) – “Deanna Durbin in ‘His Butler’s Sister’”.
8. Videocassette (VHS) – “Deanna Durbin in ‘First Love’”.
9. Videocassette (VHS) – “Deanna Durbin in ‘Mad About Music’”.
10. Videocassette (VHS) – “Deanna Durbin in ‘Lady on a Train’”.

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Box 2:

1. Decca 78 rpm recordings – “Deanna Durbin Souvenir Album, Volume One.” (5 discs).
  2. Decca 78 rpm recordings – “Deanna Durbin in Featured Songs from her Sensational New Universal Pictures.” (3 discs).
  3. Decca 78 rpm recording – “Spring is in My Heart.” Deanna Durbin (no album cover).
  4. Magazine advertisement (Ladies Home Journal).
  5. Movie advertisements.
  6. Deanna Durbin songbook.
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