Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950.

George Bernard Shaw postcard to Daphne Harwood
1929 July 1

Abstract: George Bernard Shaw postcard to Daphne Harwood. The collection also contains two photographs.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 099, F671
Title: George Bernard Shaw postcard to Daphne Harwood
Inclusive Dates: 1929 July 1
Extent: 3 items (2 photographs and one card)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 099, F671, George Bernard Shaw postcard to Daphne Harwood, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Shelving Summary: Shelved in SPEC MSS 099
Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/

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Biographical Note

Prominent critic and playwright, George Bernard Shaw, was born on July 26, 1856 in Dublin, Ireland.

In 1876 Shaw followed his mother and sister to London where he began his literary career by experimenting with short fiction, drama, and several novels (all rejected by publishers). The 1880s were a decade in which Shaw underwent extensive development. During this time he adopted socialism, became a vegetarian, developed as an orator and polemicist, and began seriously writing drama. He helped to found the Fabian Society, a middle-class socialist group which sought to transform English society, in 1884.

In addition to being a renowned critic and later playwright, Bernard Shaw is also remembered for the challenging prefaces he wrote to his plays and books. Prefaces, published in 1934, is a collection of a number of these works.

One of Shaw's greatest achievements was his invention of the theater of ideas, by insisting that the theater provide some moral instruction. In the process he also created a new genre, the serious farce. The serious farce consisted of using the techniques of comedy to advance serious views on humanity, society, and political systems. His plays, criticism, and political conscience all helped shape the theater of his time and after.

In 1898, during his recuperation from major illness, he married his unofficial nurse, Charlotte Payne-Townshend, an Irish heiress and friend of Beatrice and Sidney Webb. Their marriage lasted until Charlotte's death in 1943. Bernard Shaw died on November 2, 1950 at the age of 94.

Sources:


Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of a postcard from George Bernard Shaw to Daphne Harwood along with two photographs: one of Shaw in later life and one of that shows a dark-haired younger Shaw, seated on the grass and reading a book, with Harwood seated behind him trimming Shaw’s hair.
Selected Search Terms

Personal Names

Harwood, Daphne.

Topical Terms

Authors, Irish--20th century--Correspondence.

Form/Genre Terms

Postcards.
Photographs.

Occupation

Playwrights.

Related Materials in this Repository

This item forms part of MSS 099 Miscellaneous Literary and Historical Manuscripts.

MSS 102 Bernard Shaw papers
Detailed Description of the Collection

George Bernard Shaw postcard to Daphne Harwood, 1929 July 1 [Box 40 F671]

Autograph card signed with 2 photographs.