

# European opera singer and actor portrait collection

European opera singer and actor portrait collection  
circa 1760s-1910s



## Title Statement

European opera singer and actor portrait collectionGuide to European opera singer and actor portrait collection C0555

**Subtitle:** European opera singer and actor portrait collection

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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

C0555

**Unit ID**

/repositories/2/resources/780

**Unit Date**

circa 1760s-1910s

**Language**

French English

**Abstract**

A collection of prints and photographs depicting European opera singers and actors from the 18th-20th century.

**Creator**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

**source**

Bagniet, Charles, 1814-1886

**source**

Desvachez, D. J. (David Joseph), 1822-1902

**source**

Durham, Joseph, 1814-1877

**source**

Elliott & Fry

**source**

Hautecoeur-Martinet (Firm)

**source**

Imprimerie Lemercier et cie

**source**

Johnson, Fry & Co

**source**

Lacauchie, Alexandre

**source**

Reutlinger, Léopold-Émile, 1863-1937

**source**

Riddle & Couchman

**source**

Vogt, Charles, active 1833-1882

**Extent**

.25 Linear Feet 1 box

**Physical Location**

R 73, C 2, S 5

**Repository**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

There are no access restrictions.

**Use Restrictions**

No known copyright. The Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries believes that this collection is not restricted by copyright or related rights, but a conclusive determination could not be made. (See <https://rightsstatements.org/page/NKC/1.0/?language=en>)

**Acquisition Information**

Purchased from Schubertiade Music by Lynn Eaton in March 2025.

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# Biographical Information

Johanna Maria Lind, known professionally as Jenny Lind, was born on October 6, 1820 in Stockholm, Sweden. Nicknamed the "Swedish Nightingale," Lind gained fame as an operatic soprano throughout Europe starting at the age of 11. By the age of 28, Lind announced her retirement from the operatic stage, playing her last performance, which was attended by Queen Victoria and members of the British Royal Family, on May 10, 1849 in London, England. In September 1850, Lind sailed to America after showman P.T. Barnum offered her an 18-month contract to perform 150 concerts throughout the United States at the rate of \$1,000 per performance. Barnum's advanced publicity led to Lind achieving national celebrity status even before she arrived in America, with the press at the time referring to the enthusiastic reception and high demand for tickets as "Lind mania." Lind donated her earnings to charity, including an endowment of free schools in Sweden. After marrying Otto Goldschmidt in 1852 she returned to Europe where she remained until her death on November 2, 1887 at the age of 67.

Léopold-Émile Reutlinger was born March 17, 1863 in Callao, Peru to a German-Jewish family of photographers. In 1883 he joined the family's photography studio in Paris, France before taking over in 1890. Reutlinger is best known for his photographs of popular actresses and opera singers, including the stars of entertainment venues such as the Moulin Rouge and the Folies Bergère, as well as photographs for fashion and advertising and his pioneering work in erotic photography. He passed away on March 16, 1937 at the age of 73.

Additional biographical information for single image specific individuals can be found in the folder level Scope and Content.

## Scope and Content

A collection of prints and photographs depicting European opera singers and actors from the 18th-20th century. A total of eighteen different individuals are depicted in the prints, with three depicting opera singer Jenny Lind. One print depicts a composer who worked in opera. Most prints include identifying information in French regarding the subject, with a few including text in English, and are a mix of formal and costume portraits. The prints represent a variety of mediums including lithographs, etchings, photogravure, and drawings based on photographs.

## Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center holds other portrait etchings and illustrations, including Four hand-colored plates of "The Tours of Dr. Syntax" by Thomas Rowlandson and 18th and 19th century hand-colored prints of European figures and theatrical costumes.

The New York Public Library Digital Collections hold a large number of prints by Alexandre Lacauchie.

## Keywords

Opera  
Engraving  
Lithography  
Photographic prints  
Photographs  
Performing arts  
Operetta  
Theater  
Theater -- Europe  
Photogravures

Ackermann, Charlotte (Marie Magdalene Charlotte Ackermann), 1714-1757

Arnoldson, Sigrid, 1861-1943

Brambilla, Marietta, 1807-1875

Bréjean-Silver, Georgette, 1870-

Cabel, Marie, 1827-1885

Desclauzas, Marie, 1841-1912

Falcon, Marie-Cornélie, 1814-1897

Jawureck, Mme. (Constance), 1803-1858

Lind, Jenny, 1820-1887  
Mengal, Martin-Joseph, 1784-1851  
Patti, Adelina, 1843-1919  
Ugalde, Delphine, 1829-1910  
Baugniet, Charles, 1814-1886  
Desvachez, D. J. (David Joseph), 1822-1902  
Durham, Joseph, 1814-1877  
Elliott & Fry  
Hautecoeur-Martinet (Firm)  
Imprimerie Lemercier et cie  
Johnson, Fry & Co  
Lacauchie, Alexandre  
Reutlinger, Léopold-Émile, 1863-1937  
Riddle & Couchman  
Vogt, Charles, active 1833-1882

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## Arrangement

Items are arranged alphabetically by subject last name.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Ackermann, Charlotte portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398163

**Unit Date** circa 1845

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

German actress, born Marie Magdalene Charlotte Ackermann (August 23, 1757 - May 10, 1775). Portrait engraved by Weger & Singer.

### **Arnoldson, Sigrid as Juliette photogravure**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398164

**Unit Date** circa 1880s-1900s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Swedish dramatic coloratura soprano, born Sigrid Taube Marie Arnoldson (March 20, 1861 - February 7, 1943). Photogravure by Heliog Schutzenberger from a photograph by Reutlinger.

### **Brambilla, Marietta as Pierotto in Donizetti's Linda di Chamounix hand-colored engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398165

**Unit Date** circa 1830s-1840s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Italian contralto, born Maria Teresa Rebecca Brambilla (June 6, 1807 - November 6, 1875). Engraving depicts Brambilla in one of the many roles she created and plate is likely originally from Petite Galerie Dramatique, ou, Recueil de Differents Costumes d'Acteurs and engraved by Hautecoeur & Martinet, No. 1569.

### **Bréjean-Silver, Georgette color-tinted photograph print**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398166

**Unit Date** circa 1890s-1900s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French coloratura soprano, born Georgette-Amélie Sisout (1870 – circa 1951). Depicted as photographed by Reutlinger.

**Cabel, Marie portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398167

**Unit Date** 1855

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Belgian coloratura soprano (1827-1885). Portrait engraved by Charles (C.H.) Vogt, printed by "Imp. Bertauts Cadet, Paris".

**Delacroix as Borselle in Jacqueline de Bavière portrait engravings**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398168

**Unit Date** circa 1840s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French or Belgian actor, engraved by Charles Baugniet. Small version is clipping pasted to heavy backing, larger version is labeled "L'Artiste (No. 16)".

**Desclauzas, Marie as Progrès in Francesco Bianchi's La Lanterne Magique hand-colored illustration**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398169

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1890s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French mezzo-soprano, born Malvina Caroline Ernestine Armand (1841-1912), best known for her career as a leading lady of the opéra-bouffe or comic opera. Illustrated printed by Lemercier & Cie, labeled "Théâtre Du Châtelet" and numbered 932.

**Dozainville portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398170

**Unit Date** circa 1820s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French actor, born Baptiste-Pierre Dardel Dozainville (1758-1809). Inscription in French at bottom of portrait identifies him as former actor of the Théâtre Foydan, engraved by Ducarme after H. Garnier.

**Falcon, Cornélie as Comtesse Amélie in Auber's Gustave III hand-colored portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398171

**Unit Date** circa 1840s-1850s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French dramatic soprano, born Marie-Cornélie Falcon (1814-1897), best known for her unique vocal range, halfway between soprano and mezzo, which is now also known as a Falcon soprano. Portrait engraved by Benoit after Lacauchie, labeled "Galerie Theatrale" and numbered PL 22.

**Jawureck, Constance portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398172

**Unit Date** circa 1830s-1840s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

French mezzo-soprano, her name is also spelled Jawurek or Javoureck (1803-1858). Portrait engraved after a drawing by Charles Baugniet.

**Lind, Jenny engraving of the bust by J. Durham with facsimile signature**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398173

**Unit Date** circa 1850

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Engraved by W. Roffe, from a drawing by F. Roffe. Newspaper clipping about the drawing included in folder.

**Lind, Jenny portrait engraving with facsimile signature**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398174

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1870s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

"Likeness from an original painting" published by Johnson, Fry & Co.

**Lind, Jenny portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398175

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1870s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

"Drawn after Life" engraved by Nikolaus Afinger, image is adhered to heavy backing

**Mengal, Martin-Joseph portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398176

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1860s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Belgian composer and conductor (1784-1851), best known for his work with the Opéra-Comique in Paris and his role as founding director of the Royal Conservatory of Ghent, serving from 1835 until his death. He is identified as "J. Mengal" on the portrait, engraved by Desvachez after Sanderhaert.

**Patti, Adelina hand-colored portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398177

**Unit Date** June 16, 1883

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Spanish-Italian soprano, born Adela Juana Maria Patti (1843-1919) in Madrida, Patti and her family moved to New York City when she was quite young. She made her operatic debut at the age of 16 at New York

City's Academy of Music in 1859 and in 1862 she performed at the White House for President Abraham Lincoln and wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. Through her career she achieved international fame and is historically considered one of my famous and financially successful sopranos. The words "Prima Donna" appear under Patti's under the portrait, engraved by Riddle & Couchman from a photograph by Elliott & Fry and published in the Illustrated London News.

### **Rifaut, Mme. as Christine of Sweden in Les Deux Reines portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398178

**Unit Date** circa 1830s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 16 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Les Deux Reines (translated in English as "The Two Queens") is a one act comic opera with music Hippolyte Monpou and book by Frédéric Soulié & Auguste Arnould. Mme. Rifaut appeared as Christine in an 1835 production at the Opéra-Comique in Paris, France. Portrait engraved by Lemercier after A. Lacauchie.

### **Rossi as Othello hand-colored illustration**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398179

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1860s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 17 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Likely Italian actor Ernesto Rossi (1827-1896). Illustration published by Chatniere. Image titled "Théâtre Italien" and numbered 130.

### **Ugalde, Delphine in Le Petit Chaperon Rouge hand-colored portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398180

**Unit Date** circa 1850s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 18 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

French soprano and composer, born Gabrielle Delphine Ugalde (1829-1910), Ugalde transitioned from serious opera to comic operettas the Théâtre des Bouffes-Parisien following a serious stage accident in 1861 and where she would also debut some of her own works. Portrait engraved by Chatiniere. Image titled "Théâtre des Nouveautés" and numbered 357.

### **Williomi-Laborde, Mme. in La Sirène portrait engraving**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/398181

**Unit Date** circa 1850s-1870s

**Mixed Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 19 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Likely depicts the character of Zerlina from Esprit Auber & Eugène Scribe's comic opera. Image is a clipping from a periodical, engraved by Mendrick.