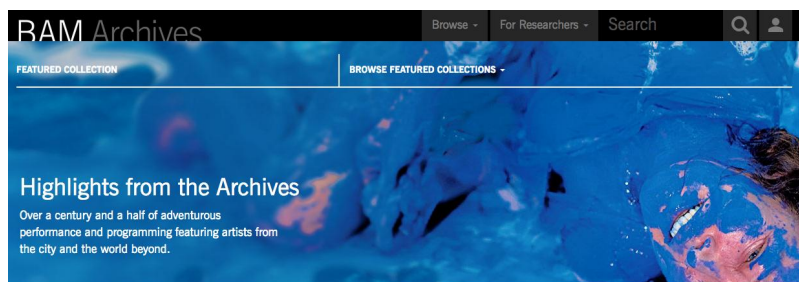


Brooklyn Academy of Music Leon Levy Digital Archive

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RELATED OBJECTS



represented in the archive, and extensive information links all 70,000 items to the names of the people involved.

BAM is one of the oldest performing arts institutions in America, making the Levy Archive an excellent resource for a broad audience interested in the history of performing arts and of BAM itself. The site is free for all users, requires no special software, and functions seamlessly across web browsing platforms and mobile devices. The modern, uncluttered homepage invites the casual browser to view objects from a highlighted collection or to explore one of the archive's featured collections, such as the Royal Shakespeare Company at BAM and the Next Wave Festival. Users also have a number of browse and search options via the menu bar at the top of the homepage.

Although the homepage emphasis on featured collections may give the impression that the site is aimed primarily at a more casual user, the Levy Archive supports the information needs and

The Leon Levy BAM Digital Archive is an online database of documents and materials that chronicle the ongoing history of the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM). Funded by a four-year grant from the Leon Levy Foundation Archives and Catalogues Program, the archive launched to the public in June 2017. It provides digital access to over 70,000 playbills, photographs, posters, and other ephemera from BAM's history, dating from the Civil War era through to the present day. Approximately 40,000 artists are

demands of the serious researcher. Two tools of significant value are the ability to easily export search results as spreadsheets and the user profile tool. By registering for a profile, users have the opportunity to build their own personalized collections based on specific artists, companies, and eras. Perhaps the archive's greatest strength is in its ability to make connections between all 70,000 items. Every record—whether for an individual, event, or program—is linked to at least one other related record. For instance, a search of Richard III from BAM's Spring 1992 season provides detailed information about those specific performances and provides links to the records of all its related constituents, including William Shakespeare and the actor Ian McKellen. The search also yielded twelve digitized photographs and promotional materials related to that particular production.

BAM Archives | Browse | For Researchers | Search

PRODUCTION
Richard III
June 9 – 21, 1992

PRODUCTION LANGUAGE English
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN England
DESCRIPTION Britain's National Theatre returns to New York for the first time since 1981. Ian McKellen featured in Royal National Theatres acclaimed production of *Richard III*.
Richard III has always been one of Shakespeare's most popular plays. Audiences through the ages have been attracted by the spectacle of a Saturday-night melodrama in which a satanic joker hacks his way to the throne. One of the fascinating aspects of the Royal National Theatre production, directed by Richard Eyre and starring Sir Ian McKellen, is that it overturns tradition. It is an unequivocally political reading of the play that sets the action in the England of the 1330s rather than the 1480s, and that makes Richard himself a grimly purposeful killer rather than a satanically charming ironist. When it opened at Britain's National Theatre in July 1990, it was furiously controversial. Literal-minded diehards were sceptical. Modernists were enthusiastic. But as the production progressed around European countries that had first-hand experience of Fascism, it was greeted with full-throated acclamation.
IDENTIFIER 1992s.00521

SEASON Spring 1992
VENUE Opera House
PLAYWRIGHT William Shakespeare
DIRECTOR Richard Eyre
COMPANY Royal National Theatre of Great Britain
ACTOR Ian McKellen, Bruce Purchase, Malcolm Sinclair, Simon Blake, Oliver Grig, Tom Perla, Richard Puddifoot, Sebastian Brennan, James Graves, Richard Lawrence, Marco Williamson, Rosalind King, Antonia Pemberton, Anastasia Hill, Sam Beasley, Charlotte Cornwell, Alan Perris, Paul Bazely, Peter Darling, Richard Simpson, Terence Rigby, Richard Bremner, David Foxe, David Beames, Tristram Wymark, Tim McMullan, Dominic Hingorani, Phil Mosek, Keith Bartlett, Chris Walker
SET DESIGNER Bob Crowley
LIGHTING DESIGNER Jean Kalman
MUSICAL DIRECTOR Dominic Muldowney
CHOREOGRAPHER Jane Gibson, John Walker

Related Objects
12 RESULTS

FILTER BY TYPE | SORT BY RELEVANCE | VIEW

Richard III
[Poster for the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain production 'Richard III' during BAM Spring Series, 1992]
[Poster with Ian McKellen as Richard III for the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain production 'Richard III']
[Ian McKellen as Richard III in the Royal National Theatre production of 'Richard III' during BAM Spring]

For anyone familiar with using contemporary library and major e-commerce websites, the Levy Archive's user interface will make intuitive sense. The archive employs clear, understandable language, and avoids industry jargon. Search results can be filtered and sorted by type, year, event, and others. Results can be displayed as lists or grids, and items can be saved to a registered user's collection simply by clicking on a heart icon on the object's thumbnail. Furthermore, all media can be previewed directly in a lightbox, without leaving the search results page. Unlike other archives supported by the Leon Levy Foundation, such as the significantly larger New York Philharmonic Leon Levy Digital

Archives, the Levy Archive at BAM provides access to an abundance of audio and video recordings in addition to BAM's collections of photographs, programs, and other materials. While both serve as a comprehensive research resource, BAM is more successful in regards to the number of relationships that exist between collection items, providing users with numerous access points into the archive's rich holdings.

The wealth of materials and accompanying information, combined with ease of access, makes the Levy Archive at BAM beneficial to anyone with an interest in its holdings. By emphasizing how collection items relate to one another, this new resource enables users to visualize and gain a deeper understanding of the collaborative and complex nature of performance. While

the archive is robust enough for scholarly research, the ease of navigation and clear presentation make the Levy Archive accessible for anyone with an interest in the history of BAM and the performing arts.

The screenshot displays the BAM Archives website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'BAM Archives', 'Browse', 'For Researchers', and a search icon. Below this, a search bar contains the text 'SEARCH: RICHARD III'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar with filters and a right grid of search results. The filters include 'DECADE' (1860s, 1870s, 1880s, 1930s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, 2010s), 'VENUE' (176-194 Montague Street, Harvey Theater (Majestic Theater, BAM Majestic), Opera House), 'PROGRAMMING TYPE' (Main stage programming, Other Programming), 'EVENT SERIES' (BAM Winter/Spring, Next Wave, Pre-1967 Main Stage), 'OTHER ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING' (Education and Humanities), and 'TYPE' (Productions, Special events). The search results grid shows 17 results, with the first few being: 'Richard III' (October 11 - 14, 2017), 'Backstage Seminar: Richard III' (March 1, 2012), 'School-Time Performance: Richard III' (February 14, 2012), 'The Bridge Project: Richard III' (January 10 - March 4, 2012), 'Artist Talk: Richard III: An Arab Tragedy' (June 11, 2009), and 'Richard III: An Arab Tragedy' (June 9 - 12, 2009). Each result includes a thumbnail image and a title with dates.