



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Jennie Mannheimer [Jane Manner] Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 259**



## Collection Summary

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>                    | Jennie Mannheimer [Jane Manner] Papers                        |
| <b>Dates</b>                    | 1880-1952   |
| <b>Collection Number</b>        | MS-259  |
| <b>Repository</b>               | The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives |
| <b>Creator</b>                  | Manner, Jane, 1872-1943                                       |
| <b>Extent</b>                   | 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)                           |
| <b>Language of the Material</b> | English   |

## Administrative Information

**Biographical Sketch** Jennie Mannheimer was born New York on 9 January 1872, and attended the Rochester Real-Schule, German American Institute of Rochester, NY for her early education. In 1884, her family moved to Cincinnati in order for her father, Sigmund Mannheimer, to take a professorial position at the Hebrew Union College. In Cincinnati, Mannheimer attended Hughes High School. She was one of first two women to receive B.A. in Hebrew Letters from the Hebrew Union College in 1892; she also earned Bachelor of Letters from the University of Cincinnati that year.

Mannheimer established the Cincinnati School of Expression in 1894 to teach the art of every day speech and voice culture for speech. Mannheimer directed the school until 1912. Mannheimer also directed the Drama department of the Cincinnati College of Music from 1900 through 1907.

Beginning in 1913, Mannheimer gave a series of modern drama readings at the Cincinnati Women's Club. The readings were a great success, and Mannheimer also gave them in New York City. She eventually moved to New York City, changing her professional name to Jane Manner, to continue a career as reader and teacher, and then director of Jane Manner Drama Studio. In New York, Mannheimer gave numerous recitals and readings and directed plays, performing at Carnegie Hall, Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and the Waldorf Astoria, where she gave recitals for 7 consecutive years. She published books on drama and speech, including *The Silver Treasury, Prose and Verse for Every Mood* (1934).

Jennie Mannheimer died on 26 May 1943.

The biography was prepared using material from the collection and *Profiles of Ohio Women, 1803-2003* edited by Jacqueline Jones Royster (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2003).

**Scope and Content** The Jennie Mannheimer [Jane Manner] Papers consist of a diary, notebooks of quotations and readings, a scrapbook, programs and bulletins, and miscellaneous material relating to Mannheimer's career. The papers include programs and advertisements relating to Mannheimer's work as head of the Cincinnati School of Expression and as an interpretive reader in Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. Also included are a memorial booklet of her brother, Rabbi Eugene Mannheimer, Des Moines, Iowa; a picture of a window ventilator invented and patented by Louise Mannheimer, and an autograph book including the signature of Isaac Mayer Wise.

**Terms of Access** The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

**Preferred Citation** Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Jennie Mannheimer [Jane Manner] Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-259. Jennie Mannheimer [Jane Manner] Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Edna B. Manner, New York, N.Y., 1963 and 1968.

## Index Terms

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Subjects</b>       | Jewish women -- New York (State) -- New York / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Women dramatists |
| <b>Personal Names</b> | Manner, Jane, 1872-1943 / Mannheimer, Eugene Max, 1880-1952                                  |
| <b>Media</b>          | Diaries / Photographs / Scrapbooks   |

## Series A. General, 1880-1952

## **Box and Folder Listing**

Box Diary. Folder 1, 1 (1906-1916)

Box Notes on Bible Studies and Studies in Ethics and Morals (Rockdale Temple Sabbath School). Folder 1, 2 (1890)

Box Poesies and "Quotations" [notes and clippings in diary]. Folder 1, 3 (circa 1910s-1930s)

Box Readings with music [notes and clippings in diary]. Folder 1, 4 (circa 1930-1940s)

Box Programs and bulletins. Folder 1, 5-6 (circa 1880s-1930s)

Box Programs and bulletins. Folder 2, 1-4 (circa 1880s-1930s)

Box Scrapbook [mainly clippings on Mannheimer's career]. Folder 2, 5 (1895-1914)

Box Miscellaneous [includes information on Eugene Mannheimer, autograph album including signature of I. M. Wise, newspaper clippings]. Folder 2, 6 (1880-1952)