

Archives incorporating museum objects: the case of performing arts

This paper will discuss the case of archives which incorporate museum objects associated to activities of performing arts, such as scenery items, costumes, posters etc. In most cases these objects are made and used in order to support a certain play, but often their artistic value overlaps the reason of their creation and they are also treated and exhibited independently, as works of art. Another issue of interest is that those items, together with some other parts of archival material, are usually related to the production of a performance, independent from its specific realization in a series of actual performances that might have –or might have not – happened. On the other hand, the majority of the rest of the archival material, which supports the function and enriches the history of those objects, are photographs and press-clippings, documenting specific performances in time and place. As a conclusion, in order to describe the several connotations and the multiple aspects of such a complex material, it is important to define information levels which may support the increasing or decreasing interest in the analysis the content.

Ifigenia Dionissiadou

Head of the Department of Information Technology
Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece
1 Koumbari street, 106 74 Athens, Greece

Tel. No.: 0030 210 3671022, Fax: 0030 210 3614355
E-mail: ifi@benaki.gr