

General Seeger by Ira Levin
Production Archive

Playwright Ira Levin was born in New York in 1929. He was twenty-two when he wrote his first novel, the thriller *A Kiss Before Dying*, and twenty-five when he wrote his first play, the popular adaptation of Mac Hyman's *No Time for Sergeants*. Other plays include the comedy hit *Critic's Choice*, the musical *Drat! The Cat!*, the thriller *Veronica's Room*, and *Deathtrap*. His novels include *Rosemary's Baby*, *The Stepford Wives*, and *The Boys from Brazil*. The world premier of *General Seeger* was produced by the Theatre of Michigan Company and Theodore Mann. George C. Scott directed the off-Broadway opening which starred William Bendix, although Scott himself played the lead in the Lyceum Theatre production (February 27 – March 1, 1962). George C. Scott (1927-1999) was raised in Detroit and attended the University of Michigan after service in the U.S. Marine Corps; he performed in films as well as theatre. Credits early in his career include *Anatomy of a Murder* (1959), *The Hustler* (1961), and *Dr. Strangelove* (1963). His portrayal of General George S. Patton in *Patton* (1970) won him an Oscar. He reprised the role in a TV sequel, *The Last Days of Patton* (1986). He also received an Emmy award in 1997 for one of his last roles in a TV remake of *12 Angry Men*.

This archive of *General Seeger* includes several prompt scripts, including the script of stage manager, Robert Crawley; the producers' prospectus and correspondence from George C. Scott about the new production; two photographs of Scott in the lead role; and playbills from the Shubert Theatre world premiere and the Lyceum Theatre production in 1962. George C. Scott kept these materials as his personal record of this production, so one of the annotated scripts was probably his own copy. The McCormick Library acquired the materials through a special purchase in 2002.

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F. 1 Correspondence

1961: September 25 George C. Scott to Mrs. Hugh Daly [6]pp. Re: production of *General Seeger* including the producer's prospectus
October 6 Barbara J. Clark (for G.C. Scott) to Mrs. Hugh Daly [1]p.
1962: February 26 Actors' Equity Association contract for *General Seeger* for George C. Scott (2 copies)

F. 2 Playbills

Theatre of Michigan Company, *General Seeger* performed at the Shubert Theatre; with William Bendix, directed by George C. Scott (world Premier, n.d.)
Lyceum Theatre. *General Seeger*, with George C. Scott, February 28,

1962 premier

F. 3 Photographs by James Dukas, June 1961 (2), General Seeger
Scripts

General Seeger; prompt script and working cue script for Robert Crawley

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General Seeger. Copyright Matthew Alexander, Inc. Script. (2 copies)

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