

Collection #
P 0635

**ANNA LOUISE CAMPBELL VAN GESTEL
COLLECTION, CA. 1930–2014**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 OVA Graphics folder, 1 Cold Storage folder, 1 Manuscripts folder

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1930–2014 (See "Notes" below)

PROVENANCE: Gift from Devon Archer Schreiner, November 2016

RESTRICTIONS: Any materials listed as being in Cold Storage must be requested at least four hours in advance. Patrons are advised to call ahead of their visit if they wish to view those items.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0324

NOTES: The content of this collection dates from ca. 1890s–2014, but the collection contains more recent reproductions. For example, there is a modern digital print of a photograph from ca. 1902–1903.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Anna Louise Campbell (1869–1934) was born in Terre Haute, Indiana. She was a Shakespearean actress who used the stage name Rachel Deane. She became a baroness when she married Jean Theodore Fransen van Gestel.

Anna was apparently sometimes called "Annie" and later in life went by "Louise." She was born 30 September 1869 to Irish immigrants, Margaret E. Cadden (ca. 1841–1927) and Lawrence Campbell (born ca. 1836; died by 1889). On her way to becoming an actress, she studied elocution with Minurita "Minnie" A. Aydelotte in Terre Haute in the 1880s. She first performed onstage at age eighteen, then for twelve years she toured the United States and Europe with theater companies headed by Walker Whiteside and Madam Rhea, later joining the Royal Company. She won praise for her portrayal of Queen Gertrude in *Hamlet*.

She married Baron Jean Theodore Fransen van Gestel, who was born in 1842 in the Netherlands. Educated in Paris as a civil engineer, he was the first European engineer to work on construction of the Suez Canal. The Dutch government sent him to Java to direct irrigation projects there. During this time he was an eyewitness to the August 1883 eruption of Krakatoa. He became a U.S. citizen in 1894 in New York. The couple had one son, Theodore Jerome Fransen van Gestel, born 2 December 1902, in New York City.

By 1910, Louise van Gestel, as she was then called, was widowed and living in Indianapolis with her son and her mother. Margaret had moved from Terre Haute to Indianapolis about 1906. Louise died April 5, 1934 at her home in Indianapolis. Funeral services were held in the city at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, followed by burial in Calvary Cemetery in Terre Haute.

Theodore Jerome van Gestel enlisted in the military in 1925, served in World War II, and retired from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of major in 1947. He married Jane Elizabeth Leveque (1917–2001) in 1938 in Indiana. He died on 1 July 1960 in Washington, DC, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His son, Noel Jerome Fransen van Gestel (3 November 1949–3 September 1956) was interred in the same grave.

Sources:

Items in the collection.

"The Most Stupendous Calamity Since the Deluge." In *The Literary Digest*, vol. 10, no. 24, 13 April 1895, page 716 <<https://books.google.com/books>>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. Federal Census, 1860, 1880, 1910, 1920, 1930 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. National Cemetery Internment Control Forms, 1928–1962 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791–1992 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

U.S. Veterans' Gravesites, ca. 1775–2006 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

Van Gestel, Jean Theodore. "The Krakatoa Eruption: Described for the First Time by an Eye-Witness of Its Horrors." In *Cosmopolitan*, vol. 18, no. 6, April 1895, pages 719–727 <<https://books.google.com/books>>. Accessed 7 December 2017.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of two printed images of Anna Louise Campbell van Gestel, a copy of her death certificate, and copies of three articles pertaining to her.

Series 1, Images: This series includes a photomechanical print mounted on cardboard [ca. 1930] of a portrait painted of Anna Louise Campbell [ca. 1890s], and a digital print of a photograph of her with her husband and son taken ca. 1902–1903.

Series 2, Documents and Articles: This series contains a photocopy of [Anna] Louise [Campbell] van Gestel's 1934 death certificate and copies or printouts of three newspaper articles pertaining to her [1897–2014].

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Images

CONTENTS

Sepia-tone photomechanical print [ca. 1930] of full-length painted portrait [ca. 1890s] of Anna Louise Campbell (mounted on cardboard, 12x8 inches; label from the back of the removed framing of this print reads "From Sliger's Art Store, 711 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, Ind.").

Digital print of photograph of Jean Theodore Fransen van Gestel and Anna Louise Campbell van Gestel with their infant son, Theodore Jerome Fransen van Gestel [photograph taken ca. 1902–1903].

Photocopy of digital print described above of the photograph of Jean Theodore Fransen van Gestel and Anna Louise Campbell van Gestel with their infant son, Theodore Jerome Fransen van Gestel [photograph taken ca. 1902–1903].

CONTAINER

OVA Graphics, Folder 1

Cold Storage, Folder 1

Manuscripts, Folder 1

Series 2: Documents and Articles

CONTENTS

Copy of article from the *Saturday Evening Mail* (Terre Haute, Indiana, 2 October 1897, page 5) regarding Anna Louise Campbell's performance in *Hamlet* in Detroit (using the stage name Rachel Deane).

Copy of Indiana death certificate for Louise Fransen van Gestel (Anna Louise Campbell), 5 April 1934.

Printout of obituary for Anna Louise Campbell van Gestel from the *Indianapolis Star* (6 April 1934).

Printout of article "Historical Perspective: Minnie Aydelotte taught drama and elocution," from the *Tribune Star* (Terre Haute, Indiana, 28 September 2014), which mentions that Anna Louise Campbell was one of Aydelotte's students.

CONTAINER

Manuscripts, Folder 1

Manuscripts, Folder 1

Manuscripts, Folder 1

Manuscripts, Folder 1

