
Collection Number: 7795

Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections
Cornell University Library

Contact Information:
Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections
2B Carl A. Kroch Library
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607) 255-3530
Fax: (607) 255-9524
rareref@cornell.edu
http://rmc.library.cornell.edu

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Title:

Collection Number:
7795

Creator:
Koskovich, Gerard,

Quantity:
4 items.

Forms of Material:
Postcards

http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM07795.html
Repository:
Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library

Abstract:
Photographic postcards of French soldiers held as prisoners of war in German internment camps during World War I. Two of the postcards have "Kriegsgefangenenensendung" (prisoner of war communication) and the name of the internment camp, the Neues Lager at Königsbruck in Saxony, printed on the back. Both are dated and addressed from René Bossion, a member of the 4th Infantry Batallion, one addressed to Albert Bossion and one to Marie Louise Bossion in Lorient, France, but neither card bears a stamp or postmark. The soldiers may have been appearing in a theatrical of the sort that was common at the front. Both are cross-dressed in conservative clothing. The other two postcards, blank on the back, clearly depict scenes from theatricals presented by French prisoners of war interned at a camp in Münster, Germany. The shows featured painted backdrops and elaborate costumes, with all the female roles played by cross-dressed men. One of the postcards portrays a scene from "Les deux canards."

Language:
Collection material in German

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE
Written by Tristan Bernard (1866-1947), the play "Les deux canards" is a comedy about battling right-wing and left-wing newspapers secretly overseen by the same editor. It was first produced in Paris in December 1913. When it was reprised in Paris in 2008, media reports incorrectly indicated that it hadn't been presented again since the original production.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION
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SUBJECTS

Names:
   Koskovich, Gerard,
   Bossion, Albert.
   Bossion, Marie Louise.
   Bossion, René.
   France. Armée. Bataillon de chasseurs à pied, 4ème.

Subjects:
   Prisoners of war -- France.
   Prisoners of war -- Germany.
   Transvestism -- Germany.
   Soldiers -- Germany
   World War, 1914-1918 -- Prisoners and prisons, German.

INFORMATION FOR USERS

Cite As:
   Gerard Koskovich, Collector. Cross-Dressed French Prisoner of War
Postcards, #7795. Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library.

**CONTAINER LIST**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Container</th>
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<td>ca. 1945-1916</td>
<td>4 photographic postcards of cross-dressed French soldiers</td>
<td>Single Folder</td>
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http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM07795.html