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**Small Archive of Material relating to Eugene & Louise Silvain, their daughter
Jeanne and Jeanne's husband, Edmond Roze**

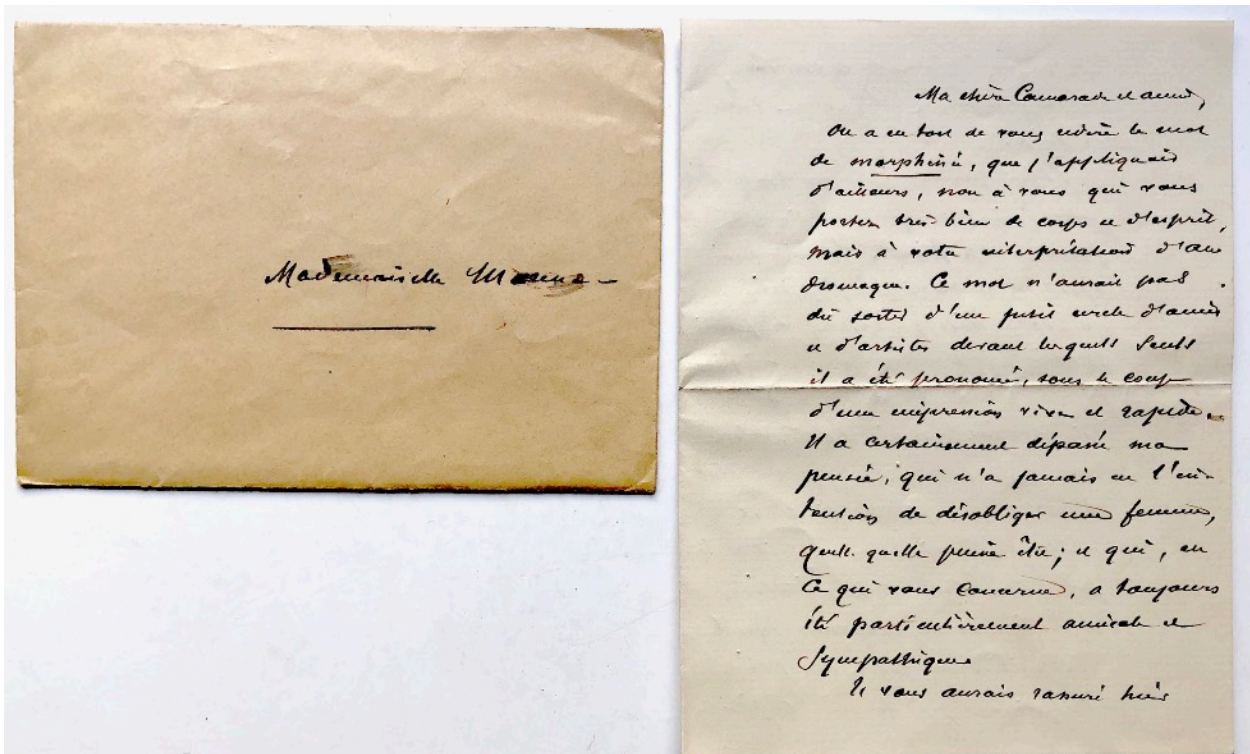


Items from the estate of Jeanne Silvain Roze Laidley (1892-1983), the actress daughter of Eugene Silvain (1851-1930) doyen of the Comedie-Francaise, actor, poet, playwright and director, and Louise Silvain (1874-1930), an acclaimed stage actress. Jeanne Silvain married Edmond Roze (1878-1943), an actor, director and theatrical impresario, who died at Auschwitz. Between the two generations of this family, they collaborated, consorted and acted with many of the finest French stage actors and playwrights from the 1900s through the 1940s. We have already catalogued most of the books Jeanne owned, but there remains a small cache of letters and other material that are worth

listing. We have divided the material into A) Material from Eugene Silvain; B) Material from Louise Silvain; C) Letters to the family members from various theatrical personalities; and D) Everything Else. Forgive the lack of diacritical marks (accents); *nous sommes desolées*. The price for the collection is \$2000.

A. EUGENE SILVAIN

1. 1903 letter to MARGUERITE MORENO re staging Racine's *Britannicus* and Jean Moreas's version of *Iphigenia*, etc. Moreno was married to Marcel Schwob at the time, and acted and collaborated both in productions by Silvain and by Edmond Roze.
2. 1900 letter to MARGUERITE MORENO regarding the staging of certain plays and the styles of certain actors (quite critical), including a passage on Sarah Bernhardt, Racine, etc. 4 sides of small stationary.



3. 1927 2pp densely handwritten letter to his daughter JEANNE.

- 1925 (?) 2pp letter to his children regarding his travel and other activities during the summer.

Asnières - mercredi 29 Juillet 1925.

Mes chers enfants -

J'ai eu - le 13 Juillet - que c'était ma fête, et
 je ne vous ai pas encore remerciés de m'avoir appelé
 que je m'appelle Eugène et que vous l'épique de mes
 vacances, qui remontent au milieu du siècle dernier - c'est
 à dire à 1851 - Napoléon III était empereur de Fran-
 ce et que le premier empereur s'appelait Eugène.

Celui qui ne m'empêche pas d'avoir toujours de vi-
 jilant - plus quarante heures que Constantin -
 car le Cautel avec Ricauton, son secrétaire, le père
 François, de l'abbaye, son ministre et Ami Blum, son
 papa, me dégoût profondément.

Quant à Louis Fédor qui, pour garder la place qu'il
 occupe si mal, est toujours à pied-vent devant tous
 les gouvernements, et à comme administrateur et comme
 homme, veut tout le bon, comme de la farine
 d'épave et morale.

Devenez-moi si vous, jamais pendant la vie pour
 Marseille et Devalche mais mes poumons vont
 pouvoir aspirer la brise méditerranéenne, mes vacances
 honte l'odeur des pins et mes yeux vers la mer
 bleue, les îles blanches et la combe dentelle de la
 gorge de la mer par un ciel gris.

Ave ma femme qui va mieux, malgré une forte
 hémorragie que tardivement a pu être plutôt salutaire.
 Il est un fait, c'est que depuis cet accident, Louis
 ne souffre plus et n'est infatigable chirurgien lui

- 1918 letter to an unnamed author ("Mon cher poete ami"), regarding working with Ernest Jaubert to translate and stage Greek dramas and what his wife is up to.

Tallon de l'Oréal - Mars
 16 7 1918.

Mon cher Burhaneddine,

Credes-tu de me répondre qu'à
 votre troisième lettre la première
 qui me parlait de votre mariage et
 de représentation à donner dans
 la capitale de ce qui fut la Turquie
 nous avait causé une grande joie,
 puis qu'elle nous apprenait que vous
 l'êtes encore vivant et même en état
 de vous multiplier et que vous l'êtes
 toujours pris de votre art dramatique
 français.

Quant vous avez quitté la France,
 il y a cinq ans, je vous avais donné
 une lettre de recommandation pour
 votre ministre des finances et la boue
 David Bey et je lui disais, dans
 cette lettre, (j'étais bon prophète) que
 puisque l'Allemagne nous déclara la
 guerre c'était tout pis pour l'Alle-
 magne et tout mieux pour la France
 qui, victorieuse, reconstruit l'Alsace
 et la Lorraine. Tout ce qui est fait;
 cette victoire, qui nous a coûté tant
 de sang et de larmes, marque la

- 1919 letter to "Burhaneddine" — possibly a Turkish person of some power — regarding his visit to France, staging classical plays, the effect of the war on theatre, life in Constantinople, etc. 4 sides, densely written.

9. Undated 7-line poem, "A mon fils."

A mon fils -

Mon cher enfant, je te dedie
 Cette admirable tragédie
 Qui jadis me la quitta à lui
 Comme un valet de chambre au grand 'huit'.
 Ecoute bien Nicéphole.
 Fais en ton qu'on a ton emblème.
 Sois sage et va-t'en comme lui.

B. LOUISE SILVAIN

1. Group of 11 letters to EUGENE SILVAIN. 9 letters are from August 6-18, 1924, newsy and with many of her activities and observations recounted; unclear where each of them were. Each letter is 4 pp. The letters from 1926 continue along the same themes.

Le Jeudi 7 Août 1924
 une heure

Mon mari aimé
 Après t'avoir écrit hier
 j'ai fini ma pauvre
 Annibal et me suis bien
 vite trop souffrante pour
 descendre - Je suis donc
 restée couchée - Hadeline
 et Fernand sont venus
 me voir -
 Etienne est venu à la
 fin de la journée - Il
 pense il me l'a dit
 que je ne pourrais pas
 jouer, ni dans "Lebomas"
 ni dans "Bartuff" - j'ai
 dit que je t'écrirais au fond de
 ce que tu veux, mais
 moi je suis si dérangée
 de souffrante que je n'ai

Le Jeudi 14 Août 1924

Mon mari bien aimé
 Cette malheureuse affaire
 d'opium m'a tout à fait
 constipée - sans doute de
 bordings n'est rien surdit -
 j'ai dormi cette nuit
 grâce à 2 petits caquets
 que Fernand m'a donnés
 j'ai jamais plus je ne me
 prendrai d'opium j'espère
 je mourrai de douleur -
 Dès que j'ai les yeux
 ouverts, je souffre le martyre
 de cette constipation, je t'écris
 de mon lit, j'ai tellement
 eu mal que j'ai manqué
 à venir chercher un mi-
 sein du quartier - c'est
 un homme sans éducation
 Il m'a ordonné certains
 remèdes pour mon intestin
 et a surtout insisté pour
 la suppression de l'opium

1880-1926 - Le Jeudi 11 Janvier

Comédie Française

Mon Mari aimé
 Je n'ai reçu ta lettre que
 le matin du Jeudi - j'ai
 vu ce la même jour
 Dimanche - et j'ai pu
 lire ton triomphe dans
 "Lebomas" - j'avais eu
 dans Comédie ta lettre
 rectificative, et j'étais un
 peu décontenancé de tes
 déclarations et de la ma-
 nière dont le journal la
 présentait - Le titre était
 inouï - mais le texte
 qui a fait suite est
 excellent et donne prison
 le gain du procès au
 Conseil d'Etat - Je lis ce



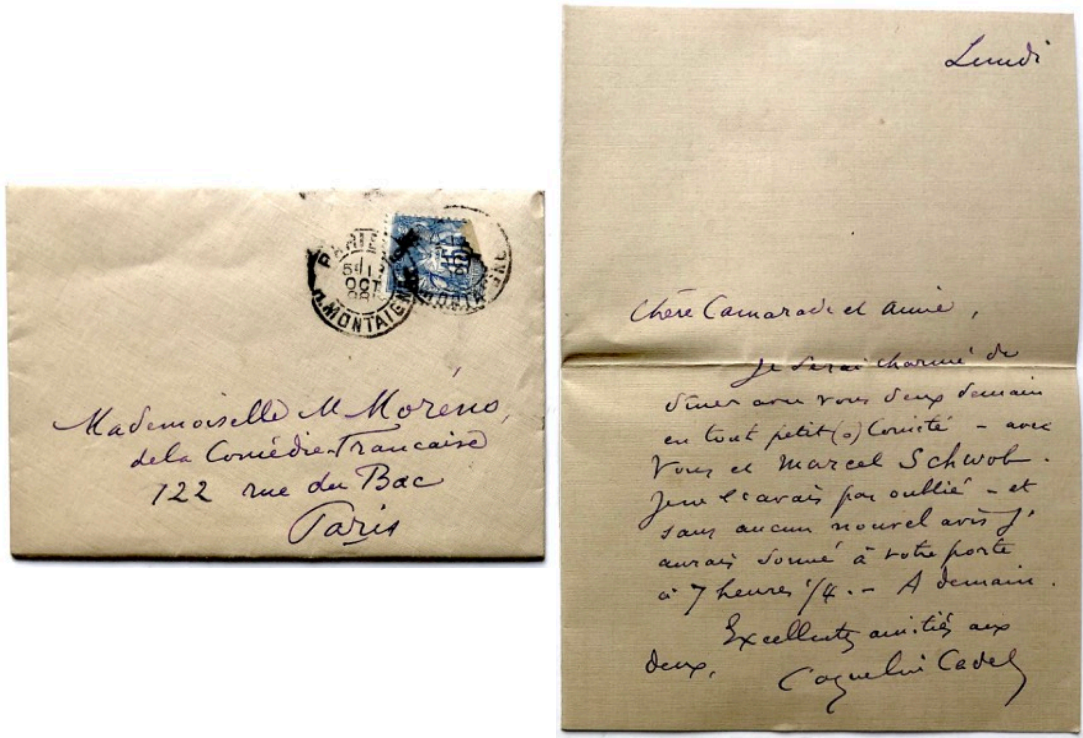
2. 2 photos, ca. early 1900s, of Louise Silvain in classical garb holding a dagger, measuring approx. 6.5 x 3.5 inches, mounted, photographer is Paul Berger.

C. LETTERS TO THE SILVAINS

1. Andre Antoine (1858-1943), the "father of the mis-en-scene in France." 1 pp. note, of a few lines, probably to Edmond Roze. Undated.
2. Marcel Ballot (theatrical agent), 1922 2 pp. typed letter to Eugene Silvain, regarding a troupe of actors directed by a M. Villefranck. In envelope.
3. Marthe Brandes (1862-1930). 2 pp. hastily written note, no recipient given. Brandes was an actress with the Comedie-Francaise.
4. Docteur de Cardenal of Villereal. 1913 letter, in original envelope, enclosing carte-de-visite photo of Eugene Silvain, expressing his pleasure in seeing Silvain in Villereal and inviting him and his wife back. We could not find much on the doctor, except that he seemed to be on friendly terms with Lhote and Cocteau.

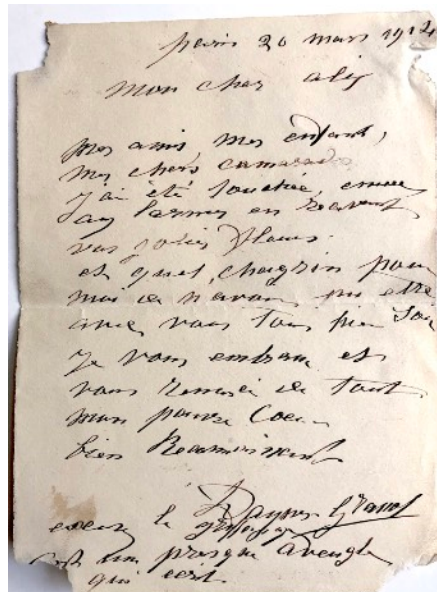


5. Ernest Alexandre Honore Coquelin, sometimes known as Coquelin Cadet (1848-1909), French actor. 1898 note to Marguerite Moreno (closely associated with the Silvains) accepting an invitation from her and her husband, Marcel Schwob. In envelope.



6. Georges Courteline (1858-1929), dramatist and novelist. Short friendly note to Edmond Roze, from 1925, and another short note, with no named recipient, giving his compliments.

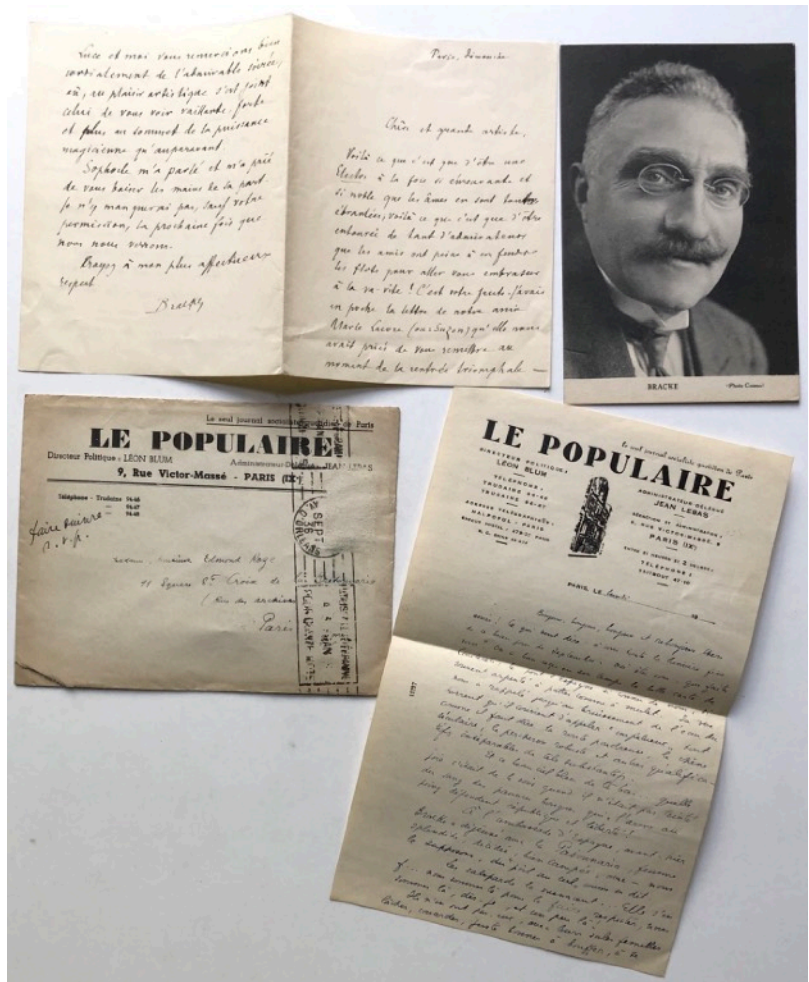
7. Suzanne Daynes-Grassot (1884-1976), painter. Short note from 1912, sending friendly greetings. Apparently removed from an album: all four corners show wear.



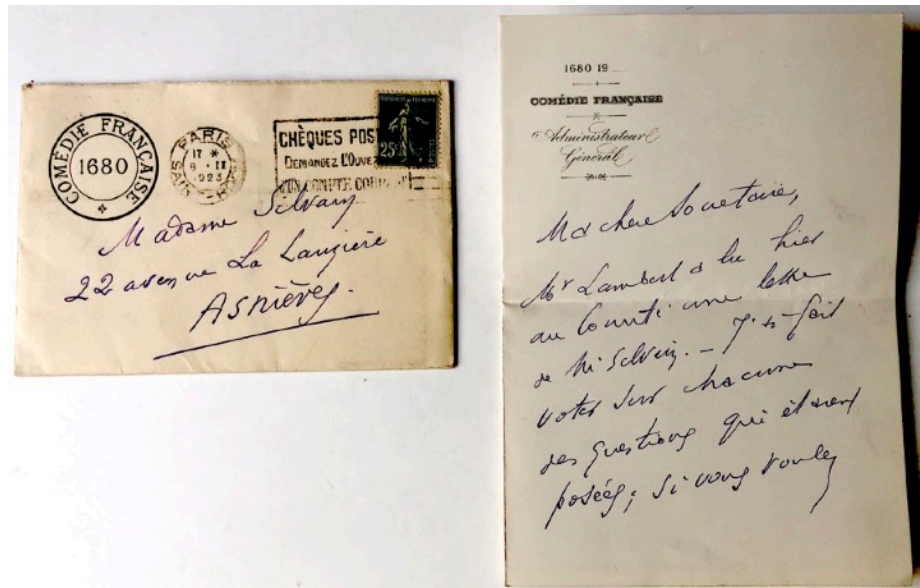
8. Robert de Flers (1872-1927), sometime President of the Societe des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques. 1921 letter expressing apologies for not attending a performance because of a recurring attack of the gout, and other subjects. In envelope.

9. Maurice Dekobra (1885-1973), well known novelist. Postcard with short note to Edmond Roze, dated 1926.

10. Alexandre-Marie Desrousseaux, also known as "Bracke" (1861-1955), socialist and activist; his wife was named Luce Bracke. Postcard with his picture, addressed to the Silvains at their summer place in Asnieres, signed "Les Brackes." 1936 letter to the Roze's on Le Populaire letterhead (a socialist journal edited by Leon Blum), probably from Luce, discussing Bracke's activities including in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. 2 pp, in envelope. Letter to Louise, probably from 1927, complimenting her on her performance in *Electre*, from Bracke. Letter from Luce to Jeanne from 1958, very friendly, and enclosing a 1917 letter from EUGENE SILVAIN to Bracke about theatre and a lot of other subjects, since Bracke was regarded as a "Hellenist." Included is also a newspaper clipping of the time, that seems to reprint Bracke's reply to the Silvain letter.

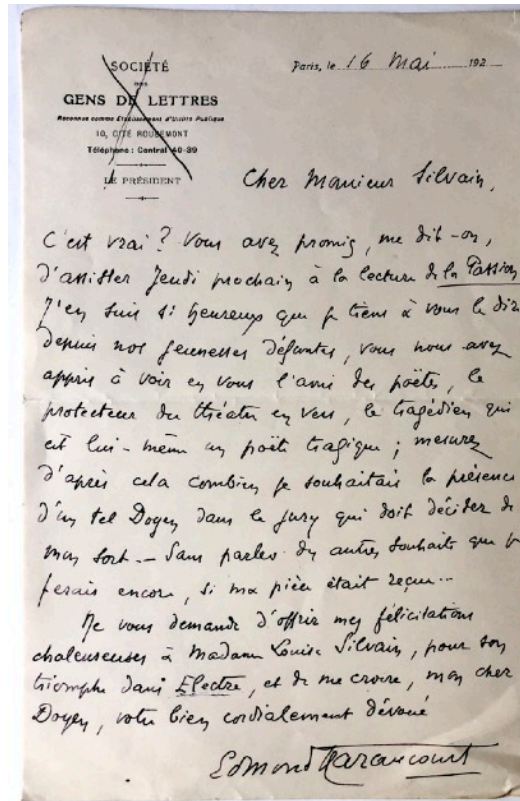


11. Henri Duvernois (1875-1937), author and playwright. Short note, undated, probably to Edmond Roze, as the two were good friends.
12. Emile Fabre (1869-1955), Comedie-Francaise bureaucrat and actor, short note to Louise Silvain from 1923 about C-F business.



13. Claude Farrere (1876-1957), novelist and winner of the Prix Goncourt. Note probably to Edmond Roze, possibly responding to condolences regarding the passing of his wife.
14. Adrien Fauchier-Magnan (1875-1963), tennis player. Thanking the Rozes for an enjoyable evening.
15. Dr. J. L. Faure (1863-1944), pioneer in the treatment of uterine cancer and avid theatre-goer, sometime author. "Hymne a la Paix" - five stanza poem, along with letter of explanation, plus 1927 postcard to Eugene Silvain and two other short notes.
16. Edouard de la Gandara (1862-1944), stage name: Jean Dara. Actor and colleague of Sarah Bernhardt. 1925 short note to Edmond Roze about the Legion d'Honneur.

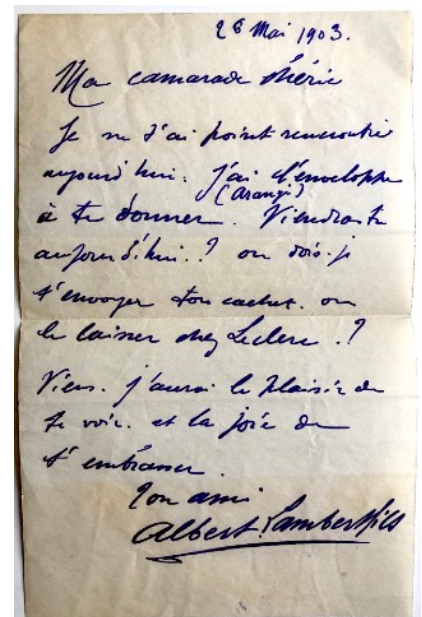
17. Edmond Harnaucourt (1856-1941) poet and novelist. Letter to Eugene Silvain, probably from 1927, on a number of subjects, including complimenting Louise on her performance of *Electre*.



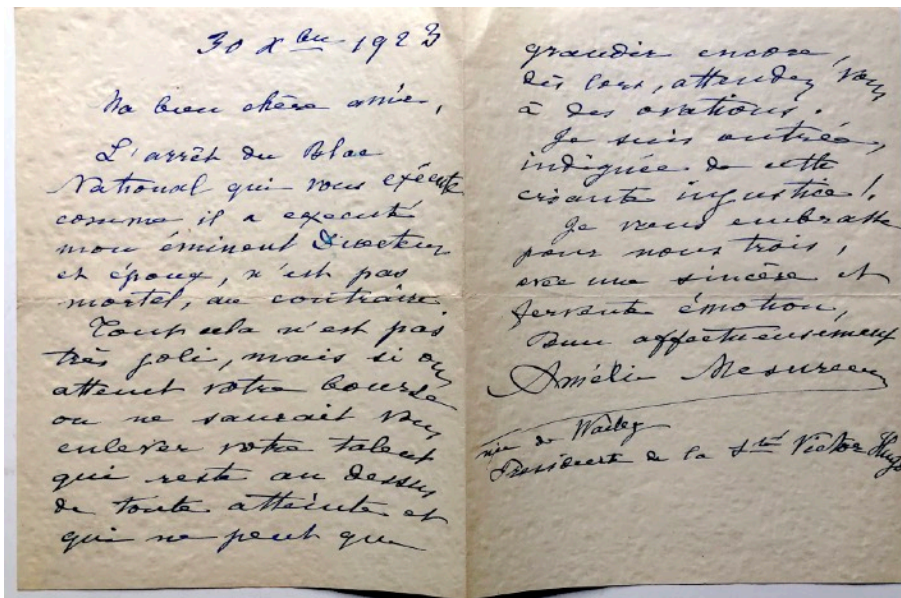
18. Ernest Jaubert (1856-1942), poet and playwright and frequent collaborator of Silvain in translating and staging Greek classical theatre. 2 pp. typed 1924 poem in purple carbon copy entitled 'Silvain,' plus Emma Jaubert's 'Sonnet — Hommage a Msr. & Mme. Eugene Silvain' handwritten, July 1924. Emma was probably Ernest's spouse.

19. Camille Jullian (1857-1933), historian and philologist, grandfather of author Philippe Jullian. 1927 letter expressing admiration for Eugene Silvain's work in classical theatre.

20. Albert Lambert-fils (1865-1941), actor and Sociétaire of the Comedie-Francaise from 1891 to 1935. 1903 short note in purple ink probably to Marguerite Moreno on topical concerns of the moment.

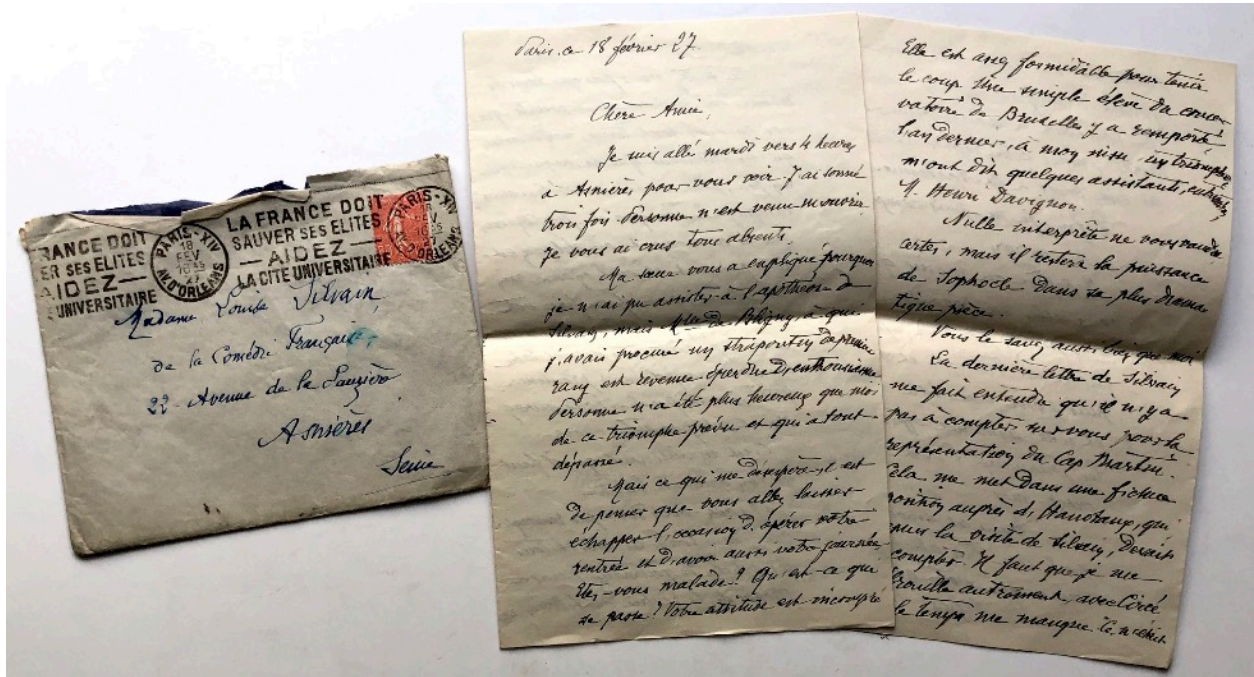


21. Pierre Lazareff (1907-1972), journalist and theatrical worker. 1925 note, probably to Eugene Silvain, expressing his support for Silvain to receive a Legion D'Honneur award and saying that his support will be printed in La Rampe and Journal du Peuple.
22. Georges Le Roy (1885-1965), actor and member of the Comedie-Francaise. 2pp letter from 1918 in original envelope to Silvain, regarding Le Roy's nomination to C-F.
23. Henry Mayer (1857-1941), French actor, member of the Comedie-Francaise from 1901 on. 1920s letter (probably 1927) to Louise Silvain, applauding her acting.
24. Amelie Mesureur (1853-1926), French poet and novelist. 1923 letter, probably to Louise Silvain, commenting on the politics of the day (the Bloc National rightwing party's ascent), plus some more personal and friendly material.



25. Marguerite Moreno (1871-1948), actress, author, spouse of Marcel Schwob, friends with both the Silvains and the Rozes. 1920s letter to Edmond Roze ("Mon petit boeuf"), newsy and gossipy. 2 pp.
26. Emile Ollivier (1825-1913), French statesman. 1907. Short note, probably to Eugene Silvain, compliment him on the staging of *Electre*.

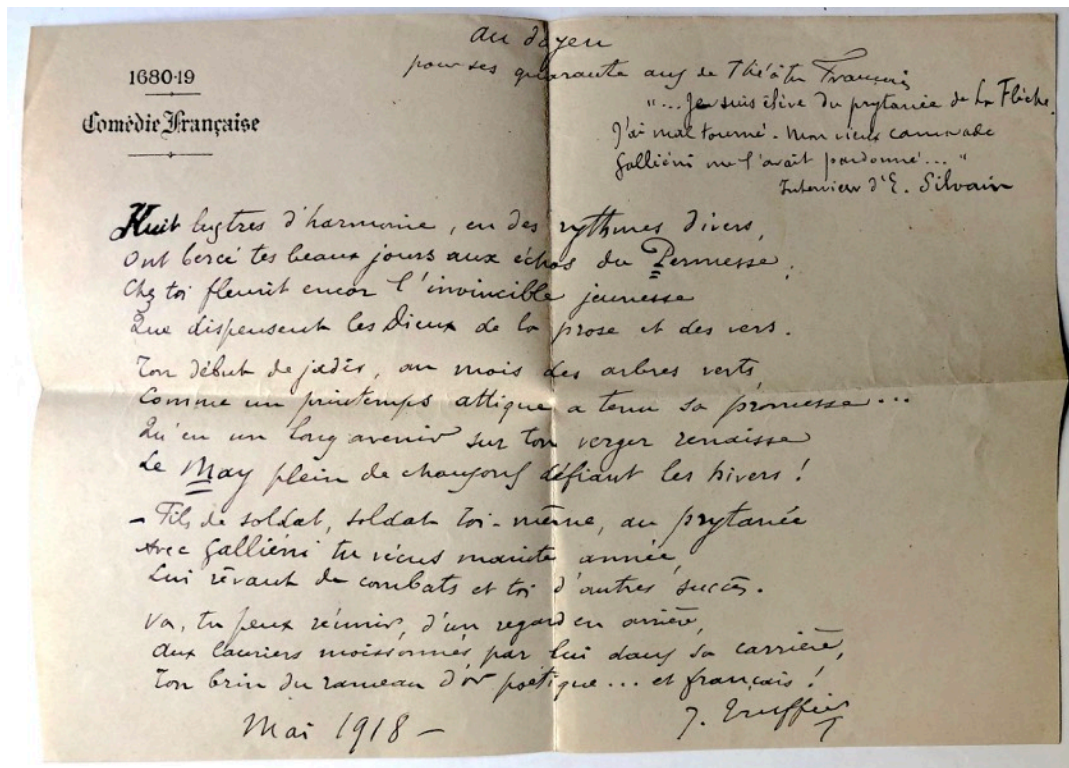
27. Alfred Poizat (1863-1936), novelist, playwright, etc.; in 1907 he adapted a classical play for Eugene Silvain. 1924 letter to Eugene Silvain, very topical but also about theatrical subjects and about the play *Electra*. 2 pp. And 1927 letter to Louise Silvain, 6pp, in envelope, discussing plans to visit the Silvains at Asniere and commentary on Louise's performance in *Electre*.



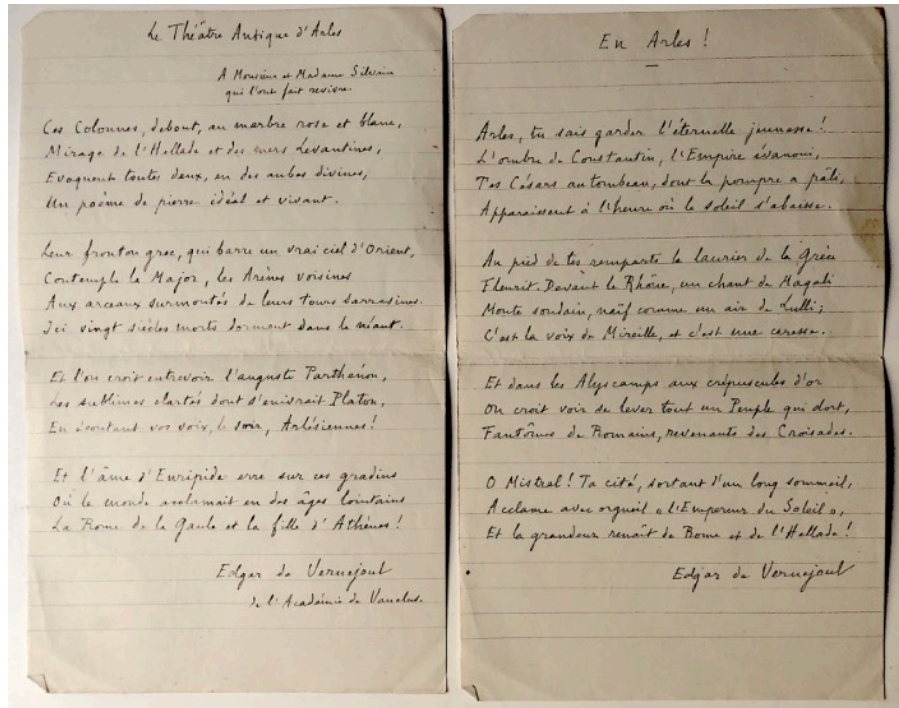
28. Jane Renouardt (1890-1972), actress. Inscribed postcard real photo of Renouardt to Jeanne Roze, plus 1928 letter extending an invitation to her next performance of an operetta, either a matinee or evening performance, etc.



29. Emile de Saint-Auban (1858-1947), far-right anti-semitic lawyer and journalist. Short note, 1909, to Eugene Silvain, thanking him for the loge and the performance.
30. Gustave Simon (1848-1928), literary figure closely associated with the dispensation of the estate of Victor Hugo. 2 notes, from April 15 & 24, 1927, in the same envelope, addressed to Eugene Silvain, discussing various roles, Hugo, Frederick Lemaitre, etc.
31. Georges-Gabriel Thenon (aka RIP; 1884-1941), boulevardier, singer, author, artist, actor. Short note from 1928 to Eugene Silvain with 4-line poem in homage of Silvain's interpretation of Moliere.
32. Jules Truffier (1856-1943), stage actor. 1918 sonnet, addressed to Eugene Silvain, on Comedie Francaise stationary, celebrating a 40th anniversary of Silvain's position as Doyen of the company.

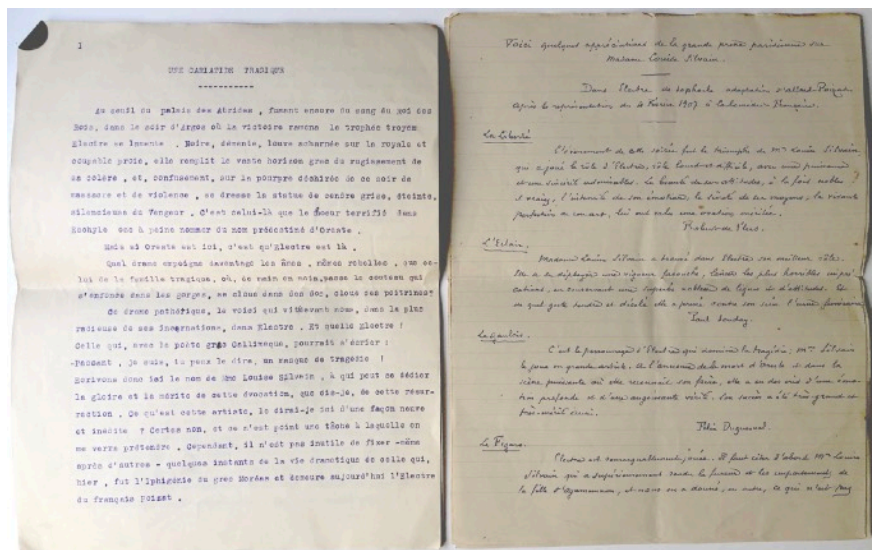


33. Edgar de Vernejoul (1860-1947), pastor and poet, collaborated with Nobel winning author Frederic Mistral. 2 sonnets, undated, probably early 1920s, about the Silvains doing theatre in Arles.

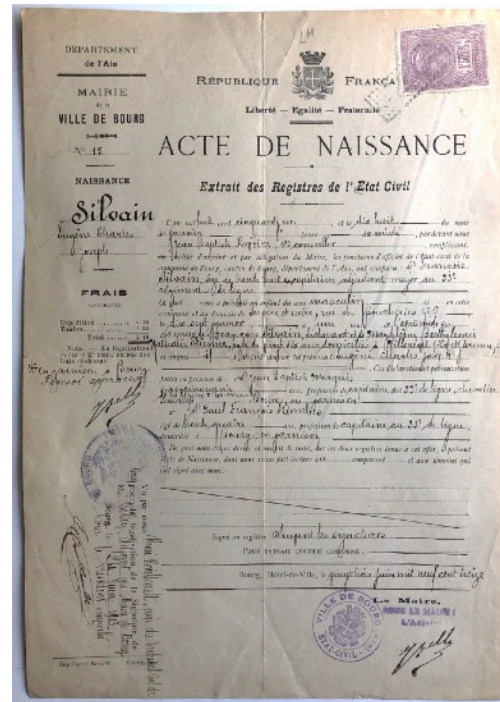


D. Everything Else

1. Extracts from reviews in the press of Louise Silvain's performances, written in purple ink by a professional clerical firm. Includes 1907 performance as Electra, and her return to that role in the 1920s, also her 1911 performance in *Hecuba* in a translation by Silvain and Jaubert. Also a 4pp. typewritten review, also probably by a professional copyist, of Hector Fleischmann (1882-1914) review of Louise Silvain's 1907 performance in *Electre*.



2. Important legal papers and documents. 1910 several page legal document prepared in Marseille regarding the welfare of the children of Eugene and Louise. 1916 driving permit for Louise Silvain. Dec. 22, 1916 Testaments, authorizing each spouse to handle the other's estate in case of death. 1913 re-issue of Eugene Silvain's birth certificate from 1878. Passport papers from 1916 & 1917 for both Louise and Eugene Silvain permitting them to reside in Switzerland for one year, 1924 passport papers for the two, without any country specified 1926 hunting permit for Eugene Silvain.



3. Photos: 32 photos of friends and family (mainly family) including about 10 19th century images (cabinet photos of the children and of Louise), photos of family events, of actors' dinners, theatre, etc. 11 larger photos (8x10 or larger) mainly studio photos —



some signed by the photographers — of Jeanne Silvain, one of a lunch in the countryside, one of both Edmond and Jeanne. Condition varies but mainly VG.



