Mae West Play Scripts

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

Contact information:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Additional search options available at:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014050

LC Online Catalog record:
http://lccn.loc.gov/mm79078386

Prepared by David Mathisen
Collection Summary
Title: Mae West Play Scripts
Span Dates: 1921-1964
ID No.: MSS78386
Creator: West, Mae
Extent: 14 items ; 2 containers ; .6 linear feet ; 1 microfilm reel
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Actress and author. Typescripts of unpublished plays by West.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
West, Mae.

Subjects
Drama--Stories, plots, etc.

Occupations
Actresses.
Authors.

Administrative Information
Provenance
The play scripts of Mae West, actress and author, were transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Library of Congress Copyright Office, 1974-1981.

Processing History
The play scripts of Mae West were processed in 1979 and 1984 and prepared for microfilming in 1988. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Mae West is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for information concerning these restrictions.

Microfilm
A microfilm edition of this collection is available on one reel for use in the Manuscript Division subject to domestic copyright laws. The microfilm is not available for purchase and may not be borrowed on interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Mae West Play Scripts, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Biographical Note

Date                      Event
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1893, Aug. 17          Born Mary Jane West, New York, N.Y.
1905                   Began performing professionally
1911                   Married Frank Wallace (divorced 1943)
                        Appeared on Broadway in *A La Broadway*
1926                   Wrote, produced, and directed the Broadway show, *Sex*, which led to her arrest for obscenity
1928                   *Diamond Lil* became a Broadway hit
1932                   Offered a motion picture contract by Paramount Pictures
1933                   Co-starred on screen with Cary Grant in *I'm No Angel*
1936                   Starred in *Klondike Annie*
1937                   Starred in *Every Day's a Holiday* with Randolph Scott
1940                   Starred opposite W. C. Fields on screen in *My Little Chickadee*
1943                   Starred in *The Heat's On*
1959                   Published *Goodness Had Nothing to Do with It; Autobiography*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall
1970                   Appeared in screen version of *Myra Breckinridge*
1978                   Returned to the screen for a final time in *Sextette*
1980, Nov. 22          Died, Los Angeles, Calif.

Scope and Content Note


Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged chronologically.
## Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 19,757  
**Restricted**

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<td>“The Hussy” (1922)</td>
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