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Maurice Valency papers 4079425

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Valency, Maurice, 1903-1996
Creator:	Giraudoux, Jean, 1882-1944
Title:	Maurice Valency papers
ID:	4079425
ID:	MS#1281
Date [inclusive]:	1945-1963
Physical Description:	1.5 linear feet 3 boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Maurice Valency was a mid 20th Century playwright working in New York City. This collection contains manuscripts of articles, plays, teleplays, librettos, and the first draft of the book, <i>The Flower and the Castle: An Introduction to Modern Drama</i> , written by Valency.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Maurice Valency Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Maurice Valency (1903-1996) was an American playwright, critic, author, and translator. Valency was born March 22, 1903 in New York City and was educated at the City College of New York and Columbia University.

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Biographical / Historical

Valency was a professor of comparative literature at Columbia University and taught dramatic literature at Julliard (where he also served as their director of academic studies) and Brooklyn College.

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Biographical / Historical

Valency was most active as a playwright in the 1940s and 1950s with such works as *Ondine*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot* (both adaptations from French dramatist Jean Giraudoux), *The Visit* (adapted from Swiss dramatist Friedrich Duerrenmatt), and *La Perichole* (adapted from German-born French composer Jacques Offenbach's opera bouffe).

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Biographical / Historical

Valency was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1960, which he used to complete his study of modern drama, *The Flower and the Castle*. Other awards and fellowships include a Ford Foundation Fellowship in 1958, The New York Drama Critics Circle Award for best foreign play in 1949 for his adaptation of *The Madwoman of Chaillot* by Jean Giraudoux, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for best foreign play in 1954 for his adaptation of *Ondine* by Jean Giraudoux, and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for best foreign play in 1959 for his adaptation of *The Visit* by Friedrich Duerrenmatt. *The Visit* also was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Play in 1959.

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Biographical / Historical

Maurice Valency died on September 28, 1996.

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Scope and Content

Collection is comprised primarily of scripts and manuscripts of plays and adaptations written by Valency. Prominent among the manuscripts are the scripts of his celebrated English versions of Jean Giraudoux's *The Madwoman of Chaillet* and *Ondine*, both of which contain his autograph corrections and emendations, as well as the script for the opera bouffe, *La Perichole*, which was performed during the New York Metropolitan Opera's 1956-1957 season. Also present in the collection are scripts and manuscripts of Valency's *The Apollo of Bellac*, *The Thracian Horses*, *A Double Life*, *The Better Half*, a German adaptation of Valency's *The Thracian Horses* for Swiss television, as well as newspaper and magazine clippings, telegrams, and the typescript, bearing autograph notations, of Valency's study of modern drama entitled *The Flower and the Castle*, which was published in 1963.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2011-02-14 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Valency, Maurice J. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1968. Accession number--M-68.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 09/--/89.

Processing Information

Papers Processed Ellen Reece, Pratt Institute, 2011 01/--/2011.

Processing Information

Finding aid Written Ellen Reece, Pratt Institute, 2011 01/--/2011.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Comparative literature -- Study and teaching
- French literature
- Drama
- Literature -- Adaptations
- Operas -- Librettos
- Scripts (documents)
- Autographs (manuscripts)
- College teachers
- Dramatists
- Lania, Leo, 1896-1961
- Giraudoux, Jean, 1882-1944
- Offenbach, Jacques, 1819-1880
- Valency, Maurice, 1903-1996
- Columbia University -- Faculty

Collection Inventory

Series I: Maurice Valency Scripts and Manuscripts, 1945-1963

Title/Description	Instances	
<i>The Apollo of Bellac</i> Television Script, Second Revision,, 1953-1954	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of a Jean Giraudoux play. Aired as a part of the Ford Foundation's Television-Radio Workshop magazine series, <i>Omnibus</i> . Contains handwritten corrections, emendations. (Two copies)		
<hr/>		
<i>Battleship Bismarck</i>		
Script, First Revision, 1945	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/>		
Notes, undated	box 1	folder 2
Magazine Articles, undated	box 1	folder 2
<hr/>		
Manuscripts B-E, 1956-1957, undated, 1956-1957, undated	box 1	folder 3
<hr/>		
<i>The Better Half</i> Script, Final Revised Draft,, undated	box 1	folder 3

Scope and Contents

Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

<i>A Double Life</i> Television Script, First Draft,, 1956-1957	box 1	folder 3
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Scope and Contents

Aired as a part of Showcase Productions'*Aloha Hour*.Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

<i>The Enchanted</i> Script, Rehearsal Copy, 1948-1949	box 1	folder 3
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Scope and Contents

English adaptation of a Jean Giraudoux play. Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

Manuscripts E-F, 1953-1954, undated, 1953-1954, undated	box 1	folder 4
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<i>Excursion #18</i> Television Script, Final, 1953-1954	box 1	folder 4
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Scope and Contents

Aired as a part of the Ford Foundation's Television-Radio Workshop magazine series,*Omnibus*.Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

<i>Feathertop</i> Television Script, First Draft,, undated	box 1	folder 4
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Scope and Contents

Based on a story by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

The Flower and the Castle: An Introduction to Modern Drama, Manuscript, Original Draft, undated (3 Folders), undated	box 1	folder 5 to 7
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Scope and Contents

Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

Manuscripts G-L, undated	box 2	folder 8
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<i>Gina</i> Script, First Draft, undated	box 2	folder 8
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Scope and Contents

Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

<i>The Long Night</i> Script, undated	box 2	folder 8
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Scope and Contents

Co-written with Leo Lania. Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

The Madwoman of Chaillot,

Scope and Contents

English adaptation of a Jean Giraudoux play.

Script, First Draft, 1948	box 2	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
Script, Rehearsal Copy, 1948	box 2	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
Letter from Herbert Myron, 1951	box 2	folder 9
Newspaper clippings, 1948	box 2	folder 10
<i>Ondine</i> , Script Rehearsal Copy, 1953	box 2	folder 11
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of a Jean Giraudoux play. Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
La Perichole, 1956, 1957 (5 Folders), 1956, 1957		
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of the Jacques Offenbach opera bouffe.		
Script, First Revision, 1956	box 2	folder 12
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
Notes, undated	box 2	folder 12
Script, Rehearsal Copy, 1956	box 2	folder 13
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
Rehearsal Schedule, 1956	box 2	folder 13
"French Without Tears", Magazine Article for <i>Opera News</i> , 1956	box 2	folder 14
"The Little Coach that isn't There", Magazine Article for <i>Metropolitan</i> , 1956	box 2	folder 14
Newspaper clippings, 1956, 1957, 1956, 1957	box 2	folder 15
Telegrams, 1956	box 2	folder 15
Score, 1956		

Scope and Contents	box 3	folder 16
Copy of the 1868 Jacques Offenbach and Leon Roques score to <i>La Pericholein</i> French. Valency's English adaptation is handwritten on the score, 1956.		
<hr/> <i>The Queen's Gambit</i> <hr/>		
Script, Rehearsal Copy, undated	box 3	folder 17
Scope and Contents		
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/> <i>8:40 in Little Theatres in New York</i> Vol. 2, No. 10., June 1955 <hr/>		
<i>The Reluctant Virgin</i> <hr/>		
1948 (2 Folders), 1948	box 3	folder 18 to 19
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of a Carlo Gozzi play.		
<hr/> Script, First Revised Draft, 1948		
Scope and Contents	box 3	folder 18
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/> Script, Rehearsal Copy, 1948		
Scope and Contents	box 3	folder 19
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/> The Second Stranger, undated (2 Folders), undated		
Scope and Contents		
Based on a Thomas Hardy story.		
<hr/> Television Script, First Draft, undated		
Scope and Contents	box 3	folder 20
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/> Television Script, First Revised Draft, undated		
Scope and Contents	box 3	folder 20
Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<hr/> <i>The Thracian Horses</i> , Script, Rehearsal Copy, 1948		
	box 3	folder 21

Scope and Contents

Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.

Manuscripts T-V, 1955, undated, 1955, undated	box 3	folder 22
<i>Toine</i> Television Script, undated	box 3	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of a Guy de Maupassant play.		
<i>The Virtuous Island</i> Script, 1955	box 3	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
English adaptation of a Jean Giraudoux play. Contains handwritten corrections, emendations.		
<i>Die Wilden Pferde</i> Television Script, 1951	box 3	folder 23
Scope and Contents		
Walther Franke-Ruta's German adaptation of Valency's <i>The Thracian Horses</i> for the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation.		
Letter from Heiner Gautschy of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation	box 3	folder 23

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