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Karl E. Beckson papers 6909765

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.
Description is written in: English.

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Beckson, Karl E., 1926-2008
Title:	Karl E. Beckson papers
ID:	6909765
ID:	MS#1515
Date [inclusive]:	1956-1993
Date [bulk]:	1965-1992
Physical Description:	2.5 linear feet 6 document boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection consists of research and publication materials, correspondence, and manuscripts of several of Karl Beckson's books. It includes a large amount of research materials for Beckson's biography of Arthur Symons.

Preferred Citation

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

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Biographical / Historical

Karl Beckson was a professor of English literature and author of many articles and books on British literature and culture in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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Biographical / Historical

He was born Emmanuel Beckson on February 4, 1926, and raised on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. After serving in the United States Navy during the Second World War, he earned a B.A. (1949) in English from the University of Arizona and an M.A. (1952) and Ph.D. (1959) from Columbia University, where he studied with Lionel Trilling and Mark Van Doren. He worked briefly at Columbia, Bronx Community College, and Fairleigh-Dickinson University before teaching at Brooklyn College, City University of New York, for the rest of his career. As a scholar, he took special interest in the late-nineteenth-century Symbolist movement and its influence on late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century writers such as James Joyce, D. H. Lawrence, and George Bernard Shaw. He wrote several books on Arthur Symons, Oscar Wilde, and Henry Harland, including biographies of Symons and Harland. He also co-wrote a dictionary of literary terms and edited several volumes of letters and memoirs. Beckson retired in 2004 and died on April 29, 2008.

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Summary

The collection contains research and publication materials, correspondence, and published writings. The research and publication materials consist of photocopies of letters and prints of photographs of Arthur Symons, Henry Harland, and other writers; correspondence with publishers, libraries, scholars, and friends of Symons; and publishing agreements. The published writings include manuscripts and galleys of several books written by Beckson between 1989 and 1993.

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Arrangement

The contents of the collection are arranged alphabetically, following the titles that Beckson wrote on his folders.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-04-07 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.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Karl E. Beckson. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1992.

Processing Information

Papers processed Anne Diebel, GSAS 2012 2009.

Processing Information

Finding aid written Anne Diebel, GSAS 2012 1/2010.

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

- English literature -- 19th century
- Harland, Henry, 1861-1905
- Symons, Arthur, 1865-1945

Collection Inventory

Alphabetical Files

Title/Description	Instances	
Research and Publication Materials		
Academy Press, 1978-1979	box 1	folder 1
Collier's Encyclopedia, 1968-1969	box 1	folder 2
[Columbia Rare Book and Manuscript Library], 1992	box 1	folder 3
Correspondence, 1962-1992	box 1	folder 4
Correspondence, 1966-1991	box 1	folder 5
Eighteen Nineties Society, 1975-1980	box 1	folder 6
Encyclopedia Britannica, 1971	box 1	folder 7
Farrar, Straus Agreement, 1962-1987	box 1	folder 8
Fletcher, 1984-1989	box 1	folder 9
Harland Material, 1976-1979	box 1	folder 10
Harland Photos, undated	box 1	folder 11
Hinzmann, 1987-1991	box 1	folder 12

John Murray, 1975	box 1	folder 13
Kingsley, 1986	box 1	folder 14
Krishnamurti, 1973-1979	box 1	folder 15
[Lambourne, Lionel], 1966-1967	box 1	folder 16
Langenfeld, 1985-1986	box 1	folder 17
Lydia Lopokova Keynes, 1969-1981	box 1	folder 18
Macmillan, 1985-1988	box 1	folder 19
Marbury Material, 1970	box 1	folder 20
Mason, 1956-1969	box 1	folder 21
Merlin Holland, 1981-1992	box 1	folder 22
Michael Holroyd, 1968-1988	box 1	folder 23
Ella Ström Grainger (Mrs. Percy), 1971-1979	box 1	folder 24
National Endowment for the Humanities, 1988-1990	box 1	folder 25
[Osborne, Humfrey Photo], 1984	box 1	folder 26
Oxford, 1985-1987	box 1	folder 27
Pennsylvania State University Press, 1976	box 1	folder 28
Permissions for Aesthetes and Decadents of the 1890s, 1965-1966	box 1	folder 29
Permissions for Wilde volume, 1960-1970	box 1	folder 30
Rhymers' Club, 1963-1977	box 1	folder 31
Sir John Rothenstein, 1970-1971	box 1	folder 32
Tragara Press, 1989	box 1	folder 33
Woodring, 1991-1992	box 1	folder 34
Wratishlaw, 1979	box 1	folder 35
Symons: 1880-1903, 1980s, 1880-1903, 1980s <u>Physical Description:</u> (23 Folders)	box 2	folder 1 to 23
Symons: 1904-1934, 1980s, 1904-1934, 1980s <u>Physical Description:</u> (22 Folders)	box 3	folder 1 to 22
Symons--Undated (before 1908), 1980s	box 3	folder 23
Symons--Undated (after 1908), 1980s	box 3	folder 24
Symons at the Bodleian, 1980s	box 3	folder 25
Symons at Buffalo, 1980s	box 3	folder 26
Symons at Kansas, 1980s	box 3	folder 27

Symons at Texas, 1980s	box 3	folder 28
Symons at Yale, 1980s	box 3	folder 29
Wills of Arthur and Rhoda, 1980s	box 3	folder 30
[Symons Permissions], 1980s	box 3	folder 31
Symons Permission for Biography, 1980s	box 3	folder 32
Symons Permissions for Memoirs, 1980s	box 3	folder 33
Symons Photographs, 1980s	box 3	folder 34
Symons Correspondence, 1965-1986, 1980s, 1965-1986, 1980s	box 3	folder 35
Published Writings		
<i>Arthur Symons: Selected Letters</i> Manuscript, circa, 1989 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 4	folder 1 to 3
<i>Arthur Symons: A Bibliography</i> Portion of Manuscript, 1990 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 5	folder 1 to 2
<i>Arthur Symons: A Bibliography</i> Galleys, 1990 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 5	folder 3 to 4
<i>Literary Terms: A Dictionary</i> Third Edition Manuscript, 1989 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 5	folder 5 to 6
<i>London in the 1890s A Cultural History</i> Manuscript, 1993 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 6	folder 1 to 3

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