Descriptive Summary

Title: Jon Davison papers

Date (inclusive): 1970-1987

Date (bulk): 1981-1987

Collection number: 478

Creator: Davison, Jon

Extent: 2 linear feet of papers.

Repository: Margaret Herrick Library. Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Languages: English

Access

Available by appointment only.

Publication rights

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Preferred Citation

Jon Davison papers, Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Jon Davison, 2001-2008

Biography

Jon Davison is an American producer active in film since 1972. He studied film at New York University (NYU) where Martin Scorsese served as one of his mentors. Davison eventually moved to Los Angeles to assist his fellow NYU classmate Jonathan Kaplan tweak a script for the Roger Corman film NIGHT CALL NURSES (1972). Davison became head of advertising and publicity for Corman’s production company, New World Pictures, before producing such Corman films as BIG BAD MAMA (1974), HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD (1976), GRAND THEFT AUTO (1977), and PIRANHA (1978). Davison eventually left New World to work with brothers David and Jerry Zucker and Jim Abrahams to produce the comedies AIRPLANE! (1980) and TOP SECRET! (1984). After producing WHITE DOG (1982) for director Samuel Fuller, Davison segued into the sci-fi genre with such films as TWILIGHT ZONE - THE MOVIE (1983), ROBOCOP (1987), and STARSHIP TROOPERS (1997).

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The Jon Davison papers span the years 1970-1987 (bulk 1981-1987) and encompass 2 linear feet. The collection contains production files related to WHITE DOG (1982) and ROBOCOP (1987) which primarily consist of script notes, storyboards, and memoranda. Of interest are extensive notes from actor Peter Weller for ROBOCOP, two original drawings by Craig Davies for that film, and a letter from the Black Anti-Defamation Coalition expressing concern over the story of WHITE DOG.

Arrangement

Arranged in the following series: 1. Production files.

Indexing Terms

Davison, Jon , 1949—Archives.

producers