Finding aid of the Edgar H. Leoni Papers Coll2007-019

Michael P. Palmer
Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
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URL: http://one.usc.edu
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
Title: Edgar H. Leoni papers
creator: Leoni, Edgar H.
Identifier/Call Number: Coll2007-019
Physical Description: 2.8 Linear Feet7 archive cartons
Date (inclusive): 1935-1995
Date (bulk): bulk
Abstract: The collection consists of correspondence, writings, drafts, copies, research files, diaries, photographs, and miscellaneous ephemera, of Edgar H. Leoni, author under his real name of Nostradamus: Life and Literature (1961), and under his pseudonym of Noel I. Garde of Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History (1964).
Physical Description: 6 archive cartons + 1 archive shoebox.
Access
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.
Publication Rights
Researchers wishing to publish materials must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives as the physical owner. Researchers must also obtain clearance from the holder(s) of any copyrights in the materials. Note that ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives can grant copyright clearance only for those materials for which we hold the copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain copyright clearance for all other materials directly from the copyright holder(s).
Preferred Citation
Box #, folder #, Edgar H. Leoni Papers, Coll2007-019, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.
Acquisition Information
Processing Information
Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
Additional materials added by Kyle Morgan in 2015.
Biography
Edgar Hugh Leoni was born in 1925. He graduated BA from Harvard in 1945, and later earned an MA from Columbia. He worked in the insurance industry in New York City, and retired to Clearwater, Florida.
Leoni's intellectual interests were the work of Nostradamus and the homosexual in literature and history. His Nostradamus: Life and LiteratureNostradamus: Life and Literature (New York 1961) was in its time considered the standard work on the subject. He published on homosexual themes under the name "Noel I. Garde", an anagram of his real name. As Garde he published The Homosexual in Literature (New York 1959) and Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in HistoryJonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History (New York 1964), and contributed articles, book reviews, and notes to both the Mattachine Review and the ONE Institute Quarterly in the late 1950s and early 1960s.
Scope and Content of Collection
The collection consists of correspondence, drafts and copies of Leoni's writings, both under his real name and under his pseudonym of Noel I. Garde, research files on the occult and on gays in literature and history, diaries, photographs, and miscellaneous ephemera. The collection is divided into five series: (1) Correspondence, (2) Writings, (3) Research Files, (4) Personal, and (5) Miscellaneous.
Separated Materials
Separated to the ONE periodical collection:
New Dimensions, v.2, no.2.
Separated to ONE's non-LGBT magazine cover story collection:
Separated to the ONE subject files and ONE performing arts collections:
Clippings regarding HIV/AIDS; venereal diseases; gay rights movement; and gay-related theater, books, and film.
Deaccessioned:

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Homosexuality -- History
Diaries
Prophecies (Occultism)
Homosexuality in literature -- Bibliography
Astrology
One, Inc
Garde, Noel I.
Leoni, Edgar H.
Leoni, Edgar H.

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Correspondence Series 1: 1956-1993

Physical Description: 18 folders.

Series Scope and Content
This series consists of Leoni's correspondence, both under his own name and the pseudonym Noel I. Garde. The Leoni correspondence contains a notable series of letters to and from John Wojtowicz and George Heath relating to the former (whose fictionalized story is told in Sidney Lumet's 1975 film, Dog Day Afternoon). Much of the Garde correspondence with ONE appears to have been added to the collection after its acquisition by ONE from ONE's own files: the letters are Leoni's originals, stamped with the date they were received by ONE. See the Book Service Materials in the Personal Series for correspondence related to Leoni's book service activities.

Leoni 1946-1995
Box 1, Folder 1 General 1959-1994
Box 1, Folder 2 Mark Bassett 1980-1981
Box 1, Folder 3 Booksellers 1956-1993
Box 1, Folder 4 Forman Brown ("Richard Meeker") circa 1980-1991
Box 1, Folder 5 ONE, Inc. 1960
Box 1, Folder 6 Ned Rorem 1946-1995
Box 1, Folder 7 John Wojtowicz & George Heath 1975-1981
Box 1, Folder 8 General circa 1970-1980
Box 1, Folder 9 ONE, Inc. 1958-1965
Box 7, Folder 1-2 AIDS-related correspondence 1985-1992
Box 4, Assorted correspondence 1948-1991
Folder 13-15
**Writings Series 2: circa 1942-1985**

**Physical Description:** 16 folders.

**Series Scope and Content**

This series consists of drafts of Leoni's writings, together with relevant correspondence, notes, and research materials. The majority of the articles, essays, biographical sketches, and book reviews written under his Garde pseudonym were intended for publication by ONE. Many of the materials are stamped with the date of receipt by ONE and are accompanied by ONE's publications committee, recommending publication or rejection, suggesting that, like the Garde correspondence with ONE, they were added to the collection after its acquisition by ONE, from ONE's own files.

**The Homosexual in Literature (Garde) 1959**

Box 1, Folder 10

Photocopy 1959

**Nostradamus (Leoni) circa 1942-1993**

Box 1, Folder 11

Correspondence 1968-1994

Dust Jackets & Table of Contents 1961-1982

Library Holdings, Sales, Returns circa 1961-1970

Notes circa 1960-1994

Pamphlets & Articles circa 1942-1982

Publicity 1961-1985

Spiegel Article 1981

Texts. English no date

Texts. French no date

**Jonathan to Gide (Garde) 1964-1971, 1984**

Box 2, Folder 5

Correspondence 1969-1971, 1984

Dust Jacket 1964

Library Sales, Gifts, Returns circa 1965-1971

Articles, Essays & Biographical Sketches (Garde) circa 1960-1985

Book Reviews (Garde) circa 1957-1963

Despised and Rejected, correspondence and other papers 1958-1961

Edits for Kepner's "A Gay World..." text undated

Fiction circa 1960-1985

**Research Files Series 3: 1953-1991**

**Physical Description:** 28 folders + 1 box of note slips.

**Series Scope and Content**

This series contains general research files. The most significant item is a file containing several hundred 6-by-4 inch slips of paper containing detailed analyses of English-language fiction with homosexual characters and themes, perhaps preparatory to an unrealized update to Young's 1975 The Male Homosexual in Literature. The materials also include transcripts of graffiti found in railroad and bus terminals between 1949 and 1959 and a handwritten transcript of *Priapea sive diversorum poetarum in Priapum lusus*.

**AIDS-related reference material 1985-1992**

Box 7, Folder 3

**Astrology & the Third Reich (Ellic Howe). Miscellaneous Photocopies 1984**

Box 2, Folder 11

**Chronology Chart, 395-1915. Part 1 (385-1453) 1935**

Box 2, Folder 12

**Cordan, Wolfgang. "Days with Antonio" 1960**

Box 2, Folder 13

**Erotic Book Flyers circa 1960-1970**

Box 2, Folder 14

**European Royalty. Genealogy circa 1960-1985**

Box 2, Folder 15

**Excerpts from Other Authors circa 1960-1985**

Box 2, Folder 16

**Graffiti (Train/Bus Stations) 1949-1959**

Box 2, Folder 17

**Hemingway, Ernest. Suppressed Poems circa 1960**

Box 2, Folder 18

**Geography 1964-1988**

Box 2, Folder 19

**Homosexuality Bibliography 1970-1977**

Box 3, Folder 1


Box 3, Folder 2

**Young, Ian. The Male Homosexual in Literature 1975**

Box 3, Folder 3
Box 3, Folder 4 | Homosexuality Bibliographies & Book Lists circa 1960-1985
Box 3, Folder 7 | Summaries of English-language fiction with homosexual characters and themes circa 1958-1987

Physical Description: 1 box of paper slips
Physical Description: (4 x 6 inches)

Box 3, Folder 6 | Miscellaneous Notes circa 1960-1985
Box 3, Folder 7 | Newspaper Clippings 1941-1992
Box 3, Folder 8 | Newspaper Clippings. Yukio Mishima 1958-1974
Box 3, Folder 9 | Palaeontology circa 1960-1985
Box 3, Folder 10 | Photocopies, Miscellaneous no date
Box 3, Folder 11 | Priapea sive diversorum poetarum in Priapum lusus. Transcript (manuscript) circa 1960-1985
Box 3, Folder 12 | Prokosch, Frederic. The Asiatics circa 1941
Box 3, Folder 13 | Roberts, Hermese E. The Third Ear: A Black Glossary 1971

General note
Photocopy.

Box 3, Folder 15 | Saul, John. Sins of the Cities of the Plain (1881) circa 1960-1985

General note
Photocopy.

Box 3, Folder 16 | Sexology; Sex Science Magazine June 1953
Box 4, Folder 1 | Symmonds, John Addington. A Problem in Greek Ethics (1901) circa 1960-1985

General note
Photographic copy.

Box 7, Folder 4 | Unidentified flying object (UFO) material 1976-1991
Box 4, Folder 2 | Weston, Patrick (Gerald Hamilton). Desert Dreamers (1914) circa 1960-1985

General note
Photocopy.

Box 4, Folder 3 | Windham, Donald. The Hitchhiker (1950) circa 1960-1985

General note
Photocopy.

Personal Series 4: 1935-1993

Physical Description: 30 folders.19 volumes and 11 folders

Series Scope and Content
This series contains documents of a personal nature, including extensive diaries from 1935 to 1993, as well as materials relating to Leoni’s status as a Harvard alumnus, including a copy of the 1941 freshman class yearbook and his correspondence with Harvard Magazine. The photographs appear to document a visit to Europe in the late 1940s or early 1950s. The book service materials relate to a side interest in books and studio releases.

Diaries 1935-1993

Box 5, Folder 1 | January-May 1935
Box 5, Folder 2 | 1938
Box 5, Folder 3 | 1939

General note
Locked.
Box 5, Folder 4  1940
  General note
  Locked.

Box 5, Folder 5  1941
  General note
  Locked.

Box 5, Folder 6  1942
  General note
  Locked.

Box 5, Folder 7  1943
Box 5, Folder 8  1944
  General note
  Locked.

Box 5, Folder 9  1945
Box 5, Folder 10  1946
Box 5, Folder 11  1947
Box 5, Folder 12  1948-1952
Box 6, Folder 1  1953-1957
Box 6, Folder 2  1958-1962
Box 6, Folder 3  1963-1967
Box 6, Folder 4  1968-1972
Box 6, Folder 5  1973-1977
Box 6, Folder 6  1983-1987
Box 6, Folder 7  1993

Harvard 1941-circa 1995
Box 4, Folder 4  Harvard Class of 1945. Freshman Yearbook 1941
Box 4, Folder 5  Harvard Class of 1945. Newspaper Clippings circa 1945-1955
Box 4, Folder 6  Harvard Class of 1945 in Print circa 1995
Box 4, Folder 7  Harvard Magazine 1977-1991
Box 4, Folder 8  Class Notes (Government) circa 1941-1945
Box 4, Folder 9  Miscellaneous 1975
Box 7, Folder 5-7  Book service 1962-1979
  Scope and Contents
  Includes correspondence with Victor Hall, Samuel Steward, Victor Banis, James Edward Dial, and Roger Austen.

Box 4, Folder 10  Christmas Cards circa 1990
Box 4, Folder 11  Photographs circa 1945-1960

Miscellaneous Series 5: circa 1960-1985
  Physical Description: 8 items.
  Series Scope and Content
  This series contains miscellaneous materials found in the collection, including graphics of homosexual erotic images and ephemera with both homosexual and heterosexual erotic images.

Box 4, Folder 12  Graphics circa 1960-1985
Box 6, Folder 8  Microfilm (unidentified) no date
Box 6, Folder 9  Microfilm (unidentified) no date
Box 6, Folder 10  Climax 69 Playing Cards (heterosexual) circa 1960-1975
Box 6, Folder 11  DSI Playing Cards (homosexual) circa 1960-1975
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 12</th>
<th>Coin of Elizabeth II in lucite 1965</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 13</td>
<td>Miss Demontagia (German) circa 1960-1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 14</td>
<td>Keyholder with color male physique transparency circa 1960-1975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>