Finding aid to the Julia Willis papers Coll2011.006

Finding aid prepared by Alison Leonard
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, California, 90007
(213) 741-0094
askone@ONEarchives.org
February 1, 2011
Title: Julia Willis papers
Identifier/Call Number: Coll2011.006
Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 2.0 linear feet. 2 boxes.
Date (inclusive): 1970-2010
Abstract: This collection documents Julia Willis’ career as a writer of books, plays, poetry, comedic writings, short stories, and newspaper columns. The bulk of the material dates from the 1990s and includes manuscripts, drafts, correspondence, scripts, notes, press material, photocopies of awards and recognitions, reviews, clippings, program and other papers.
creator: Willis, Julia, 1949-
Arrangement
The files are arranged roughly according to the donor’s original order of the collection.
Biography
Julia Willis was born August 21, 1949, in Charlotte, North Carolina, daughter of William Clem and Carolyn Willis. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, in 1973. She began her career as an associate editor for Red Clay Books in 1974.
She has written four books including, Reel Time, a comic novel; We Oughta Be in Pictures, for which she was a Lambda Award drama finalist; Who Wears the Tux?, a lesbian quiz book; and Meow-Mories. Her work has also appeared in numerous women’s anthologies.
Julia was a founding member of the women’s comedy troupe, the Ends and Means Committee. She wrote for the lesbian soap opera, Two in Twenty, and her award-winning one-act comedies have been produced by off-off-Broadway and by gay and lesbian theatres around the country. In addition to reviewing for Lambda Book Report and The Lesbian Review of Books, she has written comedy material for the Boston Baked Theater, Terra Infirma on NPR and for Joan Rivers. She has received fellowships and grants from the Arch and Bruce Brown Foundation, Massachusetts Artists Foundation, Edward Albee Foundation and MacDowell Colony.
She worked as a freelance writer, poet, producer, comedy writer/performer and a playwright through the 1990s. She has been married since 2006.
Access
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.
Publication Rights
Researchers wishing to publish material must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives as the physical owner of the material. Note that permission to publish does not constitute copyright clearance. ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives can grant copyright clearance only for those materials for which we hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain copyright clearance for all other materials from the copyright holder(s).
Acquisition Information
Collection donated by Julia Willis, 2010. Deed of Gift received from Willis, March 9, 2011.
Preferred Citation
Box #, folder #, Julia Willis Papers, Coll2011-006, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California
Processing Information
Collection processed by Alison Leonard, February 1, 2011.
Scope and Contents
This collection consists of manuscripts, drafts, correspondence, scripts, notes, press material, photocopies of awards and recognitions, reviews, clippings, program and other papers related to writings by Julia Willis. The bulk of the collection includes drafts and manuscripts related to her books and plays, including Reel Time, Who Wears the Tux? and We Oughta Be in Pictures. The collection also includes material related to shorter works such as plays, poetry and comedy.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Lesbian authors--United States--20th century
Lesbian theater
Lesbian writings
Plays
Box 1, Folder 1-2
Box 1, Folder 1
Box 1, Folder 2
Box 1, Folder 3-9
Box 1, Folder 3-8
Box 1, Folder 9-11
Box 1, Folder 12
Box 1, Folder 13-20
Box 1, Folder 13-19
Box 1, Folder 20
Box 1, Folder 21-22
Box 2, Folder 1-3
Box 1, Folder 21-22
Box 2, Folder 1-2
Box 2, Folder 3
Box 2, Folder 4
Box 2, Folder 5
Box 2, Folder 6
Box 2, Folder 7
Box 2, Folder 8
Box 2, Folder 9
Box 2, Folder 10
Box 2, Folder 11
Box 2, Folder 12
Box 2, Folder 13
Box 2, Folder 14
Box 2, Folder 15
Box 2, Folder 16
Box 2, Folder 17
Box 2, Folder 18
Box 2, Folder 19
Box 2, Folder 20
Box 2, Folder 21
Box 2, Folder 22
Box 2, Folder 23
Box 2, Folder 24

Books

*Meow-Mories 1996-2010*
*Meow-Mories* No date
Reviews, readings, public relations September 1986-January 2010

*Reel Time 1980-1999*
Notes and drafts June 1980-April 1999
Physical Description: [6 folders]

*Final proofs April 1998-June 1998*
Physical Description: [3 folders]

*We Oughta Be in Pictures 1988-1994*
Proposal, drafts and galleys March 1988-October 1992
Physical Description: [7 folders]

*Who Wears the Tux? 1990-1992*
Proposal, notes, first draft No date
Physical Description: [1-2 of 4 folders]

*Who Wears the Tux? 1990-1992*
Proposal, notes, first draft No date
Physical Description: [3-4 of 4 folders]

*Reviews, readings, and public relations 1989-June 1994*

*Fiction 1992-2000*
"Case History of the Warrior Princess" 1998-2000
"Lillian" No date
"RSVP" 1995
"Swing Shift" 1992
"There With Bells On" 1993-1997
"With Every Beat of My Heart" 1997

*Four Stories: Just Meet Him, Loving the Sinner, Little Red Wagon, Shining Star.*
Unpublished or revised 1988-2004

*Plays 1985-1998*
Production and promotion September 1985-October 1998
*Getting It* No date
*Going Up* No date
*I'd Know You Anywhere* No date
*Souvenirs* No date
*Sunday Afternoon in the Valley of the Moon* 1986
*Sunday Afternoon in the Valley of the Moon* original drafts July 1986

*Radio script: Going Up* No date

*Television, video and film circa 1990-2000*
*Lesson One* No date
*Murphy Brown "Star Quality"* rough draft August 1992
*Murphy Brown "Star Quality"* unsold script August 1992
*Positively Tasty-Cooking with Chef Tomas* July 1995
*Two in Twenty* No date
*Wherever You Are* No date

Finding aid to the Julia Willis papers Coll2011.006
Box 2, Folder 25    Boston Baked Theatre 1990-1993
Box 2, Folder 26    Clippings and awards May 1979-October 1998
Box 2, Folder 27    Collected book reviews March 1995-September 2003
Box 2, Folder 28    Comedy manuscripts, notes, and public relations 1984-1994
Box 2, Folder 29    Correspondence June 1975-January 2003
Box 2, Folder 30-32 Juiceinia [writings from Willis' youth] August 1970-November 1978
                      Physical Description: [3 folders]
Box 2, Folder 33    Magazines and booklets 1978-1993
Box 2, Folder 34    Short anthology pieces 1978-1995
Box 2, Folder 35    That Takes Ovaries reviews, readings, and public relations 1993-2003
Box 2, Folder 36    Miscellaneous 1992-1995