Title: Curtin Family Collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS.648
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.3 linear feet (1 box, 1 tall folder)
Date (inclusive): 1922-1981
Abstract: This collection includes materials by or collected by Leonora Muse Curtin (1879-1972) and Leonora Curtin Paloheimo (1903-1999), the daughter and granddaughter, respectively, of renowned Southwest and California painter Eva Scott Fenyes from 1922-1981. Materials include correspondence, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, sheet music, song lyrics, and publications on topics such as Native American bracelets, Native American weaving, Pima ethnobotany, and poetry.
creator: Curtin, L. S. M. (Leonora Scott Muse)
creator: Paloheimo, Leonora Curtin, 1903-1999
Related Archival Materials
Correspondence from Leonora Curtin Paloheimo can also be found in MS.1 Charles Fletcher Lummis Manuscript Collection, and correspondence from Leonora Muse Curtain can be found in MS.7 Frederick Webb Hodge Papers.
Biographical note
Leonora S. Muse Curtin (1879-1972) was the daughter of renowned Southwest and California painter Eva Scott Fenyes. Curtin was a linguist and studied language and culture in India, Switzerland, Morocco, and among Native Americans of the Southwest. Curtin's daughter, also named Leonora Curtin (1903-1999) shared her mother's interest in the Southwest, and together the two designed and built an adobe-style home in La Cienega, New Mexico in 1931 and named it El Rancho de las Golondrinas. The younger Curtin married Yrjo Alfred Paloheimo and took his last name in 1946.
Scope and Contents
This collection includes materials by or collected by Leonora Muse Curtin and Leonora Curtin Paloheimo from 1922-1981. Materials include correspondence, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, sheet music, song lyrics, and publications. Topics covered in these materials include Native American bracelets, Native American weaving, Pima ethnobotany, and poetry. Manuscripts include original artwork and notes for a manuscript entitled "Santos of New Mexico: a review of the literature and bibliography with a key to identify the painters" by E. Boyd, 1947; a manuscript for a publication entitled "New Mexican Folk Melodies from the Collection of Leonora Curtin" transcribed by J. W. Robb; and a manuscript entitled "The Story and Songs of Los Pastores (Agua Fria Version)," Collected, Condensed, and Translated by the Federal Writers' Project of New Mexico, presented by the Santa Fe Unit of the Federal Music Project of New Mexico, Sponsored by the New Mexico Writers' Guild on Christmas Day, 1938. Some song lyrics in this collection are in Spanish. The tall folder contains a clipping on El Rancho de las Golondrinas from 1973.
Preferred citation
Curtin Family Collection, 1922-1981, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.648; [folder number] [folder title][date].
Processing history
Processed by Library staff, after 1981. Finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2012 October 29, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).
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Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Curtin Family
Artwork
Cienega Village Living Museum
Clippings
Correspondence
Drawings
El Alisal (Lummis Home, Los Angeles, Calif.)
Ethnobotany
Folk songs
Indian poetry
Indian textiles
Indians of North America -- Bracelets
Manuscripts
Navajo Indians
New Mexican Folk Melodies from the Collection of Leonora Curtin
Pima Indians
Pima Indians -- Ethnobotany
Poetry
Rancho de las Golondrinas
Santos
Santos of New Mexico: a review of the literature and bibliography with a key to identify the painters
Sheet music
Songs -- Texts
Story and Songs of Los Pastores (Agua Fria Version)
Transcripts
Translations