Anthony Quinn Collection of Scripts

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California State University, Los Angeles
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, California 90032-8300
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2019
Descriptive Summary

Title: Anthony Quinn Collection of Scripts
Dates: 1940-1972
Collection Number: 2015.009
Creator/Collector: Quinn, Anthony
Extent: 53.75 linear ft.
Repository: California State University, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California 90032-8300

Abstract: Anthony Quinn (1915-2001) is best known as an actor, starring in such films as Lawrence of Arabia (1962), Zorba the Greek (1964), and La Strada (1954), but he was also a writer and visual artist. He was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, then his parents moved to Los Angeles where Quinn grew up in Boyle Heights and Echo Park. Quinn was a boxer for a time and studied architecture under Frank Lloyd Wright before starting his film acting career in 1936. Quinn was under contract at Paramount and played characters of various ethnicities such as Native American, Crazy Horse, in They Died with Their Boots On (1941) and a Chinese character, Chang Tai, in Island of Lost Men (1939). Quinn was a Mexican national until he became an American citizen in 1947. In 1947, Quinn played Stanley Kowalski in A Streetcar Named Desire on Broadway, replacing Marlon Brando. This led to director Elia Kazan casting Quinn alongside Brando in 1952's Viva Zapata! Quinn won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor, making him the first Mexican-American to ever win an Academy Award. He won the award a second time for his performance in Lust for Life (1956). Quinn went on to star in many successful films throughout the 1950s and 60s. He was also active on Broadway. After the success of the TV movie, The City (1971), Quinn reprised his role in the short lived television series, The Man and the City (1971-1972), as the Hispanic mayor of a city in the American Southwest. His acting career continued until his death in 2001. Anthony Quinn was also involved in and had a rich interest in civil rights movements throughout the United States. In 1970, Quinn was a panelist at the Mexican-American Conference. He attended events for La Raza and other groups. In 2001, the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival awarded Quinn their Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously. The National Council of La Raza gives out an award named for Quinn, the Anthony Quinn Award for Industry Excellence, at the annual American Latino Media Arts Awards.

Language of Material: English

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Preferred Citation
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Scope and Content of Collection
The materials in this collection were created from 1940-1972. The bulk of the collection is scripts and outlines collected by Anthony Quinn, a notable Mexican-American actor, director, writer, and visual artist. The scripts and outlines contain film scripts, theater plays, teleplays, and pre-production film materials. These include scripts of films and television that star Anthony Quinn as well as many that were never produced. Included in the collection are materials and documents related to Quinn's interest and involvement in civil rights movements from 1968-1972, particularly those involving Mexican-Americans. The materials in this collection also include correspondence and research materials related to film projects, Quinn's appearances, and civil rights.

Indexing Terms
Civil Rights
Chicano
Mexican-American
Quinn, Anthony
Scripts
Manuscripts

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