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## **Finding aid for the Herman J. Schultheis collection of international photographs, 1927-1950**

Finding aid created by Los Angeles Public Library staff using RecordEXPRESS

Los Angeles Public Library

630 W. 5th Street

Los Angeles, California 90071

(213) 228-7355

rarebook@lapl.org

<http://www.lapl.org/>

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Finding aid for the Herman J. Schultheis collection of international photographs, 1927-1950

**Dates:** 1927-1950

**Collection Number:** GPC b52-b73

**Creator/Collector:** Schultheis, Herman.

**Extent:** 21 boxes totaling 10.5 linear feet

**Repository:** Los Angeles Public Library

Los Angeles, California 90071

**Abstract:** The Herman J. Schultheis Collection of International Photographs, 1927-1950 is comprised of original photographic prints documenting Schultheis' various travels to the Mediterranean region, South America, the Caribbean, Mexico, and the eastern half of the United States.

**Language of Material:** English

### **Access**

This collection is stored on-site at the Central branch of the Los Angeles Public Library. It is open for research on an appointment only basis.

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### **Preferred Citation**

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### **Acquisition Information**

Gift of Howard Lowery, December 1991.

### **Biography/Administrative History**

Herman J. Schultheis was born in Aachen, Germany in 1900, and immigrated to the United States in the mid-1920s after obtaining a Ph.D. in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. He married Ethel Wisloh in 1936, and the pair moved to Los Angeles the following year. He worked in the film industry from the late 1930s to the mid-1940s, most notably on the animated features "Fantasia" and "Pinocchio." His detailed notebook, documenting the special effects for "Fantasia," is the subject of a 14-minute short-subject included on the film's DVD. In 1949, he started employment with Librascope as a patent engineer. Schultheis was an avid amateur photographer who traveled the world with his cameras. It was on one of these photographic exhibitions in 1955 that he disappeared in the jungles of Guatemala. His remains were discovered 18 months later.

### **Scope and Content of Collection**

The collection consists of original photographic prints, generally sized at 3x5" or smaller, documenting Schultheis' initial immigration voyage from Germany to the United States in 1927, the 1933 Mediterranean cruise where he first met Ethel Wisloh, and various world travels. Locales represented in the collection are detailed in the Container List, and cover the Mediterranean region, South America, the Caribbean, Mexico, and the eastern half of the United States. The Mexico portion of the collection consists of 4x6" copy prints struck by nitrate negatives that have since been discarded. There are limited additional images of friends, family, and Disney co-workers along with nudes and still lifes.

### **Indexing Terms**

Schultheis, Herman.

Schultheis Collection photographs

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