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

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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
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information

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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