Finding Aid for the Marie Corelli Papers, ca. 1880-1930

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Note
Finding Aid for the Marie Corelli Papers, ca. 1880-1930

Collection number: 748

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

Contact Information
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Marie Corelli Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1880-1930
Collection number: 748
Creator: Corelli, Marie, 1855-1924
Extent: 2 boxes (1 linear ft.)
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Marie Corelli was the pen name of Mary MacKay (1855-1924). She was the best selling author of her time, writing 27 novels, several collections of short stories, a book of verse, and a number of essays. The collection consists of correspondence, literary manuscripts, and a scrapbook containing clippings and ephemera.

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Language: English.

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Biography
Marie Corelli was the pen name of Mary MacKay, born May 1, 1855 in Bayswater, London, England; she was the best selling author of her time, writing 27 novels, several collections of short stories, a book of verse, and a number of essays; most popular works include The Sorrows of Satan, or, The Strange Experiences of One Geoffrey Tempest, Millionaire: A Romance (1895), Thelma: A Society Novel (1887), and Barabbas: A Dream of the World's Tragedy (1893); died April 21, 1924.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence, literary manuscripts, and a scrapbook of Marie Corelli. The scrapbook contains clippings and ephemera. Correspondents include Sir Edwin Arnold, Bertha Vyver, the Dickens Fellowship, Rider Haggard, Richard Bentley publishing firm, Herbert Halliwell Hobbes, Coulson Kernahan, Otto Kyllmann, Field and Tuer publishing firm, Andrew White Tuer, and Frederic Henry Fisher.

Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. Scrapbook.
2. Letters from various persons to John Cuming Walters.
3. Marie Corelli letters to various persons.
4. Corelli literary manuscripts.
5. Letters from Bertha Vyver to various persons.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Corelli, Marie, 1855-1924--Archives.
Women authors, English--Archival resources.
Vyver, Bertha.

Box 1
Scrapbook of clippings and ephemera relating to Marie Corelli, compiled by John Cuming Walters (d. 1933). Birmingham and Manchester, 1893-1927.
Physical Description: Bound in green buckram.
Note
The following items in Box 1 have been removed from this scrapbook.
Box 1


Physical Description: 79 items. Holograph (5 folders).

Note

Names in bold appear as added entries in the Numbered Collections Catalog.

Scope and Content Note

Walters, a newspaper man, was on the staff of the Birmingham Daily Gazette, the Manchester Evening Chronicle, and, from 1906 to 1931, was editor of the Manchester Evening Chronicle. Many of Marie Corelli’s letters to him have to do with various controversies in the Letters to the Editor columns.

Box 1


Physical Description: 10 items. Holograph.

Scope and Content Note

Miss Bertha Vyver was a life long friend and companion of Miss Corelli; she wrote and published Memoirs of Marie Corelli. London: A. Rivers, 1930.

Box 1

Letters from various persons to John Cuming Walters, relating to Marie Corelli. v.p., v.d.

Physical Description: 13 items. Manuscript and typescript.

Scope and Content Note

1 letter in this group is from Walters to Dear Sir.

Box 1


Physical Description: (2) 6 leaves. Holograph.

Scope and Content Note

Publishing history unknown.

Box 2

Corelli, Marie. Letters to various persons. v.p., v.d. A - H.

Physical Description: 47 items. Holograph.

Note

Includes:

Arnold, Sir Edwin, 1832-1904.

Dickens Fellowship.

Haggard, Sir Henry Rider, 1856-1925.

Farrar, Lucy Mary (Cardew) Mrs. Frederic William Farrar.

Bendall, Ernest Alfred, 1846-1924.

Binstead, Mary (Openshaw) d. 1928.


Corelli, Marie. Letters to various persons. v.p., v.d. I - Z.

Physical Description: 35 items. Holograph.

Note

Includes:

Jackson, Holbrook, 1874-1948.

Kent, Charles, 1823-1902.

Wakefield, Charles Cheers Wakefield, 1st viscount, 1859-1941.

Payn, James, 1830-1898.


Methuen, Sir Algernon Methuen Marshall, bart., 1856-1924.


Kirkby, William Forsell, 1844-1912.
Box 2  
**Tillotson and Son, Limited.**

Corelli, Marie. Letters to unidentified persons. v.p., v.d.

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - 3 letters (July-August 1892), refer to Queen Victoria.

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Letters to Herbert Halliwell Hobbes. v.p., 1900-1914.**

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - Herbert Halliwell Hobbes, 1877-1962, was an actor on both the stage and in the cinema. See *Who's Who in the Theatre.*

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Letters to Coulson Kernahan. Stratford-on-Avon, 1900-1923.**

- **Note**
  - The subject matter of these letters is largely literary.

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Letters to Otto Kyllmann. Stratford-on-Avon, 1906-1908.**

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - Otto Kyllmann was connected with the publishing of some of Marie Corelli's books. The letter of February 11, 1908, is missing the first part.

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Ephemera (mostly newspaper clippings). v.p., v.d.**

Box 2  
**Vyver, Bertha. Letters to various persons. v.p., v.d.**

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Letters to Field and Tuer, firm, publishers, London. v.p., ca. 1886-1890.**

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - Some of these letters are about Eric Mackay, 1851-1898, Marie Corelli's half brother. Six of the letters are addressed to Andrew White Tuer, 1838-1900.

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. Letters to Frederic Henry Fisher. v.p., n.d. and 1898.**

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - This correspondence concerns one of Marie Corelli's many altercations with the press. Also included are copies of two letters from H.W. Toms, the vicar of Combe Martin, North Devon, who was involved in the controversy, and two newspaper clippings. Fisher was the editor of the *Literary World.*

Box 2  
**Corelli, Marie. A Madrigal. n.p., 1916.**

- **Scope and Content Note**
  - A poem, set into type from this copy for *Poetry Review* (?). Editor's pencilled note: Mag. To be set as here: the 3rd lines not to turn if poss. K.
Box 2  **Corelli, Marie. Brown Jim’s Problem (?). n.p., n.d.**
  Physical Description: p.20 only. Typescript (carbon), signed in ink.
  Note
  The last leaf of a short story.

Box 2  **Corelli, Marie. The First Shot: A Strange Experience. n.p., ca. 1916.**
  Physical Description: 19 leaves. 28 cm. Holograph manuscript and 3 sheets with holograph corrections. In a tan buckram portfolio.
  **Scope and Content Note**
  This short story appeared in *Y.M.*, a periodical published in London by the Y.M.C.A., under the title, The First Shot, and Where It Led To. With this manuscript: galley proofs of The First Shot.

Box 2  **Corelli, Marie. The Call of the Motherland. n.p., ca. 1915.**
  Physical Description: 12 leaves. 28cm. Holograph manuscript on ruled paper.
  Note
  Publishing history unknown.