Collection of material about the Federal Theatre Project, 1936-1990

Processed by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Megan Hahn Fraser, August 2011; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

UCLA Library Special Collections
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
Email: spec-coll@library.ucla.edu
URL: http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/
© 2011
The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.
Collection of material about the Federal Theatre Project, 1936-1990

1653

Descriptive Summary

Title: Collection of material about the Federal Theatre Project
Date (inclusive): 1936-1990
Collection number: 1653
Collector: Morehead, Hubert, collector.
Extent: 3 boxes (1.5 linear ft.)

Abstract: The Federal Theatre Project was funded by the U.S. government as part of the Works Projects Administration (WPA) to create jobs for unemployed theatre workers during the Great Depression (1935-39). The collection includes copies of scripts from a collection on the Federal Theatre Project's scripts at George Mason University, videotaped interviews with Gene Stone and Jeff Corey, and statements made before the House Committee on Un-American Activities and Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

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

Restrictions on Access
Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction
Property rights to the physical object belong to the UC Regents. Literary rights, including copyright, are retained by the creators and their heirs. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine who holds the copyright and pursue the copyright owner or his or her heir for permission to publish where The UC Regents do not hold the copyright.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Processing Note
Processed by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Megan Hahn Fraser, August 2011.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Collection of material about the Federal Theatre Project (Collection 1653). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4232786

Biography
The Federal Theatre Project was funded by the U.S. government as part of the Works Projects Administration (WPA) to create jobs for unemployed theater workers during the Great Depression (1935-1939). Productions included classical and modern drama, children's plays, puppet shows, musical comedies, and documentary theatre. The project was terminated in 1939 by congressional action following investigations by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Scope and Content
Primarily includes copies of scripts from a collection on the Federal Theatre Project's scripts at George Mason University. Also included are videotaped interviews with Gene Stone and Jeff Corey and statements made before the House Committee on Un-American Activities and Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Federal Theatre Project (U.S.) --Archival resources.

Genres and Forms of Material
Film scripts

Related Material
Box 1, Folder 1  
**Federal Theatre Plays 1938.**

Scope and Content Note
Introduction by Hallie Flanagan, director of Federal Theatre Project, from *Federal Theatre Plays*. Pierre De Rohan (ed.), New York: De Capo, 1938. Description of how the concept of "the living newspaper" was launched as part of the Federal Theatre project.

Box 1, Folder 2  
**Flanagan's statement to HUAC 1938.**

Scope and Content Note
Statement of Hallie Flanagan, National Director of Federal Theatre Project given at hearing before the Committee on Un-American Activities.

Box 1, Folder 3  
**Brief on Federal Theatre Project for HUAC January 3, 1939.**

Scope and Content Note
Brief contains detailed responses to charges by witnesses who appeared before the Special Committee to investigate Un-American Activities House of Representatives. Includes statements of charges, statement by Hallie Flanagan, review of policies and activities of Federal Theatre project.

Box 1, Folder 4  
**A Conversation with Jeff Corey 1990.**

Physical Description: VHS tape.

Box 1, Folder 5  
**A Conversation with Gene Stone 1989.**

Scope and Content Note
VHS tape. Produced by Hugh and Martha Morehead.

Box 1, Folder 6  
**Battle Hymn undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Pages for Act 3, Scene 3.

Box 1, Folder 7  
**Big White Fog: A Negro Tragedy ca. 1938.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by Theodore Ward.

Box 1, Folder 8  
**Class of '29: A Play in Three Acts 1936.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by Orrie Lashin and Milo Hastings, includes ground plans.

Box 1, Folder 9  
**The Cradle Will Rock undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Copy of script.

Box 1, Folder 10  
**Created Equal: An American Chronicle in thirty-one scenes undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by John Hunter Booth. Includes synopsis, and script. Note indicates that this copy is a revised version.

Box 2, Folder 1  
**Ethiopia January 1936.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by Arthur Arent, introduction by Dan Isaac.
Box 2, Folder 2  
**Injunction Granted January 1938.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by the editorial staff of the *Living Newspaper*, Arthur Arent, managing director. Note indicates July 24, 1936. Includes bibliography, synopsis of scenes, script for dialogue, list of costumes, cues for projection and sound, and props.

Box 2, Folder 3  
**It Can't Happen Here September 18, 1936.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by John C. Moffitt and Sinclair Lewis, handwritten note indicates October 26, 1936.

Box 2, Folder 4  
**Life and Death of an American undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by George Sklar.

Box 2, Folder 5  
**Medicine Show April 26, 1939.**

Scope and Content Note
Includes script and bibliography.

Box 2, Folder 6  
**One-Third of a Nation undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Pages for Scenes 1, 19, 21.

Box 2, Folder 7  
**Power: A Living Newspaper ca. February 23, 1937.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by Arthur Arent. Includes cast list and script.

Box 2, Folder 8  
**Processional undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by John Howard Lawson.

Box 2, Folder 9  
**Processional undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Sheet music (1 of 2).

Box 3, Folder 1  
**Processional undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Sheet music (2 of 2).

Box 3, Folder 2  
**The Revolt of the Beavers May 20, 1937.**

Scope and Content Note
By Oscar Saul and Louis Lantz. Includes photographs from production list of props and script.

Box 3, Folder 3  
**Saleslady undated.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by Upton Sinclair.

Box 3, Folder 4  
**Sing For Your Supper April 24, 1939.**

Scope and Content Note
Script by project staff. Annotated.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 5</th>
<th><strong>Spirochete 1938.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Script by Arnold Sundgaard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 6</th>
<th><strong>The Trial of Dr. Beck ca. 1938.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 7</th>
<th><strong>Triology in Black undated.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Script by Ward Courtney.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 8</th>
<th><strong>Triple-A Plowed Under 1936.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Script by the staff of the <em>Living Newspaper</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 9</th>
<th><strong>&quot;Voodoo&quot; Macbeth April 14, 1936.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Play by William Shakespeare, arranged and staged by Orson Welles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 10</th>
<th><strong>The Woman of Destiny March 2, 1936.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Script by Samuel Jesse Warshawsky. Includes synopsis and script.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>