Finding Aid for the Stanley Kurnik Papers, 1945-1986

Processed by Dan Luckenbill; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé and Dan Luckenbill
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Manuscripts Division
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Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
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Finding Aid for the Stanley Kurnik Papers, 1945-1986

Collection number: 365

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

Contact Information

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Processed by:
Dan Luckenbill, May 1999
Encoded by:
Caroline Cubé and Dan Luckenbill
Online finding aid edited by:
Josh Fiala, August 2002

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Stanley Kurnik Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1945-1986
Collection number: 365
Creator: Kurnik, Stanley
Extent: 14 boxes (7 linear ft.) 2 oversize boxes
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Stanley Kurnik was a Los Angeles poet, author, teacher, and composer who ran the Los Angeles writers' workshops and Los Angeles poets' workshops at the First Unitarian Church. The collection consists of manuscripts, teaching, research and personal material, theater programs, memorabilia, correspondence, clippings, photocopies, photographs, reel to reel tape recordings, magazines, posters, 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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Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Additional Physical Form Available
Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Stanley Kurnik Papers (Collection 365). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 1973046

Biography
Kurnik was a Los Angeles poet, author, teacher, and composer who ran the Los Angeles writers’ workshops and Los Angeles poets’ workshops at the First Unitarian Church.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of manuscripts, teaching material, research material, personal material, theater programs, memorabilia, correspondence, clippings, photocopies, photographs, reel to reel tape recordings, magazines, posters, and ephemera. Contains writers' files, with drafts and correspondence, including letters from Ray Bradbury. Tape recordings include his productions for KPFK radio.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog. Kurnik, Stanley--Archives. Poets, American--California--Los Angeles--Archival resources.

Writing, Research, and Publication Material

Art
Box 3, Folder 6 Sketches, etc. n.d.
Physical Description: Pencil and water color or wash.

Criticism n.d. / v.d.
Box 2, Folder 2 Music Reviews.
Physical Description: Clippings.
Note
Not articles by Stanley Kurnik.
Box 2, Folder 1 Reviews. 1949- .
Physical Description: Manuscripts.
### Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 3</th>
<th><strong>College Papers. 1943, etc.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Various papers on literature, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 4</th>
<th><strong>Various papers on music, etc. 1946, etc.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>College not given. Stanley Kurnik attended LACC and UC Berkeley (summer).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Los Angeles High School**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folders 1-2</th>
<th><strong>Yearbook(s). 1945.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Includes portrait of Stanley Kurnik.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newspaper with article by Bob Bellah.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signatures from friends.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Educational Film n.d. / v.d.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 1</th>
<th><strong>American Immigrants.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Research material, outlines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain whether by Stanley Kurnik.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Items Collected n.d. / v.d.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 3</th>
<th><strong>Music. Some published in Los Angeles.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>3 folders. Copies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 16</th>
<th><strong>Music.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>Copies [Oversize box].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Includes material by Alvaro Cardona - Hine.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 4</th>
<th><strong>Photographs.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>Prints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Includes Dennis Stock photograph of James Dean. Magnum Photos.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 3</th>
<th><strong>Photographs. n.d. (seem to be 1970s-1980s).</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>Prints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Snapshots and a 5 × 7, Stanley Kurnik holding an Oscar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3, Folder 13</th>
<th><strong>Miscellaneous.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Address jottings, job application, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Application (1986) gives dates of his schooling, including college.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Personal(?)

Writing, Research, and Publication Material

Box 3, Folder 9

Correspondence. Some are mid 1960s.
Physical Description: Drafts or copies. 3 folders.

Play

Box 8, Folder 3

Doris Lessing’s *Play with a Tiger*.
Scope and Content Note
Production Material
5 playbooks. Some with blocking, with music cues, etc.

Research Material n.d. / v.d.

Box 9, Folder 3

General (no subject given). v.d.
Physical Description: Clippings, photocopies.

Box 16

Oversize magazines, etc.

Miscellaneous journals.
Physical Description: Copies.
Scope and Content Note
Also clippings, etc.

Box 10, Folder 5

Music Reviews.
Physical Description: Clippings.

Research Material and Ephemera n.d. / v.d.

Box 11

General (no subjects given).
Physical Description: Clippings and photocopies. 4 folders.

Box 15

Various publications (no subjects given).
Physical Description: [Oversize box] Primarily newsprint.
Scope and Content Note
Uncertain whether some contain contributions by Stanley Kurnik.

Stanley Kurnik As Editor

Box 10, Folder 1

*Autumn Thunder* by Dorothy Somers. 1983.
Physical Description: Copy of publication.
Note
Also copy cataloged for Special Collection.

Box 10, Folder 2

*Windfalls* by Dorothy Somers. 1983.
Physical Description: Copy of publication.
Note
Also copy cataloged for Special Collection.
Screen or Stage Treatment(?)

Box 3, Folder 5

*Starr King.*

Physical Description: Various drafts.
Scope and Content Note
Synopsis.

Theater Group: Itinerant Players n.d. / v.d.

Box 1, Folder 9
Box 1, Folder 10

Programs and press releases. v.d.
Statements. v.d.

Unknown

Box 8, Folder 1

Alcoholics Anonymous Essay(?).

Physical Description: Copy.
Note
Purpose unknown.

Writer Files, etc.

A
Box 4, Folder 3
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Akin, Kati
Box 4, Folder 4
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Alvaro Cardona - Hine
Box 5, Folder 1
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Physical Description: 2 folders.

Ames, Bernice
Box 4, Folder 5
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
B
Box 4, Folder 6
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Babb, Dorothy
Box 4, Folder 7
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Bellah, Robert
Box 4, Folder 8
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Note
Materials filed elsewhere, as well.

Benson, Jess
Box 4, Folder 9
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Bortin, Ruth
Box 4, Folder 10
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Bradbury, Ray
Box 4, Folder 11
Drafts, Correspondence, etc. April 7, 15 and May 23, 1964.
Physical Description: Each is 1 leaf. Typed, signed.

Bukowski, Charles
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Box 4, Folder 12

Ephemera.

Physical Description: Letter is folded cardboard, sender unknown, post marked from New Orleans, date illegible.

Scope and Content Note
Copies (by Stanley Kurnik) of Charles Bukowski poems, and letter to Charles Bukowski

Box 4, Folder 13

Bukowski, Frances
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 4, Folder 14

Bulosan, Carlos

Box 4, Folder 15

Letters to Dorothy Babb. 1937-1938, 1942.
Physical Description: Copies.

Box 4, Folder 16

{Cardona - Hine, Alvaro

Manuscripts and ephemera. Some are early 1960s.
Scope and Content Note
Play program with Stanley Kurnik drawing, etc.

Box 5, Folder 2

Cogen, Robert S.
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 3

Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 4

Darnley, Sandra K.
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 5

Delury, George
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 6

E
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 7

Eastman, Charles
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 8

Erlichman, Lester
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 9

F
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 10

Fagan, William Michael
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 5, Folder 11

Fiedler, Frank
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 1

First Unitarian Church
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 2

Friedman, Samuel
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 3

G
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 4

Gould, Pearl
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 5

Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 6

Heifetz, Harold
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 7

Hersch, Renata
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 8

Hogan, Robb
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 9

I / J
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
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Box 6, Folder 10
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 11
K
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 4
Koontz, J.R. Goody
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 12
L
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 13
Lowenthal, Milton
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 14
M
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 15
Maimon, Alex
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 16
N
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 6, Folder 17
Nin, Anais
The Party. n.d.
Physical Description: 14 leaves. Typescript mimeograph(?). 2 copies.
Scope and Content Note
Note from Joan Ankrum about a Varda exhibit.

Box 6, Folder 18
Related correspondence, ephemera.
Scope and Content Note
Note from Joan Ankrum to Stanley Kurnik about Varda exhibit. Cities of the Interior publication announcement, Rupert Pole card (blank).

Box 6, Folder 19
Letter to Stanley Kurnik. n.d.
Physical Description: Holograph, signed on back of folded Varda exhibit announcement. Ink is light / faded(?).
Scope and Content Note
Giving sympathy on death of Stanley Kurnik’s father, asking for address of Alvaro (Cardona - Hine?).

Box 7, Folder 1
Norton, William
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 7, Folder 2
O
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 7, Folder 3
P / Q
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 7, Folder 4
Pillin, William
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Note
Also see music files.

Box 7, Folder 5
R
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
Richards, Lynn

Box 7, Folder 6
S
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 7, Folder 7
Sherman, George
Drafts, correspondence, etc.

Box 7, Folder 8
Stanford, Ann
Drafts, correspondence, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7, Folder 9</th>
<th>Offprints and clippings.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, Folder 10</td>
<td>Drafts, correspondence, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 leaf. Holograph, signed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Box 7, Folder 12 | Drafts, correspondence, etc. |
| Box 7, Folder 13 | Drafts, correspondence, etc. |
| Box 7, Folder 14 | Waldeen |
| Box 7, Folder 15 | Drafts, correspondence, etc. |
| Box 7, Folder 16 | Walter, Mildred Pitts |
| Box 7, Folder 17 | Weiss, Ted |
| Box 7, Folder 18 | Drafts, correspondence, etc. |
| Box 7, Folder 19 | Whittemore, Neysa |
|                | Wire, Ruth |
|                | X / Y / Z |
|                | Drafts, correspondence, etc. |

| Box 9, Folder 2 | Collected offprints by Robert Bellah. |
|                | Note |
|                | Cf. Bob Bellah, Stanley Kurnik high school classmate. |

| Box 3, Folder 7 | Non Fiction: *Getting the Edge*. |
|                | Physical Description: Holograph and typescript. |
|                | Scope and Content Note |
|                | Essay drafts. |

| Box 8, Folder 2 | Play / Radio Or Screenplay(?) *New Adam(?)*. |
|                | Scope and Content Note |
|                | Drafts. |

| Box 2, Folder 8 | Poetry. |
|                | Physical Description: Typed manuscripts. |
|                | Scope and Content Note |
|                | Also bill for reviews written by Stanley Kurnik, etc. |

| Box 2, Folder 9 | Poetry / Translation: *Eugene Onegin*. n.d. |
|                | Physical Description: Manuscripts. |
|                | Scope and Content Note |
|                | Drafts. |
Writing, Research, and Publication Material

Writing n.d. / v.d.

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### Box 3, Folder 2
**Poetry, etc. Some dated 1950s, early 1960s.**

**Scope and Content Note**
Drafts, notes.

### Boxes 12-13
**Readings, etc.(?).**

**Physical Description:** Reel-to-reel recordings
**Note**
Primarily unidentified.

### Box 14
**Readings, etc.(?).**

**Physical Description:** Reel-to-reel recordings, also 1 film.
**Note**
Primarily unidentified, film unidentified.

### Teaching

#### Box 3, Folder 8
**Students’ drafts.**

**Note**
Some retyped by Stanley Kurnik for readings(?).

### Teaching / Collecting(?)

#### Box 3, Folder 12
**Drafts of others’ works.**

**Scope and Content Note**
Primarily poetry.

### Various

#### Box 2, Folder 3
**Notebooks, Daybooks, etc.**

**Physical Description:** Primarily in small spiral binders, etc.

#### Box 9, Folder 1
**Offprints, little magazines, etc.**

**Note**
Unclear if these contain contributions by Stanley Kurnik.

### Various, Including Poetry

#### Box 2, Folder 4
**Notes and drafts.**

**Physical Description:** 4 folders.

---

**Writing / Workshop Teaching n.d. / v.d.**

#### Box 4, Folder 2
**Playwright’s Workshop.**

**Scope and Content Note**
Files.

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**Unitarian Writers Workshop**

#### Box 4, Folder 1
**Attendance roll and guest speaker list. 1954-.**

**Scope and Content Note**
Guests included: Thomas McGrath, Anais Nin, Ray Bradbury, Peter Yates, Carolyn See, William Inge.....Also leaves from published book (unknown).

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**Unitarian, Various n.d. / v.d.**
Box 1, Folder 4

**Programs.**

Physical Description: 5 folders.

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**Writing / Play Production n.d. / v.d.**

Box 16

**The Fountain of Youth.**

Physical Description: [Oversize box].

Scope and Content Note