Finding Aid for the Lothar Meggendorfer Papers, ca. 1888-1943

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Finding Aid for the Lothar Meggendorfer Papers, ca. 1888-1943

Collection number: 1539

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
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Contact Information

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Lothar Meggendorfer Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1888-1943
Collection number: 1539
Creator: Meggendorfer, Lothar
Extent: 2 boxes (1 linear ft.) 5 oversize boxes
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Lothar Meggendorfer (1847-1925) was a illustrator for Fliegende Blätter and Münchener Bilderbogen. During the late 1800s, he began designing and illustrating mechanical picture-books for children, and is considered the creator and chief innovator of moveable toy books. The collection consists of manuscripts and proofs of illustrations, covers, texts, and two books created by Meggendorfer.

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
Lothar Meggendorfer was born on November 6, 1847 in Munich, Germany; after technical art studies, he became an illustrator for Fliegende Blätter and Münchener Bilderbogen; during the late 1800s, he began designing and illustrating mechanical picture-books for children; is considered the creator and chief innovator of moveable toy books; publications include Immer Lustig!: ein Ziehbilderbuch (ca. 1886) and All alive: a moveable toybook (ca. 1894); he died in 1925 in Munich.

Biographical Narrative

Meggendorfer was born on November 6, 1847 in Munich, Germany. Most of the books he illustrated were mechanical books for children, but Meggendorfer's humorous illustrations also appeared in conventional books and in the humor periodicals of Fliegende Blatter and the Munchener Bilderbogen. What distinguished Lothar Meggendorfer's books and what has come to be regarded as his genius was his ability to create mechanical books with intricate and realistic movements that had both humor or grace. Most of his mechanicals are tab operated with as many as 6 hinged pieces moving simultaneously; some are slatted mechanisms whereby the upper illustration magically dissolves to reveal a new and related illustration. Some have revolving discs and one has a three-dimensional head exposed through a hole in the pages. The most fabulous and elaborate books are his Internationaler Circus and Das Puppenhaus (The Doll's House). These ingenious pop-out panoramas deceptively present themselves as simple book-size objects when closed, only to become astonishing multi-dimensional detailed fold-out panoramas. Because he was so successful in his own lifetime, the demand for his books was great. Many of Meggendorfer's books went into several printings and were published in England, France, Italy, Spain, Russia and even a few in the United States. In addition, it was not uncommon to find the same mechanical illustration used in different books. By the time that he died in 1925 in Munich, he had illustrated more than 100 books.


Scope and Content


Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog. Meggendorfer, Lothar--Archives. Illustrators--Germany--Archival resources.

Drawings.

Bohemia
Box 5, Folder 17  Lustige Drehbilder. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 24  Lustige Ziehbilder. Proofs: cover.

England

Box 1, Folder 8  Die Frau Bas. Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 28  Der Verwandlungskünstler. Proofs: text.
Box 1, Folder 32  Viel Kopf Viel Sinn. Proofs: cover.
Box 2, Folder 2  Da Musst du Lachen. Proofs: cover.
Box 2, Folder 8  Bubenstreiche. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 2, Folder 13  Gemischte Gesellschaft. Proofs: cover, illustrations, and text.
Box 2, Folder 18  Verschiedene Leute. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 4, Folder 5  Lustiges Automatentheater. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 4, Folder 8  Die Uhr. Proofs: cover.
Box 4, Folder 16  Gigerl's Freud und Leid. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 3  Der Fidele Onkel. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 20  Die Lustige Tante. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 23  Lustige Ziehbilder. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 25  Lustige Zoologie. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 28  Das Puppenhaus. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 29  Schau Mich An! Proofs: cover.
Box 7, Folder 3  Die Uhr. Proofs: cover and text.

France

Box 1, Folder 10  Die Frau Bas. Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 14  In Grosspapa's Garten. Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 24  Das Paradies. Proofs: illustrations and advertisement.
Box 1, Folder 29  Der Verwandlungskünstler. Proofs: covers and text.
Box 1, Folder 33  Viel Kopf Viel Sinn. Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 37  Von Früh Bis Spät. Proofs: cover.
Box 2, Folder 9  Bubenstreiche. Proofs: cover.
Box 2, Folder 11  Gemischte Gesellschaft. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 2, Folder 15  Verschiedene Leute. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 3, Folder 1  Aus der Kinderstube. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 4, Folder 2  Lustiges Automatentheater. Proofs: cover and illustrations.
Box 4, Folder 9  Shau Mich An! Proofs: cover.
Box 4, Folder 12  Prinz Liliput. Proofs: cover and illustrations.
Box 4, Folder 15  Gigerl's Freud und Leid. Proofs: cover and text.
Box 4, Folder 19  Lach mit Mir. Proofs: cover.
Box 5, Folder 5  Der Fidele Onkel. Proofs: cover.
Box 6, Folder 9  Aus der Kinderstube. Proofs: cover and illustrations.
Box 7, Folder 1  Die Uhr. Proofs: illustrations and text.

Germany

Box 1, Folder 23  Das Paradies. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 2  Beleuchtungsbilderbuch. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 3  Beleuchtungsbilderbuch. Proofs: text.
Box 1, Folder 4  Bubenstreiche. Proofs: text.
Box 1, Folder 5  Da Schaut Her! Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 6  Ein Mal Eins ist Eins. Proofs: text.
Box 1, Folder 7  Die Frau Bas. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 11  Fur die Allerliebsten. Proofs: cover.
Box 1, Folder 12  In Grosspapa's Garten. Advertisement.
Box 1, Folder 13  In Grosspapa's Garten. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 15  Des Kindes Erstes Buch. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 16  Des Kindes Erstes Buch. Proofs: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 17  Kleines Bilder ABC. Manuscript: illustrations and text.
Box 1, Folder 18  Klipp-Klapp Kinderbildten. Manuscript: illustrations.
Box 1, Folder 20  

Box 1, Folder 21  

Box 1, Folder 22  

Box 1, Folder 25  

Box 1, Folder 26  
Der Verwandlungskünstler. Manuscript: illustrations.

Box 1, Folder 27  

Box 1, Folder 30  

Box 1, Folder 31  

Box 1, Folder 36  
Von Früh Bis Spät. Proofs: cover.

Box 2, Folder 1  
Diverses. Manuscript: illus.; lithograph.

Box 2, Folder 3  

Box 2, Folder 4  
Da Musst du Lachen. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 2, Folder 5  

Box 2, Folder 6  

Box 2, Folder 7  

Box 2, Folder 10  

Box 2, Folder 12  

Box 2, Folder 14  
Gemischte Gesellschaft. Proofs: text.

Box 2, Folder 16  
Verschiedene Leute. Proofs: text.

Box 2, Folder 17  

Box 2, Folder 19  
Die Frau Bas. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 2, Folder 20  
Die Frau Bas. Manuscript and proofs: illustrations.

Box 3, Folder 2  

Box 3, Folder 3  

Box 3, Folder 4  

Box 3, Folder 5  

Box 3, Folder 6  
Zum Vernügen. Proofs: cover.

Box 3, Folder 7  

Box 3, Folder 8  
Drehbilder ABC. Proofs: cover and text.

Box 3, Folder 9  
Die Arche Noah. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 3, Folder 10  
Das Paradies. Proofs: cover and text.

Box 3, Folder 11  

Box 3, Folder 12  
Allerei Lustige Geschichten.... Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 3, Folder 13  
Der Verwandlungskünstler. Proofs: illustrations and text.

Box 3, Folder 14  

Box 3, Folder 15  
Der Viehmarkt. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 3, Folder 16  
In Grosspapa's Garten. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 3, Folder 17  

Box 3, Folder 18  
Beleuchtungsbilderbuch. Advertisements.

Box 3, Folder 19  
Beleuchtungsbilderbuch. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 4, Folder 1  
Lustiges Automatentheater. Proof: text.

Box 4, Folder 3  
Lustiges Automatentheater. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 4, Folder 4  

Box 4, Folder 6  
Neues Stuwwelpeterbuch. Proofs: cover and text.

Box 4, Folder 7  
Die Uhr. Proofs: illustrations and text.

Box 4, Folder 10  

Box 4, Folder 11  

Box 4, Folder 13  
Die Fidel Onkel. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 4, Folder 14  
Die Lustige Tante. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 4, Folder 17  

Box 4, Folder 18  
Lach mit Mir. Proofs: cover.

Box 4, Folder 21  
Lach mit Mir. Proofs: Cover.

Box 5, Folder 1  

Box 5, Folder 2  
Der Fidele Onkel. Manuscript and proofs: illustrations and text.

Box 5, Folder 7  

Box 5, Folder 8  
Diverses. Proofs: cover and illustrations.

Box 5, Folder 9  
Im Stadtpark. Book (not in catalog).

Box 5, Folder 11  
Immer Fidel. Manuscript: illustrations.
| Box 5, Folder 12 | Immer Fidel. Proofs: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 5, Folder 13 | Kleines Logespiel. Proofs: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 5, Folder 14 | Konrad. Manuscript: illustrations and text. |
| Box 5, Folder 15 | Lach Mit Mir! Manuscript: illustrations. |
| Box 5, Folder 16 | Laura. Manuscript: illustrations and text. |
| Box 5, Folder 18 | Die Lustig Tante. Manuscript: illustrations and text. |
| Box 5, Folder 19 | Die Lustige Tante: 1909(?). Proofs: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 5, Folder 27 | Neues Kaspertheater. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 5, Folder 30 | Die Uhr! Proofs: text. |
| Box 5, Folder 31 | Vor Dem Thore. Manuscript: illustrations. |
| Box 5, Folder 32 | Vor Dem Thore. Proofs: cover, illustrations, and text. |
| Box 5, Folder 33 | Die Zwolf Monate. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 6, Folder 1 | Lustige Zoologie. Manuscript: Mock-up book. |
| Box 6, Folder 2 | Lustige Zoologie. Book. |
| Box 6, Folder 3 | Lustige Zoologie. Proofs: Publisher's dummy. |
| Box 6, Folder 4 | Lustig Zoologie. Proofs: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 6, Folder 5 | Neues Struwwelpeterbuch. Manuscript: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 6, Folder 6 | Neues Struwwelpeterbuch. Proofs: cover, illustrations and text. |
| Box 6, Folder 10 | Aus der Kinderstube. Proofs: illustrations and text. |
| Box 6, Folder 11 | Aus der Kinderstube. Manuscript: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 7, Folder 2 | Die Uhr. Proofs: illustrations and text. |
| Box 7, Folder 4 | Die Uhr. Proofs: cover and text. |
| Box 7, Folder 5 | Die Uhr. Manuscript: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 7, Folder 6 | Ein Mal Eins ist Eins. Manuscript: cover and illustrations. |
| Box 7, Folder 7 | Ein Mal Eins ist Eins. Manuscript: illustrations and text. |
| Box 7, Folder 8 | Ein Mal Eins ist Eins. Proofs: cover, illustrations, and text. |

**Hungary**

| Box 1, Folder 9 | Die Frau Bas. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 1, Folder 34 | Viel Kopf Viel Sinn. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 5, Folder 26 | Lustige Zoologie. Proofs: cover. |

**Italy**

| Box 1, Folder 35 | Viel Kopf Viel Sinn. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 4, Folder 20 | Lach mit Mir. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 5, Folder 4 | Der Fidele Onkel. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 5, Folder 21 | Die Lustige Tante. Proofs: cover. |

**Russia**

| Box 5, Folder 6 | Der Fidele Onkel. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 5, Folder 22 | Die Lustige Tante. Proofs: cover. |

**Sweden**

| Box 1, Folder 1 | Aus der Kinderstube. Proofs: cover. |
| Box 6, Folder 8 | Aus der Kinderstube. Proofs: cover. |

**U.S.**

| Box 5, Folder 34 | Catalogs and offprint. Items sent by Justin Schiller. |
| Box 5, Folder 10 | U.S.(?) Im Stadtpark. Advertisement (not in catalog). |