Finding Aid for the Sally Naiditch recordings of "The Monday Night Class", 1963-1977

Processed by Gloria Gonzalez with assistance from Kelley Wolfe Bachli, July 2012; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Sally Naiditch recordings of "The Monday Night Class"

Date (inclusive): 1963-1977

Collection number: 1970

Creator: Naiditch, Sally Anais.

Extent: 4.5 linear ft.

Abstract: The Monday Night Class was made up of professionals and their spouses who wished to continue their education in the humanities and social sciences. Members of the group included physicians, psychiatrists, dentists, business people and people associated with the entertainment industry. The group first formed in the 1950s by Munn Feinberg, and Sally Anais Naiditch had responsibility for the expansion and administration of the group from 1963 until the mid-1970s. Lectures were held in the homes of members, usually starting at the Naiditch household in Los Angeles. In addition to organizing the lectures, Sally also recorded the sessions. The collection is made up of an estimated 168 reel-to-reel and cassette tape audio recordings of lectures.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Language of the Material: Materials are 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

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Provenance/Source of Acquisition


Processing Note

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Sally Naiditch recordings of "The Monday Night Class" (Collection 1970). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

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Biography/History

During the 1950s, Munn Feinberg established a weekly intellectual meeting with the aim of furthering education of a group of local physicians, dentists, businessmen, and other professionals in the Los Angeles area. Known informally as "The Monday Night Class," the lectures ranged in topics from American foreign policy and international affairs to literature and philosophy. From 1963 until the mid 1970s the class was expanded and administrated by Sally Anais Naiditch (1921-2002), who was responsible for seeking out lecturers and often times hosting the class, which moved around to the homes of different members. Naiditch documented this unusual educational opportunity for accomplished professionals in Los Angeles by audio recording the lectures and discussions using mostly reel-to-reel format.

Scope and Content

The collection is made up of an estimated 168 reel-to-reel and cassette tape audio recordings of lectures on topics ranging from world affairs and American foreign policy to literature and philosophy. Most lectures pertain to the humanities and social sciences. Specific topics are described in the scope and content note of each folder; lecture subjects include international relations, religion, culture, political policy and philosophy, European and American history, art, literature, and aesthetics. Each reel-to-reel audio tape recording contains multiple lectures, and the materials are arranged in chronological order.
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Naiditch, Sally Anais --Archives.

Other Index Terms Related to this Collection
Sally Naiditch recordings of “The Monday Night Class”

Box 1, Folder 1  Hitchcock, Bill February-December 1963
Scope and Content Note

Box 1, Folder 2  Winter, William March-May 1964
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on China, Latin America, the Middle East, Malaya, Singapore, Japan, Ping Ferry and Africa

Box 1, Folder 3  Hitchcock, Bill June-December 1964
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on Egypt, including the topics of Areopagitica and Wealth of Nations

Box 1, Folder 4  Winter, William; Devi, Indra; Hitchcock, Bill and Hickman, Martin March 1964-May 1965
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on interpreting world affairs, India, Pakistan, Cashmir, Russia, Poland, Egypt, thinking about international relations, and American Foreign Policy

Box 2, Folder 1  Hitchcock, Bill and Durbin, James August 1964-January 1965
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on the Federalist Papers, Tocqueville, the American Constitution and Declaration of Independence, Egypt, Aristotle, Epictetus, and the Gospel According to St. Matthew

Box 2, Folder 2  Hitchcock, Bill January-April 1965
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on Tocqueville, The Communist Manifesto, civil disobedience, Thoreau, Tolstoy, Ecclesiastes, Oedipus Rex, Oedipus at Colonnus, Homer’s Odyssey and Plato’s Meno

Box 2, Folder 3  Hitchcock, Bill April-June 1965
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on Plato’s Meno (cont.), Hamlet, Descartes, Hobbes, and Pascal

Box 2, Folder 4  Hickman, Martin October-December 1965
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on Foreign policy, Etzioni, Senator Fulbright, Changing Homer, Etzioni, writing to your senator, the Vietnam situation, disarmament, and World Affairs

Box 3, Folder 1  Contelon, John January -March 1966
Scope and Content Note
Lectures on Religion and culture, Paul Tillich’s The Courage to Be, the Protestant Era, Martin Buber, and four existential philosophers
### Scope and Content Note

- **Yonker, Dolores and Kaplan, Ralph April-May 1966**
  Lectures on Language of color in Pre-Columbian Art, the two Chinas: Formosa and Red China, Japan, Vietnam, Split countries, the Isms, and Germany

- **Mayer, Fred and Durbin, James June-October 1966**
  Lectures on the two faces of Germany, Thoreau, William James, Our troubled youth, Waiting for Godo, Zoo story, and the American dream

- **Durbin, James; Tierney, Lennox; Mayer, Fred; Carlson, Elof and Freed, Donald October 1966-February 1967**
  Pinter's birthday party, slides and discussion of TV program on Albert Schweitzer with Fred Mayer, and lectures on the basic concepts of East and West, the importance of Existentialism, Genetics and Man's future, Malamud's *The Assistant*, Buber and the existentialists

- **Hitchcock, Bill; Tierney, Lennox; Durbin, James and Freed, Donald June 1964-April 1967**

- **Cantelon, John; Kaplan, Ralph; Mayer, Fred and Freed, Donald January 1966-March 1967**
  Lectures on Religion and culture, Israel, Yemon, Jordan, the American spirit, Religious Foundations, Modern anthropology, and "Is God Dead?"

- **Wolfenstein, Victor; Schoenbach, Morris; Chambers, Mortimer and Durbin, James May-November 1967**
  Lectures on Winston Churchill, Woodrow Wilson, The American character, Rome: republic, decline and fall, Sam Beckett's End Game, and Nathanael West's Day of the Locust

- **Schoenbach, Morris and Chambers, Mortimer July-October 1967**
  Lectures on Left and Right Extremists, Alexis De Tocqueville, Civil Rights, Rome, Civil War, and Roman Historians: Tacitus and Livy

- **Freed, Donald; Wolfenstein, Victor; Nyomeray, Joseph; Wilson, William and Chambers, Mortimer April 1967-May 1968**
  Lectures on the peace march, Triple revolution, Gandhi, Russian foreign policy, subjectivity and colloquialism in art, mysticism and space: contemporary art, and the legacy of Greece

- **Durbin, James; Nyomeray, Joseph and Chambers, Mortimer November 1967-March 1968**
  Lectures on Camus' *Caligula*, Bellowes' *Seize the Day*, Russia, Totalitarianism, Yugoslavia, Communism, World of Horace and Self-governing states
| Box 5, Folder 3 | Chambers, Mortimer; Wilson, William; Scoble, Harry and Wolfenstein, Victor  
| April-November 1968 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Greece History, the spirit of Philosophy, Heroism in Art, playfulness and perversity, Political Science, Malcolm X and Psychological examinations of Max Weber and Lenin  
| Box 5, Folder 4 | Scoble, Harry; Durbin, James; Bellon, Stephen; Tabibian, Jivan and Sackett, James  
| October 1968-June 1969 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Political Science, polls and politics, Norman Mailer's Why Are We In Vietnam, Samuel Beckett's Happy Days, Anthropology and Archaeology  
| Box 6, Folder 1 | Winter, William; Durbin, James and Bengelsdorf, Irving  
| December 1968-February 1969 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Contemporary World Events: Germany, Earth, Sky, and Water, Israel, Stoppard's Rosenkrantz and Guilderstern, Molecular Biology: Genetics, and Shakespeare's Midsummer's Night's Dream  
| Box 6, Folder 2 | Durbin, James; Tabibian, Jivan; Sacket, James and Tanner, Paul  
| March-December 1969 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Modern fiction, Revolutionaries, Nationalism,Archaeological digs in south France, and Jazz  
| Box 6, Folder 3 | Stanbrook, Edward; Tanner, Paul and Burwick, Fred  
| June 1969-April 1970 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Psychotherapy: violent behavior, the Changing Self, Jazz, Rock and Roll: Elvis Presley to today, hypnosis, Aldous Huxley's Antic Hay, Thomas Love Peacock's Nightmare Abbey and Evelyn Waugh's Vile Bodies and Black Mischief  
| Box 6, Folder 4 | Tanner, Paul; Krinsky, Fred; Durbin, James and Winter, William  
| July 1969-March 1971 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Jazz, Swing, American Foreign Policy, Campus Rebellion, Jules Feiffer's Little Murders, Israel, and Current News: Pakistan  
| Box 7, Folder 1 | Krinsky, Fred; Winter, William; Burwick, Fredrick; Durbin, James and Bellon, Stephen  
| January 1970-March 1972 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Realities of Today, From Manila, Satire of Ideas, Joseph Heller's We Bombed in New Haven, Vladimir Nabokov's Pnin, Arthur Clarke's Childhood's End, Harold Pinter's Landscape and Silence, and contemporary theater: Burgess' Clockwork Orange and Orton's Loot  
| Box 7, Folder 2 | Lagerberg, Don; Wolfenstein, Victor and Bellon, Stephen  
| April 1971-January 1972 |  
| Scope and Content Note | Lectures on Ashcan art, the Armory era, Primitives, Precisionists (Georgia O'Keeffe), the 1930s (Ben Shahn), American scene painters, Norman Rockwell, Political folksongs and blues, Leadbelly, Contemporary Singers: Woody Guthrie and Bob Dylan, Ionesco's Exit the King, and Vian's Empire Builders  

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Box 7, Folder 3  
Bellon, Stephen; Hobbs, Douglas and Baum, Richard January-June 1972  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Contemporary Theater, Brecht's Galileo, Berrigan's Trial of the Catonsville, Mischna's The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea, the Supreme Court on Religion, the Meaning of a summary Avant Garde Theater, and Scrutinizing the Inscrutable: China

Box 7, Folder 4  
Bellon, Stephen; Hobas, Douglas; Baum, Richard and Semere, Mario April-October 1972  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Albee's A Delicate Balance, the Surpreme Court, Freedom of Speech, China after the Revolution, Picasso and Matisse

Box 8, Folder 1  
Boyce, Richard; Boskin, Joseph; LaRue, Gerald; Winter, William and Dallek, Robert January 1973-January 1974  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on sculpture, violence and the Watergate prediction, Old Testament: creation theory, and American Foreign Policy; also includes an interview by Wendy Naiditch

Box 8, Folder 2  
Boyce, Richard; LaRue, Gerald; Boskin, Joseph; Haag, Robert and Dalleck, Robert January 1973-February 1974  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Sculpture, the Book of Daniel, Lamentations, Benjamin Britton, War Requiem, American Foreign Policy, Vietnam and the Roosevelt Era: Judaism

Box 8, Folder 3  
Dalleck, Robert; Hutter, Albert; Hoxie, Albert and Stern, Aaron February-October 1974  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on American Foreign Policy, Joan Dideon's Play It as It Lays, French chateaux and villas, German gardens, and Psychoanalysis

Box 8, Folder 4  
Hutter, Albert and O'Hanlin, Father Daniel April 1974  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Dickens, Forster, Passage to India, Shakespeare and Hamlet

Box 9, Folder 1  
Hoxie, Albert; Hutter, Albert and Thompson, Laurence April 1974-January 1975  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Italy: Palaces, Villas and Castles, English chateaux, gardens and villas, Charles Dickens, Scott Momaday, Buddhism, China, Confucianism and Taoism

Box 9, Folder 2  
Thompson, Richard Dodge; Hutter, Albert and Ray, Eric May 1975-April 1976  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on China, American literature, Shakespeare, J.D. Salinger, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Myer's The Solution, and Dickens' Mystery of Edwin Drood

Box 9, Folder 3  
Dodge, Richard; Ray, Eric; Winter, William and Bellon Robert May 1975-January 1977  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Emily Dickenson; Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, Eliot's Prufrock, Orwell's Animal Farm, Africa, Equus and Robert Patrick's

Box 9, Folder 4  
Bellon, Stephen and Semere, Mario February-May 1977  
Scope and Content Note  
Lectures on Robert Patrick's Kennedy's Children, Roman art, Egypt, and Equus; also includes an interview with Tom Stoppard