Finding Aid for the Joseph T. Shaw Papers, 1936-1952

Processed by Charlotte Payne, 1975, Additions by Lilace Hatayama, 1985; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé and edited by Caroline Cubé and Josh Fiala.

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division
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/
© 2006
The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.
Descriptive Summary
Title: Joseph T. Shaw Papers
Date (inclusive): 1936-1952
Collection number: 2052
Creator: Shaw, Joseph T. (Joseph Thompson), b. 1874
Extent: 6 boxes (2.5 linear ft.) 1 oversize box
Abstract: Captain Joseph T. Shaw (1874-1952) edited the detective fiction magazine, Black mask (founded by H.L. Mencken and George Jean Nathan in 1920), from 1926-36. He later worked as literary agent for the Sydney A. Sanders Agency and his own Joseph T. Shaw Associates. His published works include Derelict (c1930), Danger ahead (c1932), and Blood on the curb (c1936). The collection consists of correspondence of Shaw with authors represented by the Sydney A. Sanders Agency (1949-50) and Joseph T. Shaw Associates (1951-52), photographs, ephemera relating to Shaw Associates, and material relating to his work as editor of A hard-boiled omnibus: early stories from Black mask (1946).
Language: English
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of 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 the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Restrictions on Use and Reproduction
Property rights to the physical object belong to the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections. 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.
Gift of Mrs. Joseph T. Shaw.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Joseph T. Shaw Papers (Collection 2052). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.
UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4233765
Biography
Captain Joseph T. Shaw was born in 1874; he edited the detective fiction magazine, Black mask (founded by H.L. Mencken and George Jean Nathan in 1920), from 1926-36; he later worked as literary agent for the Sydney A. Sanders Agency and his own Joseph T. Shaw Associates; published works include Derelict (c1930), Danger ahead (c1932), and Blood on the curb (c1936); he died on August 1, 1952.
Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence of Shaw with authors represented by the Sydney A. Sanders Agency (1949-50) and Joseph T. Shaw Associates (1951-52), photographs, ephemera relating to Shaw Associates, and material relating to his work as editor of A hard-boiled omnibus: early stories from Black mask (1946). Material includes drafts of material, correspondence with contributors, and mock-up of anthology. Correspondents include Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett. Photographs include a large framed black and white photograph mounted on linen tablecloth of the first west coast Black mask get-together on January 11, 1936, featuring and autographed by Raymond Jae Moffatt, Raymond Chandler, Herbert Stinson, Dwight Babcock, Eric Taylor, Dashiell Hammett, Arthur Barnes, John K. Butler, Todhunter Ballard, Horace McCoy, and Norbert Davis.
Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. Correspondence (Boxes 1-4).
2. Ephemera (Box 5).
3. The hard-boiled omnibus: early stories from Black mask (Box 7).
4. Signed group photograph of writers mounted on linen tablecloth (Oversize box 6).

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

Subjects
Shaw, Joseph T. (Joseph Thompson), b. 1874--Archives.
Shaw, Joseph T. (Joseph Thompson), b. 1874--Hard-boiled omnibus.
Literary agents--United States--Archival resources.
Periodical editors--United States.
Bellem, Robert Leslie
Box 12 items
Booth, Charles G.
Box 5, folder 83 items
Chandler, Raymond
Box 5, folder 82 items
Chidsey, Donald B.
Box 5, folder 81 item
Cox, William R.
Box 1146 items
Coxe, George Harmon.
Box 5, folder 84 items
Dannay, Frederick
See “Queen, Ellery”
Fox, Norman A.
Box 2263 items
Gardner, Erle Stanley
Box 5, folder 85 items
Hammett, Dashiell
Box 5, folder 87 items
Nobel, Frederick
Box 5, folder 83 items
“Queen, Ellery”
Box 34 items
Walsh, Thomas
Box 4; Box 5, folder 8155 items
Whitfield, Raoul
Box 5, folder 83 items

Photographs
Coxe, George Harmon
Box 5, folder 41 item
MacDonald, John
Box 5, folder 41 item
Nobel, Frederick
(photograph by William Mortensen)
Box 5, folder 41 item
Thompson, Thomas
Box 5, folder 41 item
Whitfield, Raoul
Box 5, folder 41 item
Shaw, Joseph Thompson
Box 5, folder 41 item and photocopy

Correspondence. ca. 1949-1952
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence with authors represented by Shaw's literary agency, Joseph T. Shaw Associates (1951-1952), and through Shaw's earlier affiliation, the Sydney A. Sanders Agency (1949-1950).

Box 1
A - E.
Physical Description: 631 items.

Box 2
F - G.
Physical Description: 695 items.

Box 3
H - R.
Physical Description: 720 items.

Box 4
S - Z.
Physical Description: 551 items.

Ephemera. [n.d.]
Box 5, Folder 1  
**Flyers and newscloppings referring to Shaw.**
Physical Description: 3 items.

**Joseph T. Shaw Associates**

Box 5, Folder 2  
**Joseph T. Shaw Associates business records.**
Physical Description: 2 items.

Box 5, Folder 3  
**Joseph T. Shaw Associates newsletter, “De la bouche du cheval,” in folder.**
Physical Description: 7 items.

**Photographs**

Box 5, Folder 4  
**Photographs of writers affiliated with Shaw.**
Physical Description: 11 items.
Scope and Content Note
(Includes Gil Brewer, G.H. Coxe, Dan Cushman, Richard Glendenning, William Heuman, John MacDonald, Frederick Nebel, Shaw, Thomas Thompson and Raoul Whitfield)
Note
NOTE: Nebel’s portrait is by the California Photographer, William Mortensen. [Photograph of Frederick Nebel by William Mortensen missing 5/87.]
Master negatives on file of Nebel and Whitfield items.

Box 6  
**First West Coast Black Mask Get-together. January 11, 1936.**
Physical Description: 1 photo (black and white), 18 × 23 cm. (34 × 53 cm. framed).
Mounted on linen tablecloth. In black wood frame.
Scope and Content Note
The photograph is signed by the authors represented in the photograph.
Note

**Obituaries**

Box 5, Folder 5  
**Obituary items.**
Physical Description: 2 items.

**The Hard-Boiled Omnibus (Anthology)**

Box 5, Folder 6  
**Drafts of introductory material to the anthology. n.p. n.d.**
Physical Description: 32 leaves. Typescript, typescript carbon and holograph.
Scope and Content Note
Rough drafts of material to be published in *The Hard-Boiled Omnibus*.

Box 5, Folder 7  
**Lists of contributors and selections.**
Physical Description: 7 leaves. Typescript, typescript carbon.
| Box 5, Folder 8 | **Correspondence with or relating to contributors to anthology.**  
|                | Physical Description: 64 items.  
|                | Scope and Content Note  
| Box 7, Folders 1-2 | **Rough mock-up of anthology with holograph galley notations. New York. ca. 1946**  
|                  | Scope and Content Note  
|                  | Made up of pages from original issues of the periodical, *Black Mask*. Formerly in Box 5, folder 9. |