Guide to the Luís Valdez Papers CEMA 71

Finding aid prepared by Callie Bowdish and Mari Khasmanyan

UC SANTA BARBARA Library
University of California, Santa Barbara, Davidson Library, Department of Special Collections, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives
Santa Barbara, California, 93106-9010
(805) 893-8563
cema@library.ucsb.edu
Title: Luís Valdez Papers
Identifier/Call Number: CEMA 71
Contributing Institution: University of California, Santa Barbara, Davidson Library, Department of Special Collections, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 2.0 boxes and audio and video tapes
Date (inclusive): 1984-1988
Abstract: The Luís Valdez Papers cover some of his significant accomplishments as a screenwriter. Included are two editions of a screenplay about the life of Ritchie Valens, originally titled Let's Go! in 1985, then edited and retitled La Bamba! in 1986. The vast majority of his papers have not yet been housed here as they remain in his possession for the time being. Various other files are also included, such as lecture transcripts and slides of his personal life. This collection also contains photos of Chicano youth and other miscellaneous photographs, also included are taped audio recordings of Luís Valdez.
Location note: Del Norte.
creator: Valdez, Luis

Biographical/Historical Note
Luís Valdez, born on June 26, 1940 in Delano, California is a well-noted playwright and director, generally regarded as the father of Chicano literature and theatre. The son of migrant workers, Valdez became a champion of the United Farm Workers through his leadership as artistic director of El Teatro Campesino, otherwise known as The Farmworkers' Theatre. Valdez's experience in writing came from his education at San Jose State University, where he wrote his first play, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in English in 1964. Valdez reached fame through his scripts and productions focusing on Chicano history, including the well-known La Bamba (1987) and Zoot Suit (1978). Both were later adapted into films under his direction. Valdez continues to this day to work as playwright and producer, as well as mentor and teacher to artists of all ages.

Series Description
Series I Scripts, 1985-1986
This series housed in boxes 1 and 2 include copies of drafts of the script Let's Go (later edited to La Bamba!)
Series II Lectures, 1984-1988
This series contains various lecture transcripts and a copy of his University of California, Santa Barbara lecture in 1988 entitled, "An Evening with Luis Valdez: The Evolution of an American Original." These are housed in document box 2.
Series III Slides
This series contains slides of Luis and Lupe Valdez's wedding located in document box 2.
Series IV Photographs
Series three contains photographs of Chicano youth and other miscellaneous photos. Stored in document box 2.
Series V Audio Recordings, 1984-1988
This series contains several cassettes and reels of Valdez being interviewed.

Related Collections
Other material in Special Collections: El Teatro Campesino Archives (CEMA 005)

Conditions Governing Access note
none

Conditions Governing Use note
Copyright has not been assigned to the Department of Special Collections, UCSB. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Department of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which also must be obtained.

Preferred Citation note
Luís Valdez Papers, CEMA 71, Department of Special Collections, University Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Box 1, Folder 1  
*Let's Go!* Screenplay Treatment Narrative Version June 24, 1985

Box 1, Folder 2  
*Let's Go!* Screenplay First Draft September 3, 1985

Box 1, Folder 3  
*La Bamba!* Screenplay Second Draft December 6, 1985

Box 1, Folder 4  
*La Bamba!* Screenplay Second Draft April 28, 1986

Box 1, Folder 5  
*La Bamba!* Screenplay Second Draft May 28, 1986

Box 1, Folder 6  

Box 1, Folder 7  
*La Bamba!* Screenplay Third Draft July 21, 1986

Series II Lectures 1984-1988

Box 2, Folder 1  
Lecture Transcripts October-November 1984

Box 2, Folder 2  

Series III Slides

Box 2, Folder 3-4  
Slides- Luis and Lupe Valdez’s Wedding

Series IV Photographs

Box 2, Folder 5  
Photos- Chicano Youth

  General note
  Folder contains photographs taken by Ricardo Ponce and D. Mendez.

Box 2, Folder 6  
Photos- Miscellaneous

Series V Audio Recordings 1984-1988 and undated

Reel A18880/R7  
Luis Valdez (Reel 1 of 2)

  General note

Reel A18881/R7  
Luis Valdez (Reel 2 of 2)

  General note

Cassette A18882/CS  
Luis Valdez (Tape 1 of 6) October 23, 1984

  General note
  Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes

Cassette A18883/CS  
Luis Valdez (Tape 2 of 6) October 24, 1984

  General note
  Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes. Side 2: 10/25/1984

Cassette A18884/CS  
Luis Valdez (Tape 3 of 6) October 25, 1984

  General note
  Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes. Side 2: 10/26/1984

Cassette A18885/CS  
Luis Valdez (Tape 4 of 6) October 29, 1984

  General note
  Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes. Side 2: 10/31/1984

Cassette A18886/CS  
Luis Valdez (Tape 5 of 6) November 1, 1984

  General note
  Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes. Side 2: Luis Valdez answering questions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cassette A18887/CS</th>
<th><strong>Luis Valdez (Tape 6 of 6) November 2, 1984</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette A18888/CS</td>
<td><strong>Luis Valdez: Special Lecture November 2, 1984</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luis Valdez Lecture Tapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette A18889/CS</td>
<td><strong>To be Transcribed (Tape 1 of 3) January 15, 1988</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette A18890/CS</td>
<td><strong>To be Transcribed (Tape 2 of 3) January 15, 1988</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valdez Lecture &quot;An Evening with Luis Valdez: The Evolution of an American Original.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette A18891/CS</td>
<td><strong>To be Transcribed (Tape 3 of 3) January 15, 1988</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valdez Lecture &quot;An Evening with Luis Valdez: The Evolution of an American Original.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette V4373/UM</td>
<td><strong>La Bamba The Movie, A Rock n' Roll Legend Copy 1 1987</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Producer: Mimi Granados. Original Format U-matic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassette V4374/UM</td>
<td><strong>La Bamba The Movie, A Rock n' Roll Legend Copy 2 1987</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Producer: Mimi Granados. Original Format U-matic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>