Guide to the Laird Koenig papers PA Mss 148


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Creator: Koenig, Laird
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Physical Location: Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library
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Acquisition Information
Biographical Note
American novelist, playwright, and screenwriter Laird Koenig (1927- ) was born in Seattle, Washington. Koenig attended the University of Washington, worked in advertising in New York City, and moved to Los Angeles in the 1960s, where he began his literary career writing novels, plays, and screenplays. Beginning in the 1970s, spent time France. Koenig's early novels include The Children Are Watching (co-written with Peter L. Dixon, 1970) and The Little Girl Who Lives down the Lane (1974). In 1976, Koenig adapted his novel The Little Girl Who Lives down the Lane into a film. Directed by Nicolas Gessner and starring Jodie Foster and Martin Sheen, the film would earn Koenig a Saturn Award nomination for best screenplay. Attention, Les Enfants Regardent, a French film adaption of The Children Are Watching, was released in 1978. Based on a screenplay adapted from the novel by Laird Koenig and Peter Dixon, the film was directed by Serge Leroy and produced by Alain Delon, who also starred in the leading role as "The Man." Other novels written by Koenig include The Neighbor (1978), Rockabye (1981), and Rising Sun (1986). Koenig wrote episodes for the television series Flipper (1970) and High Chaparral (1970), as well as the screenplays for the films Red Sun, Bloodline, Inchon, and many others.
Scope and Content
Papers of American novelist, playwright, and screenwriter Laird Koenig, including personal and biographical items, editorial correspondence, and manuscripts to works published and unpublished. The bulk of the material ranges from the 1970s to 2017.
Personal and biographical material includes clippings and memorabilia from Koenig's years at the University of Washington, selected reviews of his works, and family correspondence dating to the early 1970s.
Editorial correspondence and manuscripts document Koenig's literary career. Editorial correspondence includes letters from publishers, agents, and colleagues. Interspersed within the correspondence files are clippings (including reviews of his work), programs, playbills, and ephemera. Original manuscripts (some with handwritten annotations) cover both published and unpublished works and include novels, plays, and screenplays.
Arrangement
These materials have been divided into three series: 1. Personal/Biographical, 2. Editorial correspondence, 3. Manuscripts.
Separated Material
Published editions of Koenig's novels and plays in English, French, German, and Spanish have been separated for cataloging, and may be accessed through the UC Santa Barbara Library online catalog.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Guide to the Laird Koenig papers

The Laird Koenig papers are a collection of materials related to his literary career and personal life. The collection includes clippings, correspondence, manuscripts, and other ephemera. Here are the main sections:

**Series 1. Personal/Biographical 1931-1970s**
Scope and Content:
Personal and biographical material includes clippings and memorabilia from Koenig's years at the University of Washington, selected reviews of his works, and family correspondence dating to the early 1970s.

**Series 2. Editorial correspondence 1970s-2017**
Scope and Content:
Editorial correspondence and manuscripts document Koenig's literary career. Editorial correspondence includes letters from publishers, agents, and colleagues. Interspersed within the correspondence files are clippings (including reviews of his work), programs, playbills, and ephemera.

Scope and Content:
Original manuscripts (some with handwritten annotations) to both published and unpublished works. These include novels, plays, and screenplays.