Jonathan Latimer Miscellaneous Scripts and Screenplays

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Descriptive Summary

Languages: English

Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla 92093-0175

Title: Jonathan Latimer Miscellaneous Scripts and Screenplays

Identifier/Call Number: MSS 0133

Physical Description: 0.6 Linear feet (2 archives boxes)

Date (inclusive): 1940-1960

Abstract: Papers of Jonathan Latimer, journalist, screen writer and detective story author. Materials include a small collection of story ideas, outlines, scripts and screenplays arranged alphabetically by title.

Scope and Content of Collection

Small collection of story ideas, outlines, scripts and screenplays. Arranged alphabetically by title.

Biography

Jonathan Latimer, journalist, screen writer and detective story author was born October 23, 1906 in Chicago, Illinois. He attended the Mesa Ranch School in Arizona from 1922-1925 and later studied at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1929. In the same year he began his career as a writer at the Chicago Herald Examiner and later wrote for the Chicago Tribune. Working as a police reporter and “rewrite man,” Latimer covered stories in the gangster world through the early 1930s, and met notorious crime figures including Al Capone.

After writing an article about Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, Latimer was hired as a ghost writer for the Department of the Interior. During the time Latimer worked as a ghost writer for Ickes, he began the first of his series of mystery novels. His first novel, Murder in a Madhouse, became a 1935 best-seller and introduced Bill Crane, the hard-drinking detective and hero of five of Latimer's novels.

After serving in the U.S. Navy between 1942 and 1945, Latimer became a successful Hollywood screenwriter, producing scripts for such movies as “Lady in the Morgue,” “Topper Returns,” and the “Glass Key,” as well as ten films directed by John Farrow. Latimer later wrote television scripts for forty-five episodes of the “Perry Mason” show, 1960-1965. Latimer also wrote ten episodes for the “Markham” series and about twenty television specials.

Jonathan Latimer retired to La Jolla, California in 1973, where he died on June 23, 1983.

Publication Rights

Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.

Preferred Citation

Jonathan Latimer Miscellaneous Scripts and Screenplays, MSS 133. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.

Acquisition Information

Acquired 1983

OFF-SITE STORAGE

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: ALLOW ONE WEEK FOR RETRIEVAL OF MATERIALS.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Detective and mystery stories
Detective and mystery television programs

WRITINGS

Box 1, Folder 1
Apache Gold - Manuscript and edited typescript

Box 1, Folder 2
A Coffin for Cinderella - Annotated typescript

Box 1, Folder 3-4
Double Indemnity - Mimeographed script edited in pencil

Box 1, Folder 5
Experiment in Time - Manuscript story idea

Box 1, Folder 6
Fallen Angel - Manuscript outline

Box 1, Folder 7
Future - Edited typescript story idea

Box 1, Folder 8
The General Died at Noon - Mimeograph typescript edited in pencil

Box 1, Folder 9
Help Wanted - Typescript and carbon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Script Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 10-16</td>
<td>Hold the Presses (with Basil Talbot) - Typescript versions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 17</td>
<td>Jack of Diamonds - Mimeograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 1-2</td>
<td>Jazz Death - Manuscript plot outline &amp; typescript with edits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 3-4</td>
<td>Nor All Your Tears - Mimeograph script owned by Paramount Pictures Corporation &amp; notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 5</td>
<td>Nothing But Love, Baby - Typescript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 6</td>
<td>Shore Leave - Story idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 7</td>
<td>Untitled movie script - Typescript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 8</td>
<td>Untitled story - Typescript</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>