
Finding aid for the Emilie Michel Rifkind collection of H.L. Mencken letters 6197

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USC Libraries Special Collections

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Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Title: Emilie Michel Rifkind collection of H.L. Mencken letters

creator: Rifkind, Emilie Michel

creator: Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956

Identifier/Call Number: 6197

Physical Description: 0.21 linear feet.1 box

Date (inclusive): circa 1905-1946

Abstract: The collection consists of letters written by H.L. Mencken to Louis Michel, Mrs. Louis Michel, and their daughter Emilie Michel Rifkind. Also included are Mencken's wedding announcement and calling card, a clipping from the Baltimore Sun about a piece by Michel, and letters from Princeton University librarian Julian Boyd to Emilie Rifkind about the letters. H.L. Mencken (1880-1956) was an American journalist, essayist, satirist, and cultural critic. Louis Michel, a German immigrant, met Mencken in Baltimore, where Michel was a lauded poet and sheriff's deputy. The two developed a life long friendship.

Biographical note

H.L. Mencken (1880-1956) was an American journalist, essayist, satirist, and cultural critic. Louis Michel, a German immigrant, met Mencken in Baltimore, where Michel was a lauded poet and sheriff's deputy (see Baltimore Sun, "Hon. Louis Michel Tells of His Home in Germany", January 27, 1907 and "Louis Michel to Return", May 1907). The two developed a life long friendship.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of letters written by H.L. Mencken to Louis Michel, Mrs. Louis Michel, and their daughter Emilie Michel Rifkind. Also included are Mencken's wedding announcement and calling card, a clipping from the Baltimore Sun about a piece by Michel, and letters from Princeton University librarian Julian Boyd to Emilie Rifkind about the letters. The letters from Mencken were written on Baltimore Sun, American Mercury, and personal stationery and addressed to the Michel family in Baltimore and later Los Angeles. The early letters are handwritten; the later typed.

Conditions Governing Access

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Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

[Box/folder no. or item name], Emilie Michel Rifkind collection of H.L. Mencken letters, Collection no. 6197, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Emilie Michel Rifkind.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Authors, American -- 20th century -- Archival resources

Letters

Printed ephemera

Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956 -- Correspondence

Michel, Louis -- Archives

Box 1, Folder 1

Ephemera circa 1905, 1930

Scope and Contents

A clipping (from the Baltimore Sun?) about Michel's campaign song "Hail, Roosevelt and Fairbanks", pasted on a sheet of paper with a handwritten note from Mencken, "Famous at last!"; Mencken's wedding announcement and Mr. and Mrs. Mencken's calling card.

Box 1, Folder 2

Mencken to Louis Michel 1906, 1907, 1914

Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 4
Box 1, Folder 5
Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folder 7

Mencken to Louis Michel 1921, 1926-1928
Mencken to Louis Michel 1930-1935
Mencken to Mrs. Louis Michel 1935, 1937
Mencken to Emilie Michel Rifkind 1935-1946
Julian Boyd to Emilie Michel Rifkind 1942-1943