



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Max Bissainthe research collection

1800s-1950s

Sc MG 858

Summary

Creator: Bissainthe, Max

Title: Max Bissainthe research collection

Date: 1800s-1950s

Size: 1.0 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of Michelle Bissainthe Sylvain, May 2012.

Abstract: Max Bissainthe, born December 11, 1911, was an historian and archivist of Haitian literature. Bissainthe served as Haiti's Director of Libraries during the 1940s and early 1950s. In 1951, he published the *Dictionnaire de bibliographie Haitienne*, the first bibliography of Haitian literature. Four years later, Bissainthe was forced out of his position, and subsequently out of Haiti, by Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. He immigrated to the United States in 1965. He died in Bellerose, New York, in April 1978. The Max Bissainthe research collection consists of indices of the names of Haitian and Dominican Republic journalists and authors, articles, and book titles used to create the *Dictionnaire de bibliographie Haitienne*. The collection also includes an alphabetical index of titles, subjects, and materials, and a partial bibliographic subject list ranging from the 1800s to the 1950s.

Preferred citation: [Item], Max Bissainthe research collection, Sc MG 858, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English Most of the material is in French.

Processing note: Accessioned by Natiba Guy-Clement, July 2014.

Creator History

Max Bissainthe, born December 11, 1911, was an historian and archivist of Haitian literature. Bissainthe served as Haiti's Director of Libraries during the 1940s and early 1950s. In 1951, he published the *Dictionnaire de bibliographie Haitienne*, the first bibliography of Haitian literature. Four years later, Bissainthe was forced out of his position, and subsequently out of Haiti, by Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. He immigrated to the United States in 1965. He died in Bellerose, New York, in April

1978.

Scope and Content Note

The Max Bissainthe research collection consists of indices of the names of Haitian and Dominican Republic journalists and authors, articles, and book titles used to create the *Dictionnaire de bibliographie Haitienne*. The collection also includes an alphabetical index of titles, subjects, and materials, and a partial bibliographic subject list ranging from the 1800s to the 1950s.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Dictionaries

Indexes

Geographic Names

Dominican Republic -- Literatures

Subjects

Haitian literature

Literary historians

Names

Bissainthe, Max

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Liste des Journalistes de St Domingue et D'Haiti et liste de Journaux, Bulletins et Revues
Ce manuscrit (Index par auteur des articles de journaux et livres D'Haiti) est le travail et la propriété de m. Max Bissainthe, 81 Rue Villatte à Petionville, Haiti
- b. 1 f. 2 Part 1
- b. 1 f. 3 Part 2
- b. 1 f. 4 Part 3
- b. 1 f. 5-6 Manuscrit complet avec liste d'articles de journaux Haitiens
Repertoire d'articles pour manuscrit
- b. 1 f. 7 A-B
- b. 1 f. 8 C-D
- b. 1 f. 9 E-H
- b. 1 f. 10 I-M
- b. 1 f. 11 N-R
- b. 1 f. 12 S-Z
- b. 1 f. 13 Index generale, A-Z (titres, sujets, matieres)
- b. 1 f. 14 Partial subject bibliography (Cineas, Jean-Baptiste-Consolides en Cours d'Assises)