



The New York Public Library
Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and
American Literature

Guide to the

Rebecca West collection of papers

1916-1975

Berg Coll MSS West

Processed by Staff.

Summary

Creator: West, Rebecca, 1892-1983

Title: Rebecca West collection of papers

Date: 1916-1975

Size: 237 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence, legal and financial documents, as well as portraits.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

Preferred citation: [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Creator History

Rebecca West, born Cicely Isabel Fairfield, was a British novelist, biographer, literary critic, and essayist.

Custodial History

Some of the materials were formerly owned by Carl Van Vechten, and others are from the files of the American Play Company.

Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence, legal and financial documents, as well as portraits. The manuscripts include a holograph review and essay. The bulk of the collection consists of letters, dating from 1916 to 1960, from the author to Anne Fremantle, Violet Hunt, Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Beverly Nichols, Edward Sackville-West, May Sarton, Carl Van Vechten, Humbert Wolfe, Virginia Woolf, and others. Also present are letters relating to the author, from 1919 to 1975, between various correspondents including Gerald Gould, Harold Monroe, James B. Pinker and son, and others. There are also letters to West from Herbert Mitgang, dating from 1967 to 1975.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

Names

West, Rebecca, 1892-1983
Fremantle, Anne, 1909-2002
Gould, Gerald, 1885-1936
Hunt, Violet, 1862-1942
Marsh, Edward Howard, Sir, 1872-1953
Mitgang, Herbert
Monro, Harold, 1879-1932
Nichols, Beverley, 1898-1983
Sackville-West, Edward, 1901-1965
Sarton, May, 1912-1995
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964
Wolfe, Humbert, 1885-1940
Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941
American Play Company
James B. Pinker and Son

Container List

Manuscripts

Manuscript box. In her: ALS, TLS to Richard Mealand of Nash's. Oct. 21 [n.y.] 1 p.; [1935] 1 p.
Holograph evaluation of entries submitted to Nash's short story competition for 1935. Prize-winning stories published in Nash's Pall Mall magazine, v. 96, nos. 510-512, Nov. and Dec., 1935, Jan., 1936 n.d. (6 p) (6 p)
Signed

Manuscript box
Miscellaneous manuscript material: 2 Christmas cards n.d. (2 cards) (2 cards)
Signed

Manuscript box
Nash's Pall Mall magazine. Many happy returns! Holograph and typescript contributions by various authors to the 25th anniversary issue of Nash's. Contributions solicited by and addressed to the editor of Nash's, Richard Mealand. n.d. (57 folders) (57 folders)
Some contributions accompanied by correspondence. Detailed list of contents in folder 1. Published in Nash's, July, 1934, v. 93, no. 494, p. 58-59, 142-147

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Manuscript box
Forman, Henry James. 4 ALS to. Two letters refer to G. B. Stern and her wedding in 1919. Two undated. 1922 May 1; [n.y.] Nov. 27 (1 p.; 1 leaf; 1 p.; 1 p) (1 p.; 1 leaf; 1 p.; 1 p)

Manuscript box
Fremantle, Anne. ALS to 1949 July 18 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Manuscript box
Griffin, Howard. Postcard to 1947 July 10 (1 card) (1 card)

Manuscript box
Grigson, Geoffrey. ALS to. Relates to Thomas Hardy 1964 Jan. 25 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Manuscript box
Hunt, Violet. 6 ALS to n.d. (6 letters in 2 folders) (6 letters in 2 folders)

Manuscript box
Land, Myrick. TLS to. On her relationship with Hugh Walpole 1962 Apr. 20 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box
Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. TLS to 1932 Feb. 16 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box
Mealand, Mrs. Richard. TLS to Jan. 20 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box.
In: Nash's Pall Mall magazine.
Many happy returns! Folder 54
Nash's Pall Mall magazine. TLS to Richard Mealand 1934 Apr. 24 (1 p) (1 p)
Includes her contribution to Nash's 25th anniversary issue

Manuscript box
Nash's Pall Mall magazine. ALS and TLS to Richard Mealand [n.y.] Oct. 21; [1935] (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
Letter of [1935] encloses her: Holograph evaluation of entries submitted to Nash's short story competition for 1935, undated. 6 p.

Manuscript box
Nichols, Beverly. 5 ALS, 4 TLS to 1954 Nov. 2 - 1960 Sept. 19 (9 letters in 2 folders) (9 letters in 2 folders)

Manuscript box
Pinker, James B., and son. LS, ALS, etc. to 1916 - 1934 (72 letters) (72 letters)
B.

Manuscript box
Sackville-West, Edward. 5 ALS, 5 TLS, 1 letter card, 1 telegram to. Some letters relate to Anthony West 1935 Dec. 27 - 1955 Aug. 25 (12 letters in 3 folders) (12 letters in 3 folders)

Manuscript box
Sarton, May. 3 ALS, 1 TLS to. Two undated 1948 May 5 - 1953 Jan. 27 (1 leaf; 1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf) (1 leaf; 1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf)

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to. Date from accompanying envelope 1926 Dec. 29 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
Signed "Rebecca"; B.

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

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|--|--|
| Manuscript box | [Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to. Date from accompanying envelope 1927 Apr. 6 (2 p) (2 p)
B. |
| Manuscript box | Van Vechten and his wife Fania Marinoff. Telegram to 1929 Dec. 25 (1 letter) (1 letter)
B. |
| Manuscript box | [Van Vechten], Carlo. ALS to. Date from accompanying envelope 1935 Feb. 18 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
Signed "Rebecca"; B. |
| Manuscript box. In folder with: Hurst, Fannie. Letter, signed with initials, to Carl Van Vechten, Feb. 3, 1937 | Van Vechten, Mr. and Mrs. Carl. Letter, in the third person, to 1937 Jan. 29 (1 letter) (1 letter)
Signed by her secretary Myriam Gilroy |
| Manuscript box | Wells, [James R.]. LS to. Relates to George Gissing 1929 Nov. 23 (11 p) (11 p)
B. |
| Manuscript box | [Wolfe], Humbert. ALS to. Relates to Ethel Mannin's Confessions and impressions; mentions Sir Osbert Sitwell and Ann Reid [1930] June 24 (3 p) (3 p) |
| Manuscript box | Woolf, Virginia. ALS to 1939 July 21 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) |
| Manuscript box | [--?]. AN to. Giving change of address on correspondence card n.y. (1 card) (1 card)
B. |

Incoming Correspondence

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|---------------------------|--|
| Manuscript box (West, R.) | Mitgang, Herbert. Letters to Rebecca West 1967 - 1975 (1 folder) (1 folder)
With replies and articles contributed to The New York Times |
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Related Correspondence

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| Manuscript box | Gould, Gerald. ALS to Harold Monro. Refers to Rebecca West 1919 Dec. 18 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) |
| Manuscript box (Pinker, J. B., firm) | Letters, ALS, telegrams, etc. from various publishers, etc. to the firm of James B. Pinker and son as literary agent for Rebecca West n.d. ([43] letters) ([43] letters)
B. |
| Manuscript box | Stern, Gladys Bronwyn. ALS to Henry James Forman. Refers to Rebecca West and Sheila Kaye-Smith Nov. 18 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) |

Legal and Financial Documents

Legal Documents

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Manuscript box (West, R.) | Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical agencies concerning Rebecca West n.d. (1 folder) (1 folder)
From the files of the American play company |
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Financial Documents

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Manuscript box | Van Vechten, Carl. Check for \$15.00 made out by Carl Van Vechten to Rebecca West 1924 Jan. 25 (1 item) (1 item)
Endorsed "Rebecca West"; Carl Van Vechten; Berg |
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Portraits

Portraits (cont.)

Oversize
(+++)(West, R.)

Madame Yevonde, firm, photographers, London. Portrait photograph of Rebecca West and her son Anthony. 19 x 15 cm.; mounted 37 x 31 cm. n.d.

(1 item) (1 item)

Signed. Inscribed for Carl Van Vechten, "the month of roses, 1929." With Carl Van Vechten's bookplate on verso

Manuscript box

Portrait photograph of Rebecca West. 19 x 23 cm. n.d. (1 item) (1 item)

Inscribed for Carl Van Vechten and Fania Marinoff