



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

Guide to the

Arthur Miller Library

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Processed by Emma Davidson, with Simone Best and Daniela Trapani in 2020.

Summary

Title: Arthur Miller Library

Size: 692 volumes

Source: Gift of Jane, Robert, Rebecca and Daniel Miller, 2019.

Abstract: Arthur Miller (October 17, 1915 - February 10, 2005) was an American playwright and essayist. The collection consists of Miller's collection of his published plays, books, translations, anthologies, and other publications containing or referencing his work in various editions, comprising 692 volumes in total.

Preferred citation: Arthur Miller Library, Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English Arabic; Czech; Dutch; French; German; Hebrew; Italian; Japanese; Spanish; etc.

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Creator History

Arthur Miller (October 17, 1915 - February 10, 2005) was an American playwright and essayist. Born in New York City, he began writing while a student at the University of Michigan, and was established as an important writer when his play *All My Sons* won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award in 1947. Significant themes in Miller's work include Jewishness, suffering, and heroes staying true to their moral choices in the face of pressure from their communities. Other major works by Miller include *Death of a Salesman* (1949); an adaptation of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People* (1950); *The Crucible* (1953); *A View from the Bridge* (1955), which won Miller his third Drama Critics Circle Award; *After the Fall* (1964), his first play after a nine-year hiatus; and *The Price* (1968). Miller also wrote the screenplay for the 1961 movie *The Misfits*, starring Clark Gable and Miller's then-wife Marilyn Monroe, as well as the 1980 television production of *Playing for Time*, Fania Fenelon's story of how she survived in Auschwitz by being part of the prison camp's female orchestra. Miller's autobiography, *Timebends: A Life*, was published in 1987.

Custodial History

Assembled over many years, this was Miller's collection of books which he kept in his study at his home in Roxbury, Connecticut. A few of the books bear ownership markings which indicate that they originally belonged to one of his wives. Others contain publisher's notes, dedications from translators or other collaborators, and other similar indications of provenance.

Scope and Content Note

This was Miller's collection of his published plays, books, translations, anthologies, and other publications containing or referencing his work in various editions, comprising 692 volumes in total. The collection includes editions of his plays and other writings in English, and an extensive collection of translations into many European languages, plus Arabic, Hebrew, Japanese and others. He inscribed several of them with his name, and other occasional annotations. Miller's collection also contains essays, theatrical analysis and commentary, and audio cassettes.

Key Terms

Subjects

American drama -- 20th century -- History and criticism -- Theory, etc.

Authors, American

Dramatists, American -- 20th century -- Biography

Literature, Modern -- 20th century -- Translations

Miller, Arthur, 1915-2005 -- Criticism and interpretation

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Audiocassettes

Authors' presentation copies

Clippings (information artifacts)

Scripts

Names

Miller, Arthur, 1915-2005

Morath, Inge

Pinter, Harold, 1930-2008