Langston Hughes collection from the
Raymond Danowski Poetry Library, 1932-1969

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Title: Langston Hughes collection from the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library, 1932-1969
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1089
Extent: 2 linear ft. (4 boxes)
Abstract: Collection of writings and printed material by and relating to African American poet and playwright Langston Hughes.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Custodial History
Originally received as part of the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Langston Hughes collection from the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Laura L. Carroll and Susan P. MacDonald, March 2008.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of drafts of play scripts, librettos, and poems by Langston Hughes, in addition to printed material relating to Hughes from 1932-1969. Some of the works are co-authored by Hughes’s friend and fellow writer, Arna Bontemps. The collection also includes some writings by others and watercolor illustrations created for Sweet and Sour Animal Book: A Book of Poetry, published posthumously in 1994. Printed material includes advertising cards, broadsheets, and programs relating to musical or theatrical productions of Hughes' work from 1935-1966. Many of these programs are undated. The other portion of the printed material consists of advertising cards, broadsheets, and programs that feature appearances by Hughes, in the form of lectures, readings, or as an honored guest, from 1932-1967.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.
**Container List**

**Appearances by Hughes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Advertising cards, no date</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Advertising cards, 1932-1967</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Broadsheets, 1938-1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Programs, no date</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Programs, 1932-1944</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Programs, 1945-1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Programs, 1947-1965</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Productions of Hughes' work**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Advertising cards, 1946-1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Broadsheet, <em>Drums of Haiti</em>, 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Programs, no date</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Programs, 1935-1959</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Programs, 1960-1966</td>
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**Printed material**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Newspaper clipping: <em>The Daily Kansan</em>, October 7, 1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Post Card: <em>Simple's Christmas Greetings</em>, undated</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Post Card with Aaron Douglas' &quot;Africanesque&quot; printed on cover, 1954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Calendar: <em>The Civil Rights Calendar</em>, with historical facts and text written by Langston Hughes, 1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>American Heritage Protective Committee newsletter, 1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Christmas cards, back inscribed &quot;Happy Holidays from Langston,&quot; 1965 and undated</td>
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</table>

**Playscripts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>Black Nativity</em>, A Gospel-Play by Langston Hughes, 1961, [copy 1]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>Black Nativity</em>, A Gospel-Play by Langston Hughes, 1961, [copy 2]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>Black Nativity</em>, A Gospel-Play by Langston Hughes, 1961, [copy 3]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td><em>Don't You Want To Be Free?</em>, A Poetry-Play by Langston Hughes, 1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td><em>Don't You Want To Be Free?</em>, A Poetry-Play by Langston Hughes, 1938, [Centennial Version: 1963]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>Emperor of Haiti</em>, An Historical Drama by Langston Hughes, 1949, [copy 1]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Emperor of Haiti</em>, An Historical Drama by Langston Hughes, 1949, [copy 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td><em>Emperor of Haiti</em>, An Historical Drama by Langston Hughes, 1949, [copy 3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td><em>Front Porch</em> by Langston Hughes, [1962?]</td>
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</table>
2 10  The Gospel Glory: A Passion Play by Langston Hughes, 1962 [copy 1]
2 14  The Gospel Glow: Narration in the Form of A Sermon on the Life of Christ by Langston Hughes, [Extract from then play for the purpose of study, 1962
2 15  Harlem Sweet, A Musical from the Works of Langston Hughes, adaptation by Robert Booker and Kathleen O'Dougherty
2 16  Jerico-Jim-Crow, A Song-Play by Langston Hughes, 1963, [Final revised acting script]
2 17  Jerico-Jim-Crow-Jerico, A Song-Play by Langston Hughes, 1963
3  1  Just Around the Corner, a Musical Comedy, lyrics by Langston Hughes, 1951
3  2  Master of Miracles by Langston Hughes, 1962
3  3  Mother and Child, A theatre vignette by Langston Hughes, 1961
3  4  Mulatto, A Play of the Deep South by Langston Hughes, [1935]
3  5  Pennsylvania Stars [working title], musical play by Langston Hughes, 1950
3  6  The Prodigal Son by Langston Hughes, 1963
3  7  Shakespeare in Harlem, including Mister Jazz and Shakespeare in Harlem by Langston Hughes, 1960
3  8  Simple Takes a Wife: A Negro Folk Comedy by Langston Hughes, 1953, 1958 [copy 1]
3  9  Simple Takes a Wife: A Negro Folk Comedy by Langston Hughes, 1953, 1958 [copy 2]
3 10  Simply Heavenly: A Folk Musical by Langston Hughes, 1957
3 11  The Strollin' Twenties by Langston Hughes, revised November 26, 1965
3 12  The Sun Do Move: A Music-Play by Langston Hughes, 1942
3 13  Tambourines to Glory, A Play with Spirituals, Jubilees, and Gospel Songs by Langston Hughes, 1956
3 14  Tambourines to Glory by Langston Hughes, revised version, 1963
3 15  Tell It To Telestar: A Song-Play by Langston Hughes, 1965
3 16  Tropics After Dark by Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps, undated
3 17  Untitled, Actor's Choice Reading by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, written by Langston Hughes, 1969
3 18  Wasn't That a Mighty Day! A Christmas Song-Play by Langston Hughes, 1961
4  1  The Weary Blues by Woodie King, Jr., adapted from the poetry and prose of Langston Hughes, 1964
4  2  When the Jack Hollers or Careless Love: A Negro Comedy in Three Acts by Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps, 1936

Libretto
4  3  The Barrier: An Opera by Langston Hughes [circa 1950]
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4  4  Esther: An Opera in Three Acts, libretto by Langston Hughes, 1956
4  5  Port Town: An Opera in One Act by Langston Hughes, [circa 1950]

Books
4  6  Bon-Bon Buddy by Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps, 1955, two drafts
4  7  Boy of the Border by Arna Bontemps and Langston Hughes, revised draft, 1955

Poems
4  8  "Flowers----Maybe," by Langston Hughes, typescript, undated
4  9  "I Thought It Was Tangiers I Wanted" by Langston Hughes, typescript and copy, undated

Story Lines

Reviews

Writings by Hughes
4 12  "Countee Cullen: Our Keats and Shelly," Chapter IV of Our Negro Writers, typescript, undated

Writings by others
4 13  Langston: A New Musical by Walter Brough, undated, pages 1-50 and front matter
4 14  Langston: A New Musical by Walter Brough, undated, pages 51-115
4 15  Poor Fizzly Chick by Arna Bontemps, unpublished juvenile fiction, 1934
4 16  Tom-Tom Treasure, Arna Bontemps, unpublished juvenile fiction, circa 1938
4 17  What's About Me by Walter L. Owen, from the works of Langston Hughes, circa 1969

Illustrations