

Guide to the Robert J. Hare Powel Papers

YCAL MSS 494



by Michael Rush and Aubrey Novak

2011

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Processing Information	4
Robert J. Hare Powel	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Collection Contents	5
Series I: Writings, 1928-1957	5
Series II: Other Material, 1869-1959	6
Selected Search Terms	7

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 494

CREATOR: Powel, Robert Hare (Robert Johnston Hare), 1895-

TITLE: Robert J. Hare Powel papers

DATES: 1869-1959

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.92 linear feet (5 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers contain writings and other materials documenting the early career of playwright Robert J. Hare Powel. Writings include scenarios, outlines, and drafts for scripts of stage plays, most of which appear to date from the late-1920s to mid-1930s. Other materials include correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook documenting Powel's work and theater generally. Correspondence consists of letters to Powel and comments regarding productions of his plays. Photographs consist of stage shots of Yale productions and cartes de visite of actors. The scrapbook contains clippings, printed ephemera, such as theater programs, and photographs.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.powel>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.powel>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mrs. H. C. Howells (formerly Powel), 1978.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Robert J. Hare Powel Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Robert J. Hare Powel Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

The collection received preliminary processing around the time of acquisition in 1978. During reprocessing of the collection in 2011, writings and other materials were established as separate series and arranged alphabetically by title and material type respectively.

Formerly classed as Za Powel.

Robert J. Hare Powel

Robert J. Hare Powel, graduate of the Yale School of Drama (1930) and playwright.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains writings and other material documenting the early career of playwright Robert J. Hare Powel. Writings include scenarios, outlines, and drafts for scripts of stage plays, most of which appear to date from the late-1920s to mid-1930s. Other materials include correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook documenting Powel's work and theater generally. Correspondence consists of letters to Powel and comments regarding productions of his plays. Photographs consist of stage shots of Yale productions and cartes de visite of actors. The scrapbook contains clippings, printed ephemera, such as theater programs, and photographs.

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Writings, 1928-1957. II. Other Material, 1869-1959.

Collection Contents

Series I: Writings, 1928-1957

1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)

Series I. Writings contains scenarios, outlines, and drafts, many corrected, for scripts of stage plays, most of which appear to date from the late-1920s to mid-1930s.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

b. 1, f. 1	"Adieu," script Includes illustration	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Ain't We Got Fun?" script	1932-1933
b. 1, f. 3-7	"Beware of the Bull," script	undated
b. 1, f. 8-11	"Brief Candle," script	1933-1957, undated
b. 2, f. 12-14	"By Request," script	undated
b. 2, f. 15	"Cross of Ages: An Outline for a Motion Picture"	[circa 1934]
b. 2, f. 16-19	"Evensong," scripts	undated
b. 3, f. 20	"Improper Guardianship: A Play in Two Acts," scripts	[1929?]-1935
b. 3, f. 21	"Masked," script	undated
b. 3, f. 22	"Night's Lodging: A Play in One Act," script	undated
b. 3, f. 23	"Paroled," scenario and script	undated
b. 3, f. 24	"Prancing Nigger," script	undated
b. 3, f. 25-27	"Taps: A Play in Seven Scenes," scenario and scripts	1928, undated
b. 3, f. 28	"A Ten-Second Man: A One Act Play," script	undated
b. 3, f. 29	"The Tragedy of the Misfit," script	undated
b. 3, f. 30-31	"The Unknown Soldier: An Episode in Two Scenes," scripts and other material Includes clippings	1928-1930, undated
b. 3, f. 32-33	"We Shall Not Sleep," scripts and other material Includes clippings	1928, undated

Series II: Other Material, 1869-1959*0.67 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Series II. Other Material contains correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook documenting Powel's work and theater generally. Correspondence consists of letters to Powel and comments regarding productions of his plays. Photographs consist of stage shots of Yale productions and cartes de visites of actors. The scrapbook contains clippings, printed ephemera, such as theater programs, and photographs.

Arranged alphabetically by material type.

b. 4, f. 34-36	Correspondence	[circa 1927-1959]
b. 4, f. 37-40	Photographs	1869-1936, undated
b. 5, f. 41	Scrapbook	1928-1941, undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American literature -- 20th Century
Dramatists
Dramatists, American -- 20th Century --
Archives
Theater -- Production and direction -- United
States

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints

Names

Powel, Robert Hare (Robert Johnston Hare),
1895-

Corporate Body

Yale School of Drama