Guide to the Richard Pryor Collection

JWJ MSS 179

by Molly Wheeler

March 2017

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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

CALL NUMBER: JWJ MSS 179

CREATOR: Pryor, Richard, 1940-2005

TITLE: Richard Pryor collection

DATES: 1971–1991

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English


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

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 http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pryor.

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


Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.
Conditions Governing Access

The Richard Pryor Collection 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.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Richard Pryor Collection. James Weldon Johnson Collection in the Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Biographical / Historical

Richard Pryor (1940-2005), American stand-up comedian, social critic, and actor.

Scope and Contents


Arrangement

The collection is organized into four series: Scripts, Photographs, Press Kits, and Storyboard.
## Collection Contents

### Scripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1</td>
<td>The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars and Motor Kings</td>
<td>1975 June 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Brewster’s Millions, first draft</td>
<td>1983 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 3</td>
<td>Family Dream, first draft</td>
<td>1979 June 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4</td>
<td>Family Dream, final draft</td>
<td>1979 September 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| b. 1, f. 5 | Greased Lightning, revised draft  
Includes staff and crew list | 1979 June 30–September 1 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | Lady Sings the Blues, final shooting script | 1971 November 22 |
| b. 2, f. 7 | Some Kind of Hero, revised draft  
Includes shooting schedule | 1971 April 10 |
| b. 2, f. 8 | Uptown Saturday Night, revised final draft | 1973 September 13 |
| b. 2, f. 9 | Which Way is Up, revised final draft | 1977 January 10 |
# Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 10</td>
<td>The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars and Motor Kings, seven black and white photographs</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 11</td>
<td>Blue Collar, three black and white photographs</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 12</td>
<td>Bustin' Loose, eight color photographs</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 13</td>
<td>Car Wash, one black and white photograph</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 14</td>
<td>California Suite, two black and white photographs</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 15</td>
<td>The Comedy Store 15th Year Class Reunion, one black and white photograph</td>
<td>1988 September 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 16</td>
<td>Greased Lightning, one black and white photograph</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 17</td>
<td>The Mack, three color photographs</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 18</td>
<td>Richard Pryor: Here and Now, two color photographs</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 19</td>
<td>Silver Streak, one black and white photograph</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 20</td>
<td>Superman III, two black and white photographs</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 21</td>
<td>Wattstax, one black and white photograph</td>
<td>1973</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Press kits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 22</td>
<td>Another You &lt;br&gt;Includes six black and white photographs</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 23</td>
<td>Critical Condition &lt;br&gt;Includes twelve black and white photographs</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 24</td>
<td>Harlem Nights &lt;br&gt;Includes nine black and white photographs</td>
<td>1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 25</td>
<td>Live on the Sunset Strip &lt;br&gt;Includes three black and white photographs and two color posters</td>
<td>1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 26</td>
<td>Richard Pryor: Live in Concert &lt;br&gt;Five black and white photographs</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 27</td>
<td>Some Kind of Hero &lt;br&gt;Includes seven black and white photographs</td>
<td>1982</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b. 2, f. 28       Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling       1986
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
Actors -- United States -- Archives
African American actors -- Archives
Comedians -- United States -- Archives

Genres / Formats
Photographic prints
Screenplays -- United States -- 20th Century
Scripts (Motion pictures) -- United States -- 20th Century

Occupations
Actors -- United States -- 20th Century
Comedians -- United States -- 20th Century

Names
Pryor, Richard, 1940-2005