

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Blanche Meyer Collection of Jean Giono

GEN MSS 457



by Timothy G. Young, Lucretia Baskin

January 2000. Revised: May 2023, April 2025.

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	4
Requesting Instructions	4
Administrative Information	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition	4
Conditions Governing Access	5
Conditions Governing Use	5
Preferred Citation	5
Processing Information	5
Associated Materials	5
JEAN GIONO (1895-1970)	5
Scope and Contents	5
Collection Contents	7
Series I: Correspondence, 1938-1970	7
Series II: Manuscripts, 1939-1951, undated	8
GIONO, JEAN	8
"Accompagné de la flûte: Poèmes"	8
"Faust au Village"	8
"L'histoire de Monsieur Jules"	8
"Pour saluer Melville"	8
"Préface pour Le marin de haute mer"	8
"La route des vins: Préface"	8
"Le temps des prisons"	8
"Le Voyage en calèche"	8
Untitled: "Je suis très sensible au charme des étoffes. . ."	8
Untitled: "Une Lombarde d'Andes nommée Magia Polla . . ."	9
Untitled: Note removed from Blanche Meyer's copy of <i>Naissance de l'Odysse</i>	9
RISLER, CHANTAL	9
"Orchestration sur le 'Chant du Monde'"	9
Series III: Other Papers, 1941-1974, undated	10
PUBLICATION AND PERMISSIONS FILES	10
"Cataloger's" notes	10
Les amis de L'originale	10
L'Arche, Editeur	10
Denise Clairouin, Bureau littéraire	10
Georges Dechalotte	10
Imprimerie Pierre Faulac	10
Gallimard, Librairie	10
Gallimard, Editions	10
Jean Garganoff	10
Aline Giono - Blanche Meyer	10
Jean Giono - Blanche Meyer	10
Ides et Calendes	10
Marcel Pagnol	10
Georges Roche	10
Les Éditions Vialétay	11
René Zimmermann	11
CLIPPINGS	11
PRINTED MATERIAL	11
PHOTOGRAPHS	11
WRAPPERS	12
OVERSIZE, 1939-1974	13

Series IV: February 2016 Acquisition, undated	14
Series V: March 2016 Acquisition, 1945-2011	15
Selected Search Terms	16

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: GEN MSS 457

CREATOR: Meyer, Blanche, 1908-1988

TITLE: Blanche Meyer collection of Jean Giono

DATES: 1938-2011

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 8.27 linear feet (16 boxes)

LANGUAGE: French

SUMMARY: The Blanche Meyer Collection of Jean Giono consists of letters, manuscripts, clippings, and photographs which document the work of the French novelist, Jean Giono, especially as they involved his relationship with Blanche Meyer.

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

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.giono>.

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

Purchased from Blanche Meyer on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 1974-75.

Purchased from Jolaine Meyer on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2016.

Gift of Jolaine Meyer, 2016.

Gift of Esther Sobin, 2025.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 15 (computer media): Restricted fragile material. Access copies of computer files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Blanche Meyer Collection of Jean Giono 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

Blanche Meyer Collection of Jean Giono. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

A number of "cataloger's notes" which were apparently received with the collection in the 1970s have been retained and placed in separate folders preceding the items they describe. A number of other notes, providing specific context or identifications for items have been kept throughout the collection.

Associated Materials

[Jean Giono Collection, GEN MSS 458](#)

JEAN GIONO (1895-1970)

Jean Giono was a French novelist whose works told stories of people from his native Provence, coupled with celebrations of nature. Works include *Le hussard sur le toit* and *Deux cavaliers de l'orage*. He died in his native village of Manosque in October 1970.

Scope and Contents

The Blanche Meyer Collection of Jean Giono consists of letters, manuscripts, clippings, and photographs which document the work of the French novelist, Jean Giono, especially as they involved his relationship with Blanche Meyer.

[Series I, Correspondence](#), consists primarily of letters from Giono to Blanche and Louis Meyer between 1939-1969. The majority is addressed to Blanche, with several letters to other persons present, most likely enclosures in letters to Blanche Meyer. [A list of these other letters is included in the box and folder list.] Envelopes are filed separately from the letters (as they were received with the collection).

[Series II, Manuscripts](#), includes original drafts for several Giono items, including notebooks for "Pour saluer Melville" and a holograph copy of "Faust au Village". Several shorter items, including two untitled pieces are also found here. One other manuscript is present, an essay on Giono by a American student.

[Series III, Other Papers](#), contains documentary material about Giono's life and career. The Publication and Permissions Files concern requests to use works by Giono, mostly addressed to Blanche Meyer, as owner of certain copyrights. Also present here are several contracts concerning Giono works and a legal brief addressing a dispute between Giono and Marcel Pagnol. The Clippings encompass reviews and mentions

of Giono, obituaries and tributes to Giono, and a small group of essays by Giono. Following a single item of Printed Material, a book prospectus for "Provence", are a number of finely printed photographs, showing Giono in and around the landscape of Manosque, many carrying a photographer's stamp, "Karquel". Included at the end of this series are original wrappers received with the collection.

Box 12 contains [Oversize](#) items from Series III.

Series IV, February 2016 Acquisition, consists of a manuscript for "Le Giono que j'ai connu" by Blanche Meyer.

Series V, March 2016 Acquisition, consists of writings, correspondence, and other papers relating to Blanche Meyer, Jolaine Meyer, and Jean Giono.

Series VI, January 2025 Acquisition, consists of writings, correspondence, and other papers relating to Blanche Meyer, Jolaine Meyer, and Jean Giono.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1938-1970

2.1 linear feet (5 boxes)

Series I, *Correspondence*, is arranged alphabetically.

b. 1, f. 1	"Cataloger's" chronological listing of letters, annotated	n.d.
b. 1, f. 2	"Cataloger's" notes Includes list of letters previously classified apart, as "le dossier vert"	n.d.
b. 2, f. 3	Ferroud, Jolaine (several letters are photocopies only)	1938
b. 2, f. 4-10	Meyer, Blanche and Louis Includes: letter to JG from Alice Cocéa, 1944 Apr; Letter from BM to her sister, 1944 Oct 18; letter from J. Rigoir to BM, 1944 Nov 14; and several fan letters to JG	1939-44
b. 3, f. 11-17	Meyer, Blanche and Louis Includes: letter from JG to Madame Bravay, [1949] Oct (photocopy); letter from Oswald Baudot to JG, 1950 Feb 27 [photocopy]; letter from JG to Anna Pobin, [1950 May]; and letter from JG to "Jolaine", [1950 Sep]	1945-50
b. 4, f. 18-31	Meyer, Blanche and Louis Includes: letter from BM to JG, 1954 Jan 1 (carbon)	1951-70
b. 5, f. 32-41	Envelopes for letters to Blanche and Louis Meyer	1939-49
b. 6, f. 42-51	Envelopes for letters to Blanche and Louis Meyer	1950-69

Series II: Manuscripts, 1939-1951, undated*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*Series II, *Writings*, is arranged alphabetically by author and title.

GIONO, JEAN

"Accompagné de la flûte: Poèmes"

b. 7, f. 52	Typescript carbon	n.d.
b. 7, f. 53	Typescript carbon	n.d.
b. 7, f. 54	Typescript carbon, "collationné"	n.d.
<i>"Faust au Village"</i>		
b. 7, f. 55	"Cataloger's" notes	n.d.
b. 7, f. 56	Holograph, corrected	n.d.
b. 7, f. 57	Typescript, photocopy	n.d.
<i>"L'histoire de Monsieur Jules"</i>		
b. 7, f. 58	Typescript carbon, corrected	n.d.
<i>"Pour saluer Melville"</i>		
b. 7, f. 59	"Cataloger's" notes	n.d.
b. 7, f. 60-61	Notebooks	n.d.
b. 7, f. 62	Holograph, corrected	1939-40
b. 7, f. 63	Page proofs, bound, corrected	1941
<i>"Préface pour Le marin de haute mer"</i>		
b. 7, f. 64	Typescript carbon	1950 Mar 1
<i>"La route des vins: Préface"</i>		
b. 7, f. 65	Typescript, mimeograph, corrected	n.d.
<i>"Le temps des prisons"</i>		
b. 7, f. 66	Typescript carbon, corrected	1951 Jan
<i>"Le Voyage en calèche"</i>		
b. 7, f. 67	"Cataloger's notes"	n.d.
b. 7, f. 68	Holograph fragment Includes letter to Blanche Meyer, n.d.	1947 Sep 20
Untitled: <i>"Je suis très sensible au charme des étoffes..."</i>		
b. 7, f. 69	Typescript carbon, corrected	1948 Apr 21

GIONO, JEAN (continued)

	Untitled: "Une Lombarde d'Andes nommée Magia Polla . . ."	
b. 7, f. 70	Typescript carbon, corrected	n.d.
<hr/>		
	Untitled: Note removed from Blanche Meyer's copy of <i>Naissance de l'Odysse</i>	
b. 7, f. 70a	Holograph	1943 Mar 10
<hr/>		
	RISLER, CHANTAL	
	"Orchestration sur le 'Chant du Monde'"	
b. 7, f. 71	Typescript carbon, corrected Includes letter from Germaine Brée to JG	n.d.
<hr/>		

Series III: Other Papers, 1941-1974, undated*1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)*Series III, *Other Papers*, is listed by type of material.

PUBLICATION AND PERMISSIONS FILES

"Cataloger's" notes

b. 8, f. 72	Notes	n.d.
	Les amis de L'originale	
b. 8, f. 73	Correspondence	1950 Nov 17
	L'Arche, Editeur	
b. 8, f. 74	Correspondence	1950 Jan 17
	Denise Clairouin, Bureau litteraire	
b. 8, f. 75	Correspondence and contracts	1949-51
	Georges Dechalotte	
b. 8, f. 76	Correspondence and contracts	1947-49
	Imprimerie Pierre Faulac	
b. 8, f. 77	Correspondence	1950 Mar 9
	Gallimard, Librairie	
b. 8, f. 78	Correspondence and contracts	1947-49
	Gallimard, Editions	
b. 8, f. 79	Contract	1972 Jul 4
	Jean Garganoff	
b. 8, f. 80	Contract	[1941]
	Aline Giono - Blanche Meyer	
b. 8, f. 81	Contract	1972 Jul 21
	Jean Giono - Blanche Meyer	
b. 8, f. 82	Contract	1950 Mar
	Ides et Calendes	
b. 8, f. 83	Correspondence	1949-50
	Marcel Pagnol	
b. 8, f. 84	Legal brief	n.d.
	Georges Roche	

PUBLICATION AND PERMISSIONS FILES > Georges Roche (continued)

b. 8, f. 85	Correspondence	1949-50
	Les Éditions Vialéty	
b. 8, f. 86	Correspondence	1949-50
	René Zimmermann	
b. 8, f. 87	Correspondence	1950-51
	CLIPPINGS	
b. 8, f. 88	Writings by Jean Giono Also stored in: Oversize, Box 12, folder 111 Includes: "L'art de vivre", 1970 Oct 13; "Possession du monde", 1942 Mar 14; Excerpt from "Pour saluer Melville", n.d.; and "Recherche de la pureté", 1939 Aug 4	1939-70
b. 8, f. 89	Obituary and tributes to Jean Giono Also stored in: Oversize, Box 12, folder 112	1970
b. 8, f. 90-93	Reviews of works by and mentions of Jean Giono Also stored in: Oversize, Box 12, folder 113	ca. 1940-74
	PRINTED MATERIAL	
b. 8, f. 94	Book Prospectus for "Provence"	n.d.
	PHOTOGRAPHS	
b. 8, f. 95	Jean Giono in Manosque countryside by Karquel	n.d.
b. 8, f. 96-97	Jean Giono in his office by Karquel	n.d.
b. 8, f. 98	Jean Giono in his office, and looking at portrait of himself	n.d.
b. 8, f. 99	Jean Giono with his daughter, Sylvie	n.d.
b. 8, f. 100	Jean Giono with Blanche Meyer at Col du Chat	1943 Jul
b. 8, f. 101	Jean Giono and Blanche Meyer at Saint Maurice en Trièves	1944
b. 8, f. 102	Jean Giono with Blanche and Louis Meyer, Lucien Jacques, and Madame Bernard at Blanche Meyer's house, Manosque	[ca. 1942]
b. 8, f. 103	Jean Giono with Louis and Maggie Vaudable, Inez Lemonnier, and Jolaine P.O. Ferroud at La Croix, Valmes	[ca. 1945]
b. 8, f. 104	Jean Giono with motion picture cameramen in Manosque countryside by Karquel	n.d.
b. 8, f. 105	Jean Giono with shepherds and sheep in Manosque countryside by Karquel	n.d.
b. 8, f. 106	Jean Giono - candid	n.d.

PHOTOGRAPHS (continued)

b. 8, f. 107	Blanche Meyer - portraits by Lipnitzki	n.d.
b. 8, f. 108	Drawing of Blanche Meyer's house in Manosque	n.d.
b. 8, f. 109	Triptych of frescos by Lucien Jacques in Blanche Meyer's house	n.d.
b. 8, f. 110	Manosque countryside by Karquel	n.d.
WRAPPERS		
b. 9	Original wrappers recieved with collection	n.d.
b. 10	Original wrappers recieved with collection	n.d.
b. 11	Original wrappers recieved with collection	n.d.

OVERSIZE, 1939-1974*2 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 12, f. 111	Clippings - Writings by Jean Giono (in Series III)	1939-70
b. 12, f. 112	Clippings - Obituary and tributes to Jean Giono (in Series III)	1970
b. 12, f. 113	Reviews of works by and mentions of Jean Giono (in Series III)	ca. 1940-74

Series IV: February 2016 Acquisition, undated

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

This series contains a manuscript for "Le Giono que j'ai connu" by Blanche Meyer.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

Series V: March 2016 Acquisition, 1945–2011

1.21 linear feet (2 boxes)

This series contains writings, correspondence, artwork, photographs, and other papers relating to Blanche Meyer, Jolaine Meyer, and Jean Giono.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

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

Authors, French -- 20th Century
Novelists, French -- 20th Century
Women authors, French

Genres / Formats

Born digital

Names

Giono, Jean, 1895-1970
Meyer, Blanche, 1908-1988
Meyer, Jolaine

Contributors

Meyer, Blanche, 1908-1988
Giono, Jean, 1895-1970 (Faust au village)
Giono, Jean, 1895-1970 (Pour saluer Melville)
Giono, Jean, 1895-1970