A Finding Aid to the
Werner Manheim Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 55
Collection Summary

Title Werner Manheim Papers
Dates 1930-1982 (bulk 1937-1958)
Collection Number MS-55
Repository The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator Manheim, Werner, 1915-2005
Kaelter, Wollie, 1914-2008
Manheim, Emmilienne Housiaux
Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material English, German, and French

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Werner Manheim was born February 17, 1915 in Lissa, Posen, the son of pharmacist Martin and Else Schneider Manheim. He grew up in Berlin, Germany, studied at the Jewish Teachers' Seminary and received an elementary school teaching certificate from the University of Berlin. In Berlin, he taught sports and physical education at the Madchen Gymnasium. He was able to immigrate to the United States in 1937, as did his sister, Hilde, but both their parents died in the Holocaust.

Throughout his life he studied music, first in Berlin, then at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, where he received the Bachelor of Music in 1940 and the Master of Music in 1941. Serving for over four years in military intelligence with the US Army during World War II, he was stationed in Belgium, where he met his wife, Emillienne Housiaux. Upon his return to the United States, Manheim completed the Doctor of Fine Arts degree at Roosevelt University in Chicago in 1950, where he studied under Rudolph Ganz. His dissertation discussed the songs of Gustav Mahler. After serving as Teaching Assistant in German at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Illinois in Urbana, he became Assistant Professor of German and Music at Indiana University in East Chicago.

From 1958 until his retirement in 1983, he was Assistant Professor, then Associate Professor and finally Professor of French and German at Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne. He also taught piano and music courses at the University of Saint Francis, and gave piano recitals and served as accompanist for song recitals by his wife, an operatic soprano. An accomplished poet and author and translator, he wrote a monograph on Martin Buber for the Twayne's Series, and published 26 books of poetry in both German and English, most written in sonnet form, as well as haiku, senryu, and tanka. For his poetic work and his dedication to lyrical poetry and to literature, he received six national and international awards, including the United Poems Laureate International Award (Madras, India), the Golden Poet Award (USA) and an honorary doctorate in literature form the University of Taiwan. Upon his retirement, the then Department of Modern Foreign Languages named their laboratory the "Werner Manheim Laboratory of Language and Culture Studies" celebrating his many years of teaching about the art, music, and literature of France and Germany.

--Adapted from "Memorial Resolution, Dr. Werner Manheim, Emeritus Professor of French and German" by Stephen Harroff.

Scope and Content

Correspondence with family and friends. The bulk of his early correspondence (1930s) is from his parents who were living in Berlin, Germany, and from his sister, Hilde, who had immigrated to the United States.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one (1) series; material arranged roughly chronologically.

Terms of Access

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Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Werner Manheim Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-55. Werner Manheim Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance
Received from Stephen Harroff, Professor of German, Indiana University Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Auburn, Ind., July 2007.

Processing Information
Processed by Michelle Wirth Detroit, January 2012.
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Index Terms
Subjects  Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) / Poets
Personal Names  Manheim, Werner, 1915-2005

Series A. Correspondence, 1930-1982

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1-4. General correspondence, 1930-1950
Box 1. Folder 5. Correspondence with family in Berlin, Germany, 1937-1941
Box 1. Folder 6. Correspondence from Emilienne Housiaux Manheim, 1946-1950
Box 2. Folder 1. Correspondence from Emilienne Housiaux Manheim, 1946-1952
Box 2. Folder 2-3. General correspondence, 1940-1959
Box 2. Folder 4. Correspondence with American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, 1952
Box 2. Folder 5. Correspondence to Emilienne Housiaux Manheim, 1956-1957
Box 2. Folder 6. Correspondence with German Consulate, 1957
Box 2. Folder 7. Correspondence with Bank Fur Handel und Industrie, 1958
Box 3. Folder 4. Correspondence with Wolfgang Kaelter, 1973-1974
Box 3. Folder 5. General correspondence, 1978-1982