

Margo Jones:

An Inventory of Her Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Jones, Margo, 1913-1955
Title:	Margo Jones Collection
Dates:	1932-1955, undated
Extent:	2 boxes (.84 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes primarily letters written and received by the American stage director Margo Jones, most in conjunction with plays that she staged. Correspondents include Paul Bowles, Erskine Caldwell, William Inge, Liebling-Wood, Carson McCullers, William Saroyan, Thornton Wilder, Tennessee Williams, and William Carlos Williams. Manuscripts from some playwrights, particularly Tennessee Williams, are also present.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-2226
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 Note: This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

Untitled poem, And it was you..., initialed typescript, 1 page, 15 December 1932.

Container
1.1

Letters:

- 16 TccL, Tcc / telegram to Inge, William, 1947-1953. **Container 1.3**
- 43 TccL to Inge, William, 1945-1955. **Container 1.4**
- TLS of agreement, TccLS of agreement, 24 TccL, A / draft telegram, Tcc / telegram to Liebling-Wood, 1945-1949, undated. TccL 20 June 1945 reply to attached TLS Liebling-Wood to Jones 14 June 1945. **Container 1.5**
- 4 TccL / photocopies, T / telegram / photocopy to Liebling-Wood re largely Tennessee Williams plays, 1947-1949. Directed to Audrey Wood and Ethel Wald. **Container 1.2**
- TccL to MacKellar, Helen, 20 January 1947.
- TccL to Nijhoff, Sylvia, 4 December 1945.
- TccL to Rivers, Pamela, 20 January 1947.
- 4 TccL, Tcc / telegram to Rodriguez, Amado, Jr., 1946-1947.
- TccL to Rowe, Alfred E., 23 April 1945.
- TccL to Sullivan, Joe, 20 January 1947.
- TccL to Williams, Ramsey, 20 January 1947.
- 48 TccL, 2 A / draft telegrams to Williams, Tennessee, 1944-1949, undated. **Container 1.6**

Recipient:

Unidentified authors Sid, Mal, and Maxine. 2 telegrams to Jones, 27 July 1944.

Container
1.7

Barron, Esther L. ALS to Jones, 27 September 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply by Jones, 4 October 1945.

Beresford, Mollie Lee. TLS to Jones, 5 October 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply by Jones, 17 October 1945.

Bowles, Paul. 2 TLS, 2 telegrams to Jones, 1948. Attached to 24 May 1948 TLS: A / copy of telegram to Tennessee Williams.

Caldwell, Erskine, 1903- . TLS, telegram to Jones, 19 November 1945, 6 May 1946. Included with these: 2 TccL Jones to Caldwell, 13 November 1945; 4 June 1946.

Dowling, Eddie. ALS, 5 TLS to Jones, 1945-1946. Included with these: 4 TccL / replies, TccL, Tcc / telegram to Dowling, 1945-1946.

Dwight, Sally. ALS to Jones, 17 December 1944. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Dwight, 18 June 1945.

Geher, Lillian. ALS to Jones, 2 August 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Geher, 25 August 1945.

Giffen, Gordon. ALS to Jones, 2 November 1946. Included with this: TccL Jones to Giffen, 8 November 1946.

Greenfield, Max. ALS to Jones, 27 January 1945.

Gross, Sarah Chokla. ALS to Jones, 14 October 1945. Enclosed with this: copy of Broadside, October 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Gross.

Headley, Sherman K. TLS to Jones, 7 September 1946. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Headley, 18 September 1946.

Hexter, Louis J. TLS to Jones, 1 February 1955. Enclosed with this: Report on The boys by William Saroyan, initialed typescript and initialed carbon typescript, 1 February 1955.

Illinois. University. Department of Speech. TLS Karl R. Wallace to Jones, 30 July 1949. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Wallace.

Container
1.8

Inge, William. 2 ALS, 46 TLS, 4 APCS, 13 TPCS, TPC, 3 telegrams, 1945-1955, undated. Enclosed with TLS 23 August 1945: additional dialogue and sketch of stage plan.

Container
1.9

Ingram, Pat. ALS to Jones, 29 March 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Ingram, 17 April 1945. **Container** 1.8

Kahn, Jesse. TLS to Jones, 21 December 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Kahn, 29 December 1945.

Liebling-Wood. 28 TLS, TccLS, T memo, 2 telegrams to Jones, 1943-1949. Included with these: TccLS of agreement Jones with Canada Lee and Mark Marvin, 11 December 1945 and ALS / copy of cover letter Jones to Liebling Wood; TccLS of agreement Jones with The Playwrights Producing Company, Inc., 1 August 1946. Enclosed with T memo: TccL / copy Holger Lundbergh to Audrey Wood re Swedish production of The glass menagerie, 17 November 1946. **Container** 1.10

Liebling-Wood. 3 TLS / photocopies to Jones re Summer and smoke by Tennessee Williams, 1947-1948. **Container** 1.8

O'Casey, Sean, 1884-1964. ALS to Jones, 25 April 1950.

Prickett, Ollie. 2 TLS, telegram to Jones, 1947, undated. Included with these: 3 TccL / replies Jones to Prickett, 1947.

Rodriguez, Amado, Jr. 4 ALS, APCS, telegram to Jones, 1946-1947, undated.

Saroyan, William, 1908- . 3 TLS to Jones, 1954-1955. Included with these: 2 TccL / replies Jones to Saroyan, 1955, undated.

Savage, George. Telegram to Jones, 11 January 1945.

Selznick, Irene. TLS / photocopy to Jones, 7 November 1947.

Smith, Edythe. ALS to Jones, 11 April 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Smith, 18 May 1945.

Stoddard, Haila. TLS of agreement to Jones, 18 January 1946. Included with this: TLS / reply to Stoddard, 19 January 1946.

U. S. Treasury Department. War Finance Division. TLS to Jones, 4 October 1944.

Ware, C. Kendall. ALS to Jones, 16 April 1945. Included with this: TccL / reply Jones to Ware, 28 June 1945.

Wilder, Thornton, 1897- . 2 ALS to Jones, 18 February 1950, 19 January 1951. Included with these: 2 TccL / replies Jones to Wilder, 28 January and 21 April 1950.

Williams, Tennessee, 1911- . 3 ALS, ANS, 23 TLS, TL, 3 APCS, 14 telegrams, 1 telegram / copy, 1943-1949, undated. Enclosed with TLS July 1945, handwritten playwright's statement, carbon typescript, 5 pages. Enclosed with TL 14 July 1947: Revisions for Summer and smoke, typed and carbon manuscript with handwritten emendations, 22 pages.

Container
1.11

Williams, William Carlos, 1883-1963. 4 TLS to Jones, 1947. Included with these: 2 TccL / replies Joanna Albus to Williams, 17 April 1947; Jones to Williams, 12 September 1947.

Container
1.8

Yokel, Alex. ALS to Jones, undated. Written on typescript expense claims by Jones, 23 May 1945.

Miscellaneous:

Unidentified author Ethel. TLS / photocopy to Gurian, Manning, 2 December 1948. **Container**
1.12

Balch, Celia. ALS to Inge, William, 14 May 1947.

Bowles, Paul. TLS, telegram to Williams, Tennessee, 27 April 1948, undated.

Cronyn, Hume. TL to Wood, Audrey re Tennessee Williams' one-act plays, 30 January 1947. Enclosed with this: 8 photographs from Williams' one-act plays.

Hopkins, Miriam. Telegram to Williams, Tennessee, undated.

Inge, William:

Come back, little Sheba; a play in six scenes, composite typed and carbon manuscript, 90 pages, undated. Included with this: Come back, little Sheba, typescript, 4 pages, undated. TLS Inge to Jones, undated. **Container**
2.1

The dark at the top of the stairs, typed and carbon manuscript, 92 pages, 1947. This early version presented by Jones under title Farther off from heaven. **Container**
2.2

Picnic / titled Front porch, carbon typescript / early version with handwritten emendations, 99 pages; carbon typescript / early version, 76 pages, undated. Copies for Jones. **Container**
2.3

Jones, Margo, 1913-1955. Notebook, handwritten manuscript / notes, addresses, memos, etc., undated. **Container**
2.4

Katzenstein, Emma L. ALS to Williams, Tennessee, 22 December 1939. **Container**
1.12

Liebling-Wood. TLS Audrey Wood to Messinger, Lilli re Tennessee Williams, 3 April 1943.

Liebling-Wood. TccL Audrey Wood to Singer and Dowling, 10 August 1946.

McConnell, Frederic. TccL to Mabie, E. C., 17 August 1943.

McCullers, Carson. Untitled, How can I turn to God..., typescript, 1 page, undated.

McCullers, Carson. The mortgaged heart, typescript, 2 pages, undated.

Martin, Willa. Tennessee Williams - Someone always is discovering him, teletype AP advance news release, 1 page, 6 May no year.

Pasadena Playhouse. Announcement of summer plays, printed postcard, July 1945.

Robinson, Francis. TLS to Conover, James P., Jr., 25 May 1945. Letter of introduction for Tennessee Williams.

Williams, Tennessee.

Untitled article in defense against the charge of his obscurity, typescript, 4 pages, September 1948. **Container 2.5**

Untitled article on Laurette Taylor, typescript / early draft, 1 page; typescript, 3 pages; undated.

2 TccL / copies to Dowling, Eddie, undated.

The glass menagerie: Chicago reviews, carbon typescript / copies, 13 pages, 27 December 1944.

The glass menagerie: final speech, typescript / workings, 1 page, undated.

The glass menagerie: translation of notice in Hufvudstadsbladet, Helsinki, carbon typescript / copy, 2 pages, October 1946.

Homage to Ophelia (a pretentious foreword), typescript, 4 pages, January 1944.

The kitchen door blues, typescript, 1 page, undated.

TL / draft to McConnell, Frederic undated.

Mornings on Bourbon Street, typescript, 1 page; 2 carbon typescripts, 1 page, 2 pages; July 1943. Two-page carbon manuscript extended version.

Plays of frustration, typescript with handwritten emendations, 2 pages; 2 typescript / drafts / incomplete, 1 page each; undated. Included with these: untitled handwritten manuscript / unfinished and typescript / unfinished, possibly early drafts of this.

Summer and smoke:

Insertion scene one (Fourth of July), typescript with handwritten emendations, 2 pages, undated. **Container 2.6**

Rewrite end of John - Rosa scene, typescript with handwritten emendations and one carbon typescript page labeled "Scene 2-2 insert... Rose - John - Gonzales #2 into scene 23 - rectory (blend)," 4 pages, undated. Included with this: typescript / fragment of another version of this scene, 1 page.

Rewrite part two, scene one, typescript / incomplete, 1 page, undated.

Rome version, typed and carbon manuscript, 132 pages, March 1948.

Container
2.7

Wood, Audrey. TLS to Kennedy?, Madge, 5 April 1945.

Container
1.12

Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date