

Edward Chodorov:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Chodorov, Edward, 1904-1988
Title:	Edward Chodorov Papers
Dates:	1936-1997
Extent:	22 boxes, 2 oversize boxes (9.87 linear feet)
Abstract:	This collection contains Chodorov's notes, proposals, and scripts for produced plays, movies, and unrealized productions, including typescript drafts of <i>Kind Lady</i> and <i>Oh Men! Oh Women!</i> ; business and personal correspondence, including some relating to the Hollywood blacklist of the 1950s; other business and personal documents of Chodorov and his wife, including clippings, notes, travel documents, diaries, and address books; and a short story by Chodorov's brother Jerome, a television documentary proposal by his sister Isabelle Chase, and several versions of a play by his wife Rosemary.
RLIN Record #:	None
Language:	Most material in English.
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift 2003 (Gift no. 12422)
Processed by:	Isabel Morales and Hope Rider, 2005
Repository:	The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Scope and Contents

The Edward Chodorov Papers contain materials relating to his long career writing for film and stage. The collection is arranged in four series: I. Works & Related Files, ca. 1941-1993; II. Correspondence 1947-1997; III. Career-Related & Personal, 1936-1995; and IV. Works by Others.

Series I. Works & Related Files includes produced plays and movies, as well as notes, proposals, and scripts for many unrealized productions. Two of the works represented are *Kind Lady* and *Oh Men! Oh Women*, both produced on stage and in film. The bulk of the series contains typescript drafts of the works. Chodorov did not keep materials related to his early productions.

The correspondence in Series II. is primarily business related, although there are some personal letters. It is organized chronologically, with some folders also grouped by subject. There are several folders of notebooks, listing outgoing correspondence kept by Chodorov's wife, Rosemary. These record all of the mail, both business and personal, that the couple sent for the years 1970-1980. Of special interest in this series are folders relating to the Hollywood blacklist of the 1950s. Chodorov was blacklisted in 1954 and spent the rest of his life trying to reclaim his position and benefits. Throughout the series there are numerous letters to the artist Al Hirschfeld and the journalist Abe Rosenthal, both personal friends of the Chodorovs.

Series III. Career-Related & Personal includes reference files of clippings and notes collected by Chodorov, personal photographs and official travel documents, and diaries. The diaries were kept by Rosemary Chodorov, beginning several years before she met Edward, and continuing after his death. The bulk of the diaries chronicle their daily activities and appointments, both personal and business. There are several folders of address books covering time they spent in England, Europe, and New York.

The works by others in Series IV. consist of a short story by Chodorov's brother Jerome (also a playwright), a television documentary proposal by his sister Isabelle Chase, and several versions of a play by Rosemary entitled "Harry's Whore."

Audio and video cassettes received with this collection were transferred to appropriate departments within the Ransom Center.

Separated Material

Sound recordings were transferred to the Ransom Center's Sound Recording collection and are described individually in a list at the end of this finding aid and in a [searchable database](#).

Index Terms

People

Chodorov, Rosemary.

Chodorov, Jerome.

Chase, Isabelle.

Hirschfeld, Al.

Rosenthal, Abe.

Subjects

Screenwriters United States.

Blacklisting of authors.

Diarists.

Document Types

Plays.

Motion picture plays.

Diaries.

Series I. Works & Related Files, ca. 1941-1993

1932: Biographies and Other Events

Typescript

Box 1 Folder 1

Typescript photocopies

Folder 2-5

Britain's Traditional Americans, typescript photocopy

Folder 6

The Clubwomen (unproduced play), typescript

Folder 7

Colonel Lutz: The Two Boon Companions, The Chief and Hollywood, short story
typescript

**Folder
8**

Common Ground (play, 1946)

Published play and photocopy

**Box 1 Folder
9-10**

The Crow and the Cradle, screenplay typescripts

First draft, 10 May 1978

Box 2 Folder 1

Photocopies

Folder 2-5

Cue for Passion (play, 1941), original cast list, photocopy

Folder 6

Decision (play, 1946), published script and photocopies

Folder 7-8

Dienbienphu

Story treatment and legal papers, 1974-1976

**Box 2
Folder 9**

Typescript photocopy

Folder 10

Erskine (unproduced play), typescript photocopies

**Box 3
Folder 1-3**

Flanagan (presumed title, EC's final play)

References, research materials

Box 3 Folder 4

Typescripts, heavily revised	Folder 5-7
Typescripts, cont'd	Box 4 Folder 1
"Give me YNFI," playlet, published version in <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , 26 February 1967	Folder 2
Have I Found You, Julie?, synopsis typescript	Folder 3
Hell on Wheels (alternate title, Saddle and Go)	
Typescripts	Box 4 Folder 4-5
Lyrics, songs, research materials	Folder 6-7
The Irrational Knot (unproduced play)	
Typescript photocopies	Box 4 Folder 8-9
Typescripts, cont'd	Box 5 Folder 1-3
Correspondence, contract draft	Folder 4
<i>Kind Lady</i> (play, 1936; films, 1935 & 1951)	
Published play	Box 5 Folder 5
Business correspondence, ca. 1960-1981	Folder 6-7
Contracts, misc. business correspondence	Folder 8
Houston production, correspondence, clippings, 1985	Folder 9
Samuel French Inc., correspondence re royalties, IRS lien, 1985-1986	Box 6 Folder 1
Like a Singing Bird, screenplay, first draft continuity, 7 August 1947; correspondence	Folder 2
<i>Listen to the Mockingbird</i> (play, 1958)	

Original version, typescript and photocopies	Box 6 Folder 3-6
Revised 1 February 1959	Folder 7-8
Revised version, photocopy	Folder 9-10
Contracts, correspondence, notes	Box 7 Folder 1-2
The Lynching of Elizabeth Taylor (screenplay)	
Story pamphlets, film treatments	Box 7 Folder 3
Typescript photocopies	Folder 4-7
Contracts, business correspondence, 1967-1993	Folder 8
Contracts, cont'd	Box 8 Folder 1-2
Mike Romanoff, typescript	Folder 3
<i>Monsieur Lautrec</i> (play, 1959)	
Working copy, with notes	Box 8 Folder 4
"Auditions", scripts	Folder 5-6
Pictures from an Exhibition (alternate title), typescript	Folder 7
Naked to Walk the Night, screenplay	
Research materials	Box 8 Folder 8
Typescript photocopies	Folder 9
Typescript, cont'd	Box 9 Folder 1
"The Night They Made a Bum Out of Helen Hayes", television play script, photocopy	Folder 2
Nora, typescript sections	Folder 3
<i>Oh Men! Oh Women!</i> (play, 1955; film, 1957)	

"Behold a Wonder" (early title), play synopsis typescript	Box 9 Folder 4
Typescript	Folder 5
Cuts from script	Folder 6
Published play	Folder 7
Movie royalties reports	Folder 8
One Hot Night in Alabama, synopsis and references	Folder 9
<i>The Opening of a Door</i> (revised version of <i>Kind Lady</i> ; play, 1975), final draft typescript, 26 November 1975, program	Folder 10
Paris in the Twenties, proposal	Folder 11
Reflected Glory (screenplay, adaptation of play by George Kelly), typescript	Folder 12
Senior Service, news show proposal	Folder 13
<i>The Spa</i> (play, 1957), published play and photocopy	Box 10 Folder 1-2
Sunday Father, typescripts, 28 July 1958	Folder 3-5
<i>Those Endearing Young Charms</i> (play, 1943), published play photocopy	Folder 6
Traffic in Innocents (screenplay)	
First script, 18 September 1963	Box 10 Folder 7
Correspondence re Chodorov vs. Ace Films Inc. and Onslow Square Corporations	Folder 8
Two Boards and a Passion, typescript	Folder 9
A Very Important Man Is Dead (stage adaptation of <i>Hall of Mirrors</i> by John Rowan Wilson	

Research materials, notes, typescript fragments	Box 11 Folder 1-2
Typescript sections	Folder 3
<i>Hall of Mirrors</i> , heavily annotated, and clippings	Folder 4
Miscellaneous writings, includes newspaper and playbill articles	Folder 5

Series II. Correspondence, 1947-1997

1947-1949; re <i>My Dear Watson</i>	Box 11 Folder 6
1950-1956	Folder 7
1954-1959, re passport problems	Folder 8
1954-1997, re Hollywood blacklist	Folder 9
1957	Box 12 Folder 1
1958	Folder 2
1959, misc. 1950s	Folder 3
1960	Folder 4
1960-1974, with Leo Kerz	Folder 5
1961	Folder 6
1962	Folder 7
1963	Folder 8
1964	Folder 9
1965-1966, "Letters to do with motion pictures"	Folder 10
1965-1968	Folder 11
1969	Box 13 Folder 1
1970	Folder 2
1971-1973	Folder 3
1974	Folder 4
1975	Folder 5
1976-1979, misc. 1970s	Folder 6
1977-1980, teaching, California State University, Northridge; New York University; Showcase Theatre; Fairfield University, Westport	Folder 7

Chodorov, Edward, 1904-1988

1980-1988

Folder 8

1988, re death of Chodorov

Box 14 Folder 1-4

Collected correspondence: "Important notes and letters," business correspondence, and miscellaneous

**Folder
5-8**

Outgoing, correspondence record books

1970-1972

Box 14 Folder 9

1972-1975

Folder 10

1976-1980

Box 15 Folder 1

Series III. Career-Related & Personal, 1936-1995

Accounts, record books

1969-1971 **Box 15 Folder 2**

1971-1978 **Folder 3**

1979-1985 **Folder 4**

1986-1990 **Folder 5**

Address books **Folder 6**

Address books, cont'd **Box 16 Folder 1-3**

Chodorov, Wendy, birth certificate (copy), Christmas card, 1961 **Folder 4**

Clippings

About EC **Box 16 Folder 5**

re Writer's Guild of America **Folder 6**

Contracts, various 1936-1967 **Folder 7-9**

"Credits," résumé, works lists **Folder 10**

Diaries

Prior to marriage

1950-1951 **Box 16 Folder 11**

1952-1954 **Box 17 Folder 1**

1955-1959 **Folder 2**

1960-1965 **Folder 3**

1965-1966 **Folder 4**

1967 **Folder 5**

1967-1969 **Folder 6**

1970-1972 **Box 18 Folder 1**

Chodorov, Edward, 1904-1988

1973-1975	Folder 2
1976-1978	Folder 3
1979-1981	Folder 4
1981-1982	Folder 5
1986-1988	Box 19 Folder 1
After Chodorov's death	
1989-1991	Box 19 Folder 2
1991-1995	Folder 3
Financial documents, misc.	Folder 4
Memorial for EC, correspondence, program information	Folder 5-6
Obituaries of EC	Folder 7
Photograph album	
Guide, with numbered photograph descriptions	Box 19 Folder 8
1-19	Folder 9
20-37	Box 20 Folder 1
38-54	Folder 2
55-77	Folder 3
78-96	Folder 4
97-111, 113	Folder 5
112, ID and membership cards	Folder 6
"References," clippings, notes, correspondence drafts, misc. (*oversize removed to box 23)	Folder 7-9*
"References" cont'd	Box 21 Folder 1-3

Chodorov, Edward, 1904-1988

Tax forms, 1950-1951, 1961-1963, 1965

Folder
4

Theatre scrapbook, reviews and clippings (*oversize scrapbook removed to box 24)

Folder
5*

Travel documents

International driving permits, immunization records, registration cards

Box 21
Folder
6

Passports, EC and RC

Folder 7

Series IV. Works By Others

Biographies of others that mention EC	Box 21 Folder 8
Chase, Isabelle (sister of EC). Career, television show proposal typescript	Folder 9
Chodorov, Jerome. The World's Biggest Caper (And How It Grew), typescript	Folder 10
Chodorov, Rosemary. Harry's Whore	
"Original script with original names," typescript (titled Eddie's Whore), 1973	Box 21 Folder 11
Script photocopy, 1978	Folder 12
Script photocopies, nd	Box 22 Folder 1-2
Directed reading script, EC copy	Folder 3
Screenplay, typescript photocopy	Folder 4
Correspondence, 1979-1983	Folder 5
Oversize	Box 23-24

Sound Recordings List

- C 0918 : audiocassettes : In honor of Edward Chodorov
- C 0919 : audiocassettes : Eddie Chodorov's last words to Sidney Kingsley
- C 0920 : audiocassettes : Edward Chodorov's Oral History, Tape 1 of 5
- C 0921 : audiocassettes : Edward Chodorov's Oral History, Tape 2 of 5
- C 0922 : audiocassettes : Edward Chodorov's Oral History, Tape 3 of 5
- C 0923 : audiocassettes : Edward Chodorov's Oral History, Tape 4 of 5
- C 0924 : audiocassettes : Edward Chodorov's Oral History, Tape 5 of 5
- D 0085 : phonograph records : The Crow and the Cradle and "The Sun is Burning"
- R 1565 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : Hell on Wheels, "Saddle & Co.", Tape I
- R 1566 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : Hell on Wheels, "Saddle & Co.", Tape II