

J. Michael Lennon:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Correspondence with Norman Mailer at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Lennon, Michael

Title: J. Michael Lennon Correspondence with Norman Mailer

Dates: 1971-2000

Extent: 1 box (.42 linear feet)

Abstract: This brief collection description is an accession record. The collection is not fully processed or cataloged; no creator's sketch, descriptions of series, or indexes are available.

Call Number: MS-05062

Language: English

Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchase and gift, 2007 (R16533, G12549)

Processed by: Katy Hill, Stephen Mielke, 2007

Repository: [Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin](#)

Scope and Contents

Dr. J. Michael Lennon, Emeritus Vice President and Emeritus Professor of English at Wilkes University, is Norman Mailer's official biographer and literary co-executor. He is a founding member and first president of the Norman Mailer Society and maintained a close personal relationship with Mailer for more than thirty years. Lennon has published widely on Mailer, including (with Donna Pedro Lennon), *Norman Mailer: Works and Days* (2000), and edited several of Mailer's works, including *Pieces and Pontifications* (1982), *Conversations with Norman Mailer* (1988), *The Spooky Art: Some Thoughts on Writing* (2005), and *On God: An Uncommon Conversation* (2007).

Lennon's collection of Mailer correspondence consists of eight folders of outgoing and incoming letters with Mailer. Carbons and photocopies of Lennon's letters to Mailer date from 1971 to 1993 and include Lennon's first letter to Mailer regarding Mailer's appearance with Gore Vidal and Janet Flanner on "The Dick Cavett Show," December 2, 1971. Original typed and handwritten letters from Mailer to Lennon date from 1972 to 1993 and contain Mailer's comments on his literary and personal activities.

Related Material

Norman Mailer Papers. The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center

Lennon to Mailer, 1971-1993

Box 1 Folder 1-5

Mailer to Lennon, 1972-1993

Folder 5-7