



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Herman G. Weinberg Collection

1929-1983

*T-Mss 1980-003

Compiled by Diana Bertolini, 2013

Summary

Creator: Weinberg, Herman G.

Title: Herman G. Weinberg Collection

Date: 1929-1983

Size: 12.38 linear feet (49 boxes)

Source: Donated by Gretchen Berg in 1985.

Abstract: Herman G. Weinberg was an American writer, foreign film translator, teacher, and film historian working from the 1920s to the 1980s. The Herman G. Weinberg Collection consists of scrapbooks containing clippings, correspondence, halftones, photographs, radio scripts and assorted film festival material.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Processing note: Compiled by Diana Bertolini, 2013

Creator History

Herman G. Weinberg, writer, foreign film translator, teacher, and film historian, was born in New York City on August 6, 1908. He entered the motion picture industry in 1927 as a musical consultant for the scoring of foreign silent films and then worked as a U.S. correspondent for various European film periodicals. He was a theater manager in Baltimore and New York during the 1930s and 1940s.

In the 1930s Weinberg took on another job in the film industry, subtitling major foreign films. Over the course of his career he wrote subtitles for over 300 films, including *La Strada*, *Rome: Open City*, *Paisan*, *Grand Illusion*, *The Bicycle Thief*, *The Four Hundred Blows*, and *Shoeshine*. Weinberg translated films originally written in German, French, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, Greek, Czechoslovak, Swedish, Japanese, Finnish and Hindustani.

He wrote articles and film criticism for many periodicals and taught film history at City College in New York. His books include scholarly works like *The Lubitsch Touch*, *Saint Cinema*, *The Complete "Greed," Stroheim: A Pictorial Record*, and *The Complete "Wedding March."* He also published an autobiography, *A Manhattan Odyssey*.

Weinberg was married to Etta Pollano and had one daughter, writer and photographer Gretchen Berg. Weinberg died in New York City, November 7, 1983.

Scope and Content Note

The Herman G. Weinberg Collection consists of scrapbooks containing clippings, correspondence, photographs, and programs, collected or created by Weinberg in his career as a translator and subtitler and as a film historian and author.

Correspondence pertaining to Weinberg's career as a subtitler includes invitations to screenings, corrections of his translations, letters arranging translation jobs, and letters discussing censorship battles and rules. Correspondence pertaining to Weinberg's career as an author of film scholarship is represented by letters setting up interviews, letters from directors discussing and assessing their own films, fan letters, suggestions, solicitations, and agreements with editors and publishers. His personal life and life and position as a member of the film community are represented with holiday cards and personal notes discussing travel, new publications on film, and describing major film industry events. Weinberg's prominent correspondents include Louise Brooks, Claude Chabrol, Charles Chaplin, Marlene Dietrich, Pauline Kael, Stanley Kubrick, Ernst Lubitsch, M. L. Menken, Jean Renoir, Joseph von Sternberg, Erich von Stroheim, Francois Truffaut, King Vidor, and Orson Welles.

Writings consist of articles, reviews and short pieces, and published letters written by Weinberg. These writings discuss historical, aesthetic, moral and cultural aspects of both American and international films and the film industry between 1929 and 1983. Weinberg's writings appeared in publications such as *Cinema*, *Cinemages*, *Film Culture*, *Hollywood Quarterly*, and *Sight & Sound*. Clippings included in this collection include newspaper and magazine articles, press releases, and newsletters documenting Weinberg's career as a subtitler, scholar and writer.

Other items created or collected by Weinberg when he worked as a film teacher, a public relations consultant and a theatre manager include sheet music, programs, press kits, drawings and graphics, photographs, film festival brochures, correspondence, and clippings.

Arrangement: Scrapbooks are arranged in chronological order. Separated correspondence is arranged in rough alphabetical order by correspondent's name.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence
Photographs
Programs
Scrapbooks

Occupations

Editors
Historians
Translators
Writers

Subjects

Motion pictures
Motion pictures -- 20th century -- History and criticism
Motion pictures -- Europe
Motion pictures -- Europe -- History -- 20th century
Motion pictures -- Foreign
Motion pictures -- History
Motion pictures -- Translating

Container List

Scrapbooks

- b. 1 f. 1 Volume 1 1927 February-1930 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2839
- b. 1 f. 2 Volume 2 1930 January-1932 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2840
- b. 2 f. 1 Volume 3 1932 June-1934 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2841
- b. 2 f. 2 Volume 4 1934 June-1936 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2842
- b. 3 Volume 5 1936 January-1937 August
8-MFL +n.c. 2843
- b. 4 f. 1 Volume 6 1937 August-1939 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2844
- b. 4 f. 2 Volume 7 1939 November-1940 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2845
- b. 5 Volume 8 1940 October-1941 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2846
- b. 6 Volume 9 1941 October-1942 August
8-MFL +n.c. 2847
- b. 7 f. 1 Volume 10 1942 August-1944 September
8-MFL +n.c. 2848
- b. 8 f. 1 Volume 11 1944 September-1946 April
8-MFL +n.c. 2849
- b. 8 f. 2 Volume 12 1946 April-1947 February
8-MFL +n.c. 2850
- b. 9 Volume 13 1947 February-1947 July
8-MFL +n.c. 2851
- b. 10 Volume 14 1947 July-1949 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2852
- b. 11 Volume 15 1949 January-1950 July
8-MFL +n.c. 2853
- b. 12 Volume 16 1950 July-1951 September
8-MFL +n.c. 2854
- b. 13 Volume 17 1951 September-1952 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2855
- b. 14 Volume 18 1952 November-1953 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2856
- b. 15 Volume 19 1953 October-1955 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2857
- b. 16 Volume 20 1955 October-1958 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2858
- b. 17 Volume 21 1958 January-1960 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2859
- b. 18 Volume 22 1960 January-1961 July
8-MFL +n.c. 2860

Scrapbooks (cont.)

- b. 19 **Volume 23** 1961 July-1963 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2861
- b. 7 f. 2 **Volume 24** 1962 January-1967 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2862
- b. 20 **Volume 25** 1963 June-1964 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2863
- b. 21 **Volume 26** 1964 November-1966 February
8-MFL +n.c. 2864
- b. 22 **Volume 27** 1966 February-1967 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2865
- b. 23 **Volume 28** 1967 January-1967 December
8-MFL +n.c. 2866
- b. 24 **Volume 29** 1968 January-1968 December
8-MFL +n.c. 2867
- b. 25 **Volume 30** 1968 December-1969 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2868
- b. 26 **Volume 31** 1969 October-1970 July
8-MFL +n.c. 2869
- b. 27 **Volume 32** 1970 July-1971 April
8-MFL +n.c. 2870
- b. 28 **Volume 33** 1971 April-1972 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2871
- b. 29 **Volume 34** 1972 January-1972 August
8-MFL +n.c. 2872
- b. 30 **Volume 35** 1972 August-1973 May
8-MFL +n.c. 2873
- b. 31 **Volume 36** 1973 May-1974 May
8-MFL +n.c. 2874
- b. 32 **Volume 37** 1974 May-1975 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2875
- b. 33 **Volume 38** 1975 January-1975 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2876
- b. 34 **Volume 39** 1975 June-1976 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2877
- b. 35 **Volume 40** 1976 January-1976 August
8-MFL +n.c. 2878
- b. 36 **Volume 41** 1976 July-1977 January
8-MFL +n.c. 2879
- b. 37 **Volume 42** 1977 January-1977 August
8-MFL +n.c. 2880
- b. 38 **Volume 43** 1977 August-1977 December
8-MFL +n.c. 2881
- b. 39 f. 1 **Volume 44** 1977 December-1978 February
8-MFL +n.c. 2882
- b. 39 f. 2 **Volume 45** 1978 February-1978 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2883

Scrapbooks (cont.)

- b. 40 Volume 46 1978 June-1978 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2884
- b. 41 Volume 47 1979 March-1979 December
8-MFL +n.c. 2885
- b. 42 Volume 48 1979 October-1980 February
8-MFL +n.c. 2886
- b. 43 Volume 49 1980 March-1980 September
8-MFL +n.c. 2887
- b. 44 Volume 50 1980 September-1981 March
8-MFL +n.c. 2888
- b. 45 Volume 51 1981 February-1981 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2889
- b. 46 f. 1 Volume 52 1982 May-1982 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2890
- b. 46 f. 2 Volume 53 1982 October-1983 February
8-MFL +n.c. 2891
- b. 46 f. 3 Volume 54 1983 February-1983 June
8-MFL +n.c. 2892
- b. 47 f. 1 Volume 55 1983 June-1983 October
8-MFL +n.c. 2893
- b. 47 f. 2 Volume 56 1983 October-1983 November
8-MFL +n.c. 2894

Separated Correspondence

- b. 48 f. 1-41 Anger, Kenneth-Leatrice, Joy 1949-1981
- b. 49 f. 1-52 Kaplan, Nelly-Zolotow, Maurice 1947-1983