

# Guide to the Marian Seldes Papers

YCAL MSS 1186



by Susan Brady

September 2018

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
Marian Seldes, 1928-2014 .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Short Story, undated .....	5
Scripts, 1959-2004 .....	6
Artwork, 2004 .....	7

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 1186

**TITLE:** Marian Seldes papers

**DATES:** 1959–2004

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.7 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** In English.

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of a typescript short story by Seldes; playscripts by Richard H. Hepburn, Ira Levin, Anne Sexton, and Tennessee Williams and others, some accompanied by related correspondence and photographs; and a portrait of Seldes by William Ivey Long.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.seldes>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.seldes>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Between the Covers on the Adele Gutman Nathan Theatrical Collection Fund and the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2017-2018.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The Marian Seldes Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Marian Seldes Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections [as they are acquired], and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit. This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Marian Seldes, 1928-2014

Marian Seldes was an American stage, radio, film, and television actress.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of a typescript short story by Seldes; playscripts by Richard H. Hepburn, Ira Levin, Anne Sexton, Tennessee Williams and others, some accompanied by related correspondence and photographs; and a pen and wash portrait by William Ivey Long of Seldes as Persephone in Aristophanes' *The Frogs*.

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## Arrangement

Arranged by type of material.

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## Collection Contents

### Short Story, undated

(1 folder)

b. 1, f. 1	"The Scent of Despair" by Marian Seldes Typescript mimeograph copy	undated
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**Scripts, 1959–2004**

0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

b. 1, f. 2-4	"Agee: An Evening with James Agee" arranged by David McDowell and Paul Leaf Typescript mimeograph, with autograph annotations by Seldes; accompanied by typescript carbon copy rehearsal schedule; production program from February 10-11, 1969 performances at the Theatre de Lys, New York; an autograph note to Seldes from "Jackie and Tom"; a photograph of James Agee with autograph inscription on verso to Seldes from "Jackie, John and Paul"; and clippings related to the 1969 production	[1969]
b. 1, f. 5	"Clothes for a Summer Hotel" by Tennessee Williams Typescript photocopy, with photocopied autograph annotations and markings in yellow highlighter in an unidentified hand; a cast list cut from the program for the 1980 Broadway production is laid in	1979
b. 1, f. 6-10	"Deathtrap" by Ira Levin Typescript mimeograph, "Final Draft"; with four typescript pages of "Completions of Interrupted Lines," production photographs (some with captions), postcard to <i>Deathtrap</i> company from cast member Daren Kelly postmarked 1979, and photocopy of <i>New York Times</i> article about Seldes and Marian Winters dated March 24, 1978	1977
b. 1, f. 11	"Forms of Immateriality: the Poetics of the Form of Space, Light and the Infinite" by I. Rice Pereira Typescript carbon copy, with autograph annotations by Seldes and Pereira, for a reading by Seldes at Gotham Book Mart on June 30, 1965 and January 6, 1966	1959–1966
b. 1, f. 12	"Henry's Day" by Marc Alan Zagoren Typescript mimeograph; with typescript cast of characters laid in	1976
b. 1, f. 13	"High on Pilet's Bluff" by Dick [Richard] Hepburn Typescript mimeograph; with minor autograph annotations and a sheet of autograph notes by Selden and an unidentified hand	1971
b. 2, f. 14	"Miss MacIntosh, My Darling" by Marguerite Young "as staged by Tom O'Horgan" Typescript draft, photocopy, with photocopied annotations in an unidentified hand; accompanied by mailing envelope addressed to Marguerite Young, 375 Bleecker St., New York, with Seldes name as return address, and note in Seldes' hand on verso regarding other actors to whom the script was being shown	undated
b. 2, f. 15-16	"The Off Season: A Play in Three Acts" by Harding Lemay Typescript mimeograph; with correspondence between Seldes, Lemay, and Jeff Peters regarding a reading of the play at The New Dramatists, Inc. on February 8, 1973, and a postcard to Seldes from Sarah Rodman dated February 14, 1973	circa 1972
b. 2, f. 17	"The Sudden End of Anne Cinquefoil" by Dick [Richard] Hepburn Typescript copy, with "#18" written on cover and title page in an unidentified hand	circa 1961
b. 2, f. 18	"Tell Me Your Answer True" by Anne Sexton Produced as <i>Mercy Street</i> at the American Place Theatre, New York, October 3–November 21, 1969  Typescript photocopy, with autograph annotations by Seldes; photocopy of the production program inscribed to Seldes by Sexton, and photocopy of an undated autograph note in a Christmas card from Sexton to Seldes	circa 1969

**Artwork, 2004**

*2.0 linear feet (1 box)*

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| b. 3 (Oversize) | "Marian Seldes as Persephone in 'The Frogs'" by William Ivey Long                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2004 |
|                 | Pen and wash drawing with gold glitter; inscribed by Long, "Marian Seldes as Persephone in 'The Frogs' by Nathan Lane, Burt Shevelove & Aristophenes, Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, Direction & Choreography by Susan Stroman, With love & great admiration to Marian. Love, William Ivey Long. 10 June 2004" |      |
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