

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Jerome Mellquist Papers

YCAL MSS 353



by Michael L. Forstrom

2010

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 353

**CREATOR:** Mellquist, Jerome

**TITLE:** Jerome Mellquist papers

**DATES:** 1918-1963

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 9.27 linear feet (21 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Chiefly in English; some materials in French, Spanish, and German.

**SUMMARY:** Collection consists of correspondence, writings, and personal papers documenting the life and work of Jerome Mellquist. Correspondence includes letters between Mellquist and family, friends, writers, artists, musicians, and cultural critics in the United States and Europe from 1918 to 1962, with the bulk dating from the early 1930s to early 1960s. Correspondence dating from 1946 to 1948 relates chiefly to the journalist and music critic Paul Rosenfeld (1890-1946), for whom, along with Lucie Wiese, Mellquist compiled a memorial volume entitled *Paul Rosenfeld: Voyager in the Arts* (1948). Correspondence is chiefly in English, but letters can also be found in French, Spanish, and German. Writings include drafts of numerous short articles and essays, materials relating to published and unpublished book projects, and unsorted writings. Articles and essays relate chiefly to modern art and aesthetics. Book projects include research materials, plans, and drafts for the following: Mellquist's memorial volume to his friend Paul Rosenfeld; a book relating to French art dealer Paul Durand-Ruel; another relating to a 1962 colloquium; and one, entitled "World Art in War", on heroism in pictures. Unsorted writings and materials include short works, plays, and a novel. Personal Papers include address books, agenda books, diaries, journals, notebooks, photographs, printed ephemera, and scrapbooks.

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

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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.mellquist>.

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

Acquired through gifts from the Estate of Jerome Mellquist, 1963 and 1972.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Jerome Mellquist Paper 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

Jerome Mellquist Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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### Processing Information

Formerly classed as Za Mellquist and Uncat Za Ms 165.

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### Associated Materials

See also Jerome Mellquist Letters to Lucie Wiese (YCAL MSS 279)

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## Jerome Mellquist (1905-1963)

Jerome Mellquist, born in Minnesota and educated at Carleton College (1926), Columbia University, and Yale University, was an art historian and critic. Mellquist contributed freelance criticism to journals in the United States and Europe and worked as an editor and art consultant, first as the Art Editor for the *Brooklyn Eagle* in 1936, and later, in the early to mid-1950s, for the American Art section of *Collier's Encyclopedia* and Unesco. Published works include *The Emergence of an American Art* (1942) and *Paul Rosenfeld: Voyager in the Arts* (1948).

Information taken from biographical statements in the Jerome Mellquist papers.

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## Scope and Contents

The Jerome Mellquist papers contain correspondence, writings, and personal papers documenting the life and work of art historian and critic Jerome Mellquist.

Correspondence includes original incoming letters and carbons of outgoing letters between Jerome Mellquist and family, friends, writers, artists, musicians, and cultural critics in the United States and Europe

from 1918 to 1962, with the bulk dating from the early 1930s to early 1960s. Correspondence dating from 1946 to 1948 relates chiefly to the journalist and music critic Paul Rosenfeld (1890-1946), for whom, along with Lucie Wiese, Mellquist compiled a memorial volume entitled *Paul Rosenfeld: Voyager in the Arts* (1948). Mellquist solicited contributions to the volume, and some correspondence files include drafts of tributes. Correspondence is chiefly in English, but letters can also be found in French, Spanish, and German. Correspondence is arranged alphabetically, with unsorted material at the end.

Writings contains drafts of numerous short articles and essays, materials relating to published and unpublished book projects, and unsorted writings. Articles and essays relate chiefly to art criticism. Book projects include research materials, plans, and drafts for the following: Mellquist's memorial volume to his friend Paul Rosenfeld, *Paul Rosenfeld: Voyager in the Arts* (1948); a book relating to French art dealer Paul Durand-Ruel, entitled "The Pilot of Impressionism"; another relating to a 1962 colloquium, "Liaison des Arts"; and one on heroism in pictures, entitled "World Art in War". Unsorted writings and materials appear to include short works, plays, and a novel.

Personal Papers, arranged alphabetically by material type, include address books, agenda books, diaries, journals, and notebooks, photographs, printed ephemera, and scrapbooks. Materials date from 1928 to 1963, though the runs of agenda books and journals, dating from 1954 to 1963, provide a rich and detailed account of Mellquist's activities during the last decade of his life.

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## Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1918-1962. II. Writings, 1930s-1962. III. Personal Papers, 1928-1963.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1918-1962

3.34 linear feet (8 boxes)

b. 1, f. 1	"A" general	1947-1948
b. 1, f. 2	Anderson, Eleanor	1947-1949, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Anderson, Sherwood Copies of letters to "Paul" and unidentified	1918-1922
b. 1, f. 4	Appleby, Theodore	1957-1961
b. 1, f. 5	<i>The Atlantic Monthly</i>	1934-1935, undated
b. 1, f. 6	"B" general	1947-1948
b. 1, f. 7	Bell, Mary	1931-1948
b. 1, f. 8	Bessie, Alvah	1932-1939
b. 1, f. 9	Bing, Ilse	1932-1933
b. 1, f. 10	Bishop, John Peale	1935
b. 1, f. 11	Bogan, Louise	1947
b. 1, f. 12	Bogin, George	1935-1939
b. 1, f. 13	Brooks, Van Wyck	1935-1948
b. 1, f. 14	Bryner, Edna	1946-1948
b. 1, f. 15	Burke, Kenneth	1947
b. 1, f. 16	"C" general	1947-1948
b. 1, f. 17-18	Carré, Louis	1939-1962
b. 1, f. 19	Chávez, Carlos	1947
b. 1, f. 20	Clark, Edwin	1951-1962
b. 2, f. 21	Clark, Edwin	1951-1961
b. 2, f. 22	Content, Marjorie	1932-1935
b. 2, f. 23	Copeland, Aaron	1947-1948
b. 2, f. 24	Cowley, Malcolm	1933-1947
b. 2, f. 25	Creative Age Press, Inc.	1947-1949
b. 2, f. 26	Crotti, Jean	1958-1959
b. 2, f. 27	Cummings, E. E. (Edward Estlin)	1947

b. 2, f. 28	Cushing, Edward	1937, undated
b. 2, f. 29	"D" general	1947-1948
b. 2, f. 30	De Koven, Jean	1933, undated
b. 2, f. 31	Delaunay, Sonia	1951, 1961
b. 2, f. 32	De Silver, Margaret	1933, 1937
b. 2, f. 33	Dos Passos, John	1947
b. 2, f. 34	Durand-Ruel, Charles	1953-1961
b. 2, f. 35	"E-F" general	1947-1948
b. 2, f. 36	Frank, Waldo	1934-1948, undated
b. 2, f. 37	Frankenstein, Alfred V.	1947
b. 2, f. 38	Fukui, Fumio	1934-1937
b. 2, f. 39	"G" general	1947-1949
b. 2, f. 40	Gallup, Donald Clifford	1948
b. 2, f. 41	Gold, Michael	1933-1935
b. 2, f. 42	Greenblatt, Milton	1932-1934
b. 2, f. 43	Gregory, Alyse	1946-1948
b. 2, f. 44	Gunther, John	1937
b. 2, f. 45	"H" general	1946-1948
b. 2, f. 46	Harris, Roy	1947-1948
b. 2, f. 47	Hartley, Marsden	1939, undated
b. 2, f. 48	Hélion, Jean	1958-1962
b. 2, f. 49	Herbst, Josephine	1947-1948
b. 2, f. 50	Hirschberg, Rudolf	1937
b. 2, f. 51	[Hori, N.?.]	1933-1939
b. 3, f. 52	"I-K" general	1947-1948
b. 3, f. 53	Joyce, Helen	1933-1935
b. 3, f. 54	Katz, Marjorie	1933-1939
b. 3, f. 55	Kazin, Alfred	1939 May 17
b. 3, f. 56	Kennon, Laura	1931-1937
b. 3, f. 57	Koenigsberg, Sam	1934-1935

b. 3, f. 58	Kreymborg, Alfred	1947-1948
b. 3, f. 59	"L" general	1942-1948
b. 3, f. 60	Lewi, Grant	1935
b. 3, f. 61	----, Hermine	1935, 1937
b. 3, f. 62	Loveman, Amy	1933-1934
b. 3, f. 63	"M" general	1946-1948
b. 3, f. 64	McHugh, Vincent	1933-1935
b. 3, f. 65	Manteau, Anne	1959-1961
b. 3, f. 66	Marin, John	1934-1950
b. 4, f. 67-68	Matthiessen, F. O.	1933-1948
b. 4, f. 69-71	Mellquist family	1930-1939
b. 4, f. 72	Miller, Henry	1947
b. 4, f. 73	Milo, Jean	1951-1961
b. 4, f. 74	Moore, Marianne	1947-1948
b. 4, f. 75	Mumford, Lewis	1946-1948
b. 4, f. 76	"N" general	1947-1948
b. 4, f. 77	Nin, Anäis	1947-1960
b. 4, f. 78	Norman, Dorothy	1933-1948
b. 4, f. 79	Ornstein, Leo	1948-1949
b. 4, f. 80	O'Sheel, Shaemas	1948 June 23
b. 4, f. 81	"P" general	1947-1948
b. 4, f. 82	Patchen, Kenneth	1947
b. 4, f. 83	Phillips, Duncan	1942 September
b. 5, f. 84	Piaubert, Jean	1954
b. 5, f. 85	Platt, Philip S.	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 86	Porter, Katherine Anne	1947
b. 5, f. 87	"R" general	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 88	Ransom, John Crowe	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 89	Robbins, Herbert	1933-1937
b. 5, f. 90	Rosenfeld, Paul	1933-1934



b. 5, f. 91	Ross, Cary	1933-1939
b. 5, f. 92	Roth, Rowie	1937-1939
b. 5, f. 93	Rudhyar, Dane	1948
b. 5, f. 94	"S" general	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 95	Selingmann, Herbert J.	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 96	Shirakawa, Takemi	1934-1935, undated
b. 5, f. 97	Slesinger, Tess	1934, undated
b. 5, f. 98	Sprinchorn, Carl	1947 June 25
b. 5, f. 99	Staël, Nicolas de	1949, 1963
b. 5, f. 100	Stegmuller, Francis	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 101	Stieglitz, Alfred	1935, 1937
b. 5, f. 102	Strand, Paul	1933
b. 5, f. 103	"T" general	1947-1948
b. 5, f. 104	Taggard, Genevieve	1939 April 9
b. 5, f. 105	Tate, Allen	1947
b. 5, f. 106-111	Unesco questionnaire	1955-1959
b. 6, f. 112-113	Unesco questionnaire	1955-1956
b. 6, f. 114	Untermeyer, Jean Starr	1947-1948
b. 6, f. 115	"V" general	1947-1948
b. 6, f. 116	Van Doren, Mark	1947 December 6
b. 6, f. 117	Van Loon, Hendrik Wilhelm	1933, 1935
b. 6, f. 118	Viereck, Peter	1947-1948
b. 6, f. 119	Villon, Jacques	1949-1960
b. 6, f. 120	Warren, Robert Penn	1947
b. 6, f. 121	Wiese, Lucie	1939
b. 6, f. 122	Williams, William Carlos	1934-1947
b. 6, f. 123	Wilson, Edmund	1935-1948
b. 6, f. 124	Young, Stark	1933-1948
b. 6, f. 125-129	Unsorted correspondence	1932-1959, undated

b. 7, f. 130-134	Unsorted correspondence	1933-1948
b. 8, f. 135-139	Unsorted correspondence	1929-1949

**Series II: Writings, [circa 1930s-1962]***2.92 linear feet (7 boxes)*

b. 9, f. 140-144	Articles and essays
b. 10, f. 145-150	Articles and essays
b. 10, f. 151	<i>The Emergence of American Art</i> , book jacket
b. 11, f. 152-161	Liaison des Arts material
b. 11, f. 162	<i>Paul Rosenfeld: Voyager in the Arts</i>
b. 12, f. 163-169	"The Pilot of Impressionism" material
b. 12, f. 170-171	"World Art in War" material
b. 13, f. 172-175	Unsorted writings and material
b. 14, f. 176-179	Unsorted writings and material
b. 15, f. 180-184	Unsorted writings and material

**Series III: Personal Papers, 1928-1963***2.09 linear feet (5 boxes)*

b. 16, f. 185	Address books
b. 16, f. 186-193	Agenda books
b. 17, f. 194	Banque de l'Algérie note
b. 17, f. 195	Biography
b. 17, f. 196	Bookplates
b. 17, f. 197	Business cards
b. 17, f. 198-206	Diaries, journals, and notebooks
b. 18, f. 207-211	Diaries, journals, and notebooks
b. 19, f. 212-215	Diaries, journals, and notebooks
b. 19, f. 216-218	Fellowship applications
b. 19, f. 219	Identification and membership cards
b. 19, f. 220	Passports
b. 19, f. 221-223	Photographs
b. 20, f. 224-226	Printed ephemera
b. 20, f. 227-228	Scrapbooks Also stored in Oversize, Box 21, folder

**Oversize**

*0.92 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 21, f. 229

Scrapbook (In Series III)

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Aesthetics, Modern  
Art, Modern  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives  
Painting, Modern

### **Genres / Formats**

Photographic prints  
Printed ephemera  
Scrapbooks

### **Occupations**

Authors

### **Names**

Durand-Ruel, Paul, 1831-1922  
Mellquist, Jerome  
Rosenfeld, Paul, 1890-1946  
Wiese, Lucie