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Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Conrad Moricand Papers

GEN MSS 1152



by Karen Spicher

2014 August

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  
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<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 1152

**CREATOR:** Moricand, Conrad, 1887-1954

**TITLE:** Conrad Moricand papers

**DATES:** 1909-1957

**BULK DATES:** 1947-1953

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.84 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Chiefly in French; some material in English.

**SUMMARY:** The Conrad Moricand Papers contain correspondence, 1915-1956 and undated, including two brief letters to Moricand from Henry Miller, 1938, and letters to Moricand from Théophile Briant, 1948, and Georges Oltramare, 1947-1953, from Miller to Briant, 1956, from Hermann, Graf von Keyserling, to Miller, 1938, and from O. V. de L. Milosz to Nicolas Beauduin, with poems by Beauduin, 1916-1937; writings by Moricand, including a memoir, "Les philistines (U. S. A., 1948)," typescript carbon, undated, a revised proof for *Les traces du culte d'Isis* (Paramé: Éditions du Goéland, 1952), and autograph manuscript notes about Henry Miller, Anaïs Nin, and others; autograph manuscript poems by René Guy Cadou and Jacques Dyssord, undated; engravings by Francis Picabia, undated; autograph books kept by Moricand in France, with signatures and addresses of authors, artists, musicians, and others, 1928-1931; clippings and other printed material, 1935-1957, some relating to *Le Goéland*, a literary journal edited by Théophile Briant; passports and other identification documents, 1909-1947 and undated; and documents relating to travel to the United States, 1947.

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

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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.moricand>.

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 Michel Fabre on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2002.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Conrad Moricand 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

Conrad Moricand Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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### Processing Information

Former call number: Uncat MSS 246. In 2014, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization. The collection was reclassified under a new call number, and containers were renumbered. Most folder titles were based on information provided by the creator or vendor, while some were assigned by Library staff. Folder titles were not verified against contents.

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## Conrad Moricand (1887-1954)

Conrad Moricand, French astrologer and author; also used the name Claude Valence. Moricand lived with American author Henry Miller in Big Sur, California, in 1948, and was the subject of Miller's memoir *A Devil in Paradise* ([New York]: The New American Library, [1956]), also published in Miller's *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch* (New York: New Directions, 1957).

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## Scope and Contents

The Conrad Moricand Papers contain correspondence, 1915-1956 and undated, including two brief letters to Moricand from Henry Miller, 1938, and letters to Moricand from Théophile Briant, 1948, and Georges Oltramare, 1947-1953, from Miller to Briant, 1956, from Hermann, Graf von Keyserling, to Miller, 1938, and from O. V. de L. Milosz to Nicolas Beauduin, with poems by Beauduin, 1916-1937; writings by Moricand, including a memoir, "Les philistines (U. S. A., 1948)," typescript carbon, undated, a revised proof for *Les traces du culte d'Isis* (Paramé: Éditions du Goéland, 1952), and autograph manuscript notes about Henry Miller, Anaïs Nin, and others; autograph manuscript poems by René Guy Cadou and Jacques Dyssord, undated; engravings by Francis Picabia, undated; autograph books kept by Moricand in France, with signatures and addresses of authors, artists, musicians, and others, 1928-1931; clippings and other printed material, 1935-1957, some relating to *Le Goéland*, a literary journal edited by Théophile Briant; passports and

other identification documents, 1909-1947 and undated; and documents relating to travel to the United States, 1947.

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## **Arrangement**

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence, 1915-1956. Series II. Writings, 1952 and undated. III. Writings and Visual Materials by Others, 1950 and undated. IV. Other Papers, 1909-1957.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1915-1956, undated

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Letters to Moricand, unless otherwise noted.

b. 1, f. 1	Bachelard, Gaston	1952 October 19
b. 1, f. 2	Birmann, [S.?.]	1953, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Briant, Théophile (from Moricand)	1948 January-April
b. 1, f. 4	Borle, Walter	1948 February 19
b. 1, f. 5	Keyserling, Hermann, Graf von (to Henry Miller)	1938 May 29
b. 1, f. 6	Miller, Henry	1938 October-December
b. 1, f. 7	Miller, Henry (to Théophile Briant)	1956 July 20
b. 1, f. 8	Milosz, O. V. de L. (Oscar Vladislav de Lubicz) (to Nicolas Beauduin, with poems by Beauduin)	1916-1937
b. 1, f. 9	Mondzain, Simon	1915-1917
b. 1, f. 10	Oltramare, Georges (with poems by Oltramare, and clippings and third-party correspondence about him)	1946-1953, undated
b. 1, f. 11	Perlès, Alfred	1947 November-December
b. 1, f. 12	Picabia, Francis	undated
b. 1, f. 13	Relles, Dominique Birmann de (with poems by Relles)	1952-195[3?], undated
b. 1, f. 14	Wright, Sally	1947 November 11
b. 1, f. 15	"Max"	1947 December 19

**Series II: Writings, 1952, undated***0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 2, f. 16	"Les philistines (U. S. A., 1948)" (memoir). Typescript carbon	undated
b. 2, f. 17	<i>Les traces du culte d'Isis</i> (Paramé: Éditions du Goéland). Proof, revised	1952
	Notes (autograph manuscript)	
b. 2, f. 18-23	Miller, Henry <i>6 Folders</i>	undated
b. 2, f. 24	Nin, Anaïs	undated
b. 2, f. 25-26	Unidentified <i>2 Folders</i>	undated

### Series III: Writings and Visual Materials by Others, 1950, undated

6 Folders

b. 2, f. 27	Cadou, René Guy. "Dans le train bleu" (poem). Autograph manuscript, signed	undated
b. 2, f. 28	Dyssord, Jacques. Poems. Autograph manuscript, signed	undated
b. 2, f. 29	Picabia, Francis. Lithographs	undated
b. 2, f. 30	Picabia, Francis. Paintings (photographs by Georges Allie)	undated
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 38	Roederer, Claude. Untitled engraving	1950
b. 2, f. 31	Unidentified. Photograph of an unidentified woman ("Picabia assistant")	undated



**Series IV: Other Papers, 1909-1957, undated***0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 3, f. 32	Autograph book	1928 October-1929 May
b. 3, f. 33	Autograph book	1929 May-1931 June
b. 3, f. 34	Clippings	1935-1957, undated
b. 3, f. 35	Drawing by Moricand	undated
b. 3, f. 36	Passports and other identification documents	1909-1947, undated
b. 3, f. 37	Travel documents	1947 October- December

## 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.

### Preferred Titles

*Goéland*

### Subjects

Astrologers -- France  
Astrology -- France  
Occultism -- France

### Geographic Names

California -- Description and travel

### Genres / Formats

Lithographs -- France -- 20th Century

### Occupations

Astrologers -- France -- 20th Century

### Names

Beauduin, Nicolas, 1880-1960  
Briant, Théophile  
Cadou, René Guy  
Dyssord, Jacques, 1880-1952  
Keyserling, Hermann, Graf von, 1880-1946  
Miller, Henry, 1891-1980  
Miller, Henry, 1891-1980 (Devil in paradise)  
Miller, Henry, 1891-1980 -- Friends and  
associates  
Milosz, O. V. de L. (Oscar Vladislav de Lubicz),  
1877-1939  
Moricand, Conrad, 1887-1954  
Nin, Anaïs, 1903-1977  
Oltremare, Georges, 1896-1960  
Picabia, Francis, 1879-1953