

Guide to the Nelson Morpurgo Collection

GEN MSS 493



by Beinecke Staff

May 2002

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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
NELSON MORPURGO, 1899-1978	4
Scope and Contents	4
Collection Contents	5
Series I: Accession of May 2001	5
MORPURGO, NELSON	5
Series II: Additions Since July 2001	6
ACCESSION OF APRIL 2003	6
Correspondence	6
Writings	6
Other Papers	6
Selected Search Terms	8

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 493

CREATOR: Morpurgo, Nelson, 1899-1978

TITLE: Nelson Morpurgo collection

DATES: [ca. 1918-1940]

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

LANGUAGE: Italian

SUMMARY: The collection consists of manuscripts, correspondence and other papers pertaining to Morpurgo's literary career, including manuscripts of *Il fuoco delle piramidi* (1923) and several poems.

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

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.morpurgo>.

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.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ongoing collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. Source information is recorded on the folders. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Nelson Morpurgo Collection 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.

Preferred Citation

Nelson Morpurgo Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This finding aid is updated periodically to account for new materials that have been added to the collection. The date of the most recent update is noted on the title page. For information on material that may have been acquired for the collection since the last update, please consult the Public Service Desk.

NELSON MORPURGO, 1899-1978

Nelson Morpurgo was born in Cairo in 1899, studied law and jurisprudence in France and Italy, and began the practice of law in Cairo in 1933. After World War II he became legal advisor to the Italian Consulate in Egypt, and later was a founder of and advisor to the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Egypt.

Morpurgo is best known as a Futurist author and as a friend of Filippo Marinetti. His publications include *Morfina* (1921); *Il fuoco del Piramidi* (1923); and *Per le mi donne* (1932). After his retirement in Rimini, Morpurgo organized a conference on Futurism and participated in the celebration of the centenary of Marinetti's birth in 1976. He died in Rimini on October 11, 1978.

Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts and other papers, by or pertaining to Nelson Morpurgo, acquired by the library from a variety of sources. [Series I, Accession of May 2001](#), contains typescripts of poems by Morpurgo and a photograph. Materials added to the collection since that time are located in [Series II, Additions since July 2002](#), listed in the order in which they were added.

Collection Contents

Series I: Accession of May 2001

MORPURGO, NELSON		
b. 1, f. 1	"Ghirigori" Typescript of poem. Acc #: 20010406-j	[1940]
b. 1, f. 2	"Martirio;" "Soffio;" and "Treno;" [Cairo] Typescript pages of poems, corrected and marked for printer. Acc #: 20010406-i	[ca. 1932]
b. 1, f. 3	"Non mi sento bene. Poesia chromatica" AMS of poem in two colors of ink. Acc #: 20010406-m	n.d.
b. 1, f. 4	"Notte fra i palmeti;" [Cairo] AMS of poem. Acc #: 20010406-l	[ca. 1920?]
b. 1, f. 5	Photograph (postcard) of Nelson Morpurgo attending a Fascist march in Milan Stamped: "Luigi Betti...Fotografo Livorno" Acc #: 20010406-k	n.d.

Series II: Additions Since July 2001

ACCESSION OF APRIL 2003

Purchased on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund and through a gift from the Sonia Raiziss Giop Fund through the Library Associates, 2003

Acc #: 20030409-b

Correspondence

b. 1, f. 6	TL carbon to the editor of <i>La Bourse Egyptiennes</i> ; Cairo	1938 Mar 5
b. 1, f. 7	TL carbon to the editor of <i>Varietés</i> ; Cairo	1938 Mar 3

Writings

b. 1, f. 8	"4 novembre" Typescript carbon, corrected	n.d.
b. 1, f. 9	"Un'avventura 'by night'" Typescript carbon, corrected	n.d.
b. 1, f. 10	<i>Il fuoco delle piramidi</i> Holograph	1923
b. 1, f. 11	"Incontro con Marinetti" Typescript, corrected, incomplete	n.d.
b. 1, f. 12	"Intervista" 2 typescript carbons, one corrected and one incorporating the corrections	n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	"Italia 1949: impressioni di viaggio" Typescript, corrected	[1949]
b. 1, f. 14	"Marinetti il futurismo ed io" Typescript	n.d.
b. 1, f. 15	"Marinetti in egitto (1938)" Typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 1, f. 16	"I miei amici futuristi" Typescript, corrected and signed	n.d.
b. 1, f. 17	"Thermometre egyptien" Typescript with holograph additions, signed and dated	1933
b. 1, f. 18	Unidentified fragment Typescript, incomplete (play?)	n.d.

Other Papers

b. 1, f. 19	Menu for a "Futurist" meal at "Celestino" in Cairo Holograph, illustrated, signed by several of the participants, including Morpurgo, Gino Grossi, Umberto Spallanzani, and Umberto Ricci	1930 Jun 3
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ACCESSION OF APRIL 2003 > Other Papers (continued)

b. 1, f. 20	Photograph of group of men and women Includes Morpurgo	[ca. 1918]
b. 1, f. 21	Photograph group portrait of Italian men in Cairo Includes Morpurgo; signatures of some members on verso	[1930]
b. 1, f. 22	Printed: La Semaine egyptienne Contains article by Jean Moscatelli about Morpurgo, p. 11	1932 Oct 31
b. 1, f. 23	Printed: tickets for a performance of <i>Morfina!</i> With printed notices of performance on verso	1921 Oct 16
b. 1, f. 24	Printed: legal file holder pertaining to the firm of C. Morpurgo and M. Castro, Cairo Annotated: "Scritti di papa. Nelson Morpurgo."	n.d.
b. 1, f. 25	Printed: empty envelope decorated with engraving of skull and motto, "Non morior"	n.d.

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

Futurism (Literary movement)
Italian literature -- 20th Century

Names

Morpurgo, Nelson, 1899-1978