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Guide to the George Platt Lynes Diaries and Memorabilia

YCAL MSS 147



by Timothy G. Young

January 2001

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 147

CREATOR: Lynes, George Platt, 1907-1955

TITLE: George Platt Lynes diaries and memorabilia

DATES: 1921-1955

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.06 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The George Platt Lynes diaries consist of diaries and datebooks which record his activities and thoughts, starting with a journal of Lynes' first trip to Europe in 1925 and ending with entries in a pocket datebook just weeks before his death in 1955. Though his early and later years are well documented, there are no diaries for the years 1931-1941. Accompanying the diaries are a few odd pieces of personal memorabilia, including a notebook of dinners given during the early 1940s and printed versions of writings by Glenway Wescott from the early 1920s.

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

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.gpl>.

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

Received with the Glenway Wescott papers, purchase from Monroe Wheeler, 1988.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The George Platt Lynes Diaries & Memorabilia are 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

George Platt Lynes Diaries and Memorabilia. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Associated Materials

Additional George Platt Lynes material can be found in the [Glenway Wescott Papers \[YCAL MSS 134\]](#) and the [Monroe Wheeler Papers \[YCAL MSS 136\]](#). The materials included in this collection represent items that were already segregated when received with the original papers.

GEORGE PLATT LYNES [1907-1955]

George Platt Lynes is best known as a portrait, fashion, and nude photographer. He spent several years living with and traveling with Glenway Wescott and Monroe Wheeler.

Scope and Contents

The George Platt Lynes Diaries & Memorabilia is organized into two series. [Series I, Diaries](#), the largest component, consists of diaries and datebooks which record his activities and thoughts, starting with a journal of Lynes' first trip to Europe in 1925 and ending with entries in a pocket datebook just weeks before his death in 1955. Though his early and later years are well documented, there are no diaries for the years 1931-1941. [Series II, Memorabilia](#), consists of a few odd personal items, including a notebook of dinners given during the early 1940s and printed versions of writings by Glenway Wescott.

Collection Contents

Series I: Diaries, 1925-1955

0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)

b. 1, f. 1	"My Trip Abroad" diary	1925
b. 1, f. 2	Five-year diary	1925-26
b. 1, f. 3	"Year-by-Year" Book	1928-30
b. 1, f. 4	Diary	[1942]
b. 1, f. 5	Diary	1943
b. 2, f. 6	Diary	1944
b. 2, f. 7	Datebook	1945
b. 2, f. 8	Datebook	1946
b. 2, f. 9-10	Datebooks	1947
b. 2, f. 11	Datebook	1948
b. 2, f. 12	Datebook	1949
b. 2, f. 13	Datebook	1950
b. 2, f. 14	Datebook	1951
b. 2, f. 15	Datebook	1952
b. 2, f. 16	Datebook	1953
b. 2, f. 17	Datebook	1954
b. 2, f. 18	Datebook	1955

Series II: Memorabilia, 1921-1944*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 3, f. 19	Drawing of GPL by Jean Cocteau [photocopy]	n.d.
b. 3, f. 20	Notebook of dinners and menus Includes guest lists and draft of letter [by Monroe Wheeler?]	1943-44
b. 3, f. 21	Printed versions of writings by Glenway Wescott, collected by GPL	1921-28
b. 3, f. 22	Receipt for tires and product information flyer	1939, 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

Photographers
Photographers -- United States

Genres / Formats

Diaries

Names

Lynes, George Platt, 1907-1955
Wescott, Glenway, 1901-1987
Wheeler, Monroe, 1899-1988