

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Edgar Saltus Papers

YCAL MSS 425



by Michael L. Forstrom

2010

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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 425

CREATOR: Saltus, Edgar, 1855-1921

TITLE: Edgar Saltus papers

DATES: 1884-1926

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 7.02 linear feet (12 boxes) + 1 broadside

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Edgar Saltus papers contain writings, correspondence, and other materials documenting the life of American author Edgar Saltus.

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

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.saltus>.

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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Elsie Saltus Munds, 1964.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Edgar Saltus 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.

Preferred Citation

Edgar Saltus Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Preliminary processing was done to the Edgar Saltus papers at an unknown date. During reprocessing of the collection in 2010, material relating to Saltus that had been donated to the library by sources other than his daughter, Elsie Saltus Munds, and added to the Saltus papers, was removed from the collection. Otherwise, the arrangement of writings and correspondence was largely preserved in Series I and II, and other materials were consolidated in Series III.

Formerly classed as Za Saltus.

Edgar Saltus (1855-1921)

Edgar Saltus was a novelist, essayist, and poet. He attended St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire and Yale College in 1876 and 1877, before studying abroad and receiving the degree of LL.B. from Columbia College in 1880, though he never practiced law. Saltus was married three times: to Helen Sturgis Read in November 1883, to Elsie Welch Smith on October 8, 1895, and to author Marie Florence Giles on August 16, 1911. There is considerable scholarship on Saltus, including book-length biographical studies by Marie Saltus (1925) and Claire Sprague (1968). Summary information is available in the standard biographical resources.

Scope and Contents

The Edgar Saltus papers contain writings, correspondence, and other materials documenting the life and work of author Edgar Saltus. Writings consist chiefly of drafts, some heavily corrected, for shorter works such as poems, stories, and essays, but include substantive drafts for the novels *The Ghost Girl* (1922) and *The Paliser Case* (1919) and other longer works. Correspondence consists of a small number of letters between Saltus and family members, publishers, editors, and other writers, most notably James Huneker and Richard Le Gallienne, and British actor Henry Irving. Other materials include three scrapbooks containing clippings, with reviews and writings, printed ephemera, photographs, and correspondence relating to Saltus, his family, and his third wife, author Marie Florence Giles.

Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Writings, 1884-1919. II. Correspondence, 1888-1925. Other Materials, 1889-1926.

Collection Contents

Series I: Writings, 1884-1919

3.13 linear feet (8 boxes) + 1 broadside

Arranged alphabetically by title or supplied heading.

Series I, Writings, consists of drafts for shorter works, such as poems, stories, and essays, and for novels, *The Ghost Girl* (1922) and *The Paliser Case* (1919), and other longer works. Most drafts are hand-written (holograph) and signed, and some are heavily corrected. In addition to the genre, the presence of multiple drafts and other physical formats (typescript or clippings) is noted in folder headings below. A small number of notebooks are filed by title.

Additional short writings can be found among the clippings in scrapbooks in Series III. Other Materials.

b.1	"After the Ball," play, drafts 2 Folders	1913
b.1	"Around the Clock," story, drafts	undated
b.1	"Around the Town," essay, drafts	undated
b.1	"Barbey d'Aureilly," story	1919 February
b.1	"The Beloved," story	undated
b.1	"Bonbons and Burgundy," essay	undated
b.1	"The Brute," story, drafts, holograph and typescript carbon 2 Folders	undated
b.1	"The Club Window," essay, drafts	undated
b.1	"The Cupboard," story	undated
b.1	"The Crime's Third Anniversary," essay, typescript, corrected	undated
b.1	"The Dangers of Health," essay, drafts, typescript carbon 2 Folders	undated
b.1	"De omnibus rebus e...," notebook, notes, poems, drafts	1896 March
b.1	"Dinner is Served," story	undated
b.1	"Done up Brown," story	undated
b.1	"Fashion," essay, draft fragments	undated
b.2	"The Gates of Life," play, typescript carbon, corrected	1910
b.2	"The Ghost," story, drafts, holograph and typescript carbon 2 Folders	undated
b.2	<i>The Ghost Girl</i> , novel, typescript, corrected	[circa 1922]
b.2	"The Goblin Girl," story	undated
b.2	"The Golden Chimera," essay	undated

b. 3	‘The Golden Flood,’ novel, drafts	undated
b. 3	“Golgotha,” essay, drafts	undated
b. 3	“The Halls of Elbis,” novel, drafts	undated
b. 3	“The Happiest Way,” essay, drafts	undated
b. 3	“Here,” poem	undated
b. 3	<i>Historia Amorus</i> , title page and table of contents	undated
b. 4	“The Horrors of Grub Street,” essay, drafts	undated
b. 4	“The Hue and Cry,” story, drafts 2 Folders	undated
b. 4	<i>The Imperial Orgy</i> , draft fragments	undated
b. 4	“The Impostor,” play scenario	[circa 1894]
b. 4	“Jewels,” poem	undated
b. 12 (Broadside)	“Jonathan Club Is ‘Original as Well as Unique,’” article, printed version, <i>Los Angeles Examiner</i>	1909 November 15
b. 4	“The Lords of the Ghostland: A History of the Ideal,” essay, drafts 2 Folders	undated
b. 4	“Loveland,” story, drafts	undated
b. 4	“The Man Who Did Not Exist,” story	undated
b. 4	“The Metropolitan Opera Glass,” essay, drafts	[1899 August?]
b. 4	“Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt,” essay	undated
b. 5	“Myosotis and Opals,” essay	undated
b. 5	“The Mystery of Love,” essay	undated
b. 5	“The New Paganism,” essay	undated
b. 5	“Not Yet,” essay, typescript carbon	undated
b. 5	“Nuptials,” poem, drafts	undated
b. 5	“The Origin of the Crime,” essay, drafts	undated
b. 5	<i>Oscar Wilde: An Idler’s Impression</i> , essay, drafts	[1916?]
b. 5	<i>The Paliser Case</i> , novel, drafts 2 Folders	[circa 1919]
b. 5	<i>Parnassians Persmally Encountered</i> , story, drafts	undated
b. 5	“Peace,” poem, drafts	undated
b. 6	<i>The Perfume of Eros</i> , novel, drafts (incomplete)	[circa 1905]

b. 6	"The Pipes of Priapus," essay	undated
b. 6	"The Poms of Fashion," essay	undated
b. 6	"Poppies and Mandragora, Allegresse," poem, drafts	undated
b. 6	"The Punch," story, drafts	undated
b. 6	"The Reflections of Floriline Schopenhauer on Perfumes, as Dictated to Edgar Saltus," story, drafts	undated
b. 6	"The Rogues Gallery," essay, drafts <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 6	"Rome," notebook, notes, early drafts	1891
b. 6	"The Russian Miracle," essay, drafts	undated
b. 6	"Scaffolds and Altars," table of contents and draft fragments	undated
b. 6	"Silver Bullets," essay, typescript carbon	undated
b. 12 (Broadside)	"The Singer the Sorcerer and the Secrets of Satanism," article, printed version, <i>New York Herald</i>	1903 February 1
b. 7	"Sonnets Serene and Otherwise," notebook	[1884-1885]
b. 7	"The Soul of the World," essay, drafts	undated
b. 7	"The Stage," essay, draft fragments	undated
b. 7	"The Sultan's Daughter," story	undated
b. 7	"Sunday Matter," galley proof, fragment	undated
b. 7	"The Terrible Wedding," story and play, drafts <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 7	"Teuton Illusions," essay, typescript carbon	undated
b. 7	"That Girl," story, drafts <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 7	"That Woman," story	undated
b. 12 (Broadside)	"A Tragedy of Real Life in New York," article, printed version, <i>The Journal</i>	1896 April 26
b. 7	<i>The Tsars: From the First to the Last</i> , clippings and typescript carbon	undated
b. 7	"The Valley of Paradise," play, typescript	undated
b. 7	"Victor Hugo," essay, clippings and typescript carbon	undated
b. 7	"Von Altmont," story	undated
b. 7	"The Wager," story, drafts, holograph and typescript carbon <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 7	"Wall Street," essay	undated

b. 7	"William the Peacemaker," essay	undated
b. 8	Other writings Also stored in: 12 (Broadside)	1898-1899, undated

Series II: Correspondence, 1888-1925*0.11 linear feet (10 folders)*

Series II, Correspondence, contains a small number of letters between Edgar Saltus and family members, publishers, editors, and other writers, most notably James Huneker and Richard Le Gallienne, and British actor Henry Irving. Additional correspondence to Saltus and his wife Marie Florence Giles can be found in the scrapbooks in Series III. Other Materials.

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 9	Boni & Liveright	1919, undated
b. 9	Gilliams, E. Leslie	undated
b. 9	Greening & Co. Ltd.	1901 April 26
b. 9	Huneker, James	[1916-1920], undated
b. 9	Irving, H. B. (Henry Brodribb)	1918 October 17
b. 9	Le Gallienne, Richard	undated
b. 9	Lifland, S.	1918 December 26
b. 9	Munds, Elsie Saltus	undated
b. 9	<i>The Sun</i>	undated
b. 9	Unidentified	undated

Series III: Other Materials, 1889-1926*0.1 linear feet (4 folders)*

Series III, Other Materials, contains a single manuscript fragment, photograph of Edgar Fawcett, will, and three scrapbooks. The scrapbooks contain clippings, printed ephemera, photographs, and correspondence. The clippings relate to Saltus, his wife Marie Giles, and family, and include reviews and writings. Writings, for example, include printed versions of poems, short fiction, and essays for such magazines as *Harper's Bazaar*, as well as a number of short pieces for newspapers dating from 1902 and 1903.

Arranged alphabetically by material type.

b. 9	Manuscript fragment	undated
b. 9	Pencil	undated
	Photograph of Edgar Fawcett Stored in: Oversize, Box 10	1889 March
b. 9	Printed ephemera	undated
	Scrapbooks Stored in: Oversize, Boxes 10-11	1898-1926, undated
b. 9	Stationery	undated
b. 9	Will, draft	1903 June 10

Oversize*4 linear feet (3 boxes)*

b. 13 (Oversize)	Empty cases	undated
b. 10 (Oversize)	Photograph of Edgar Fawcett	1889 March
b. 10 (Oversize)	Scrapbook	1898-1926, undated
b. 11 (Oversize)	Scrapbook	1902-1908, undated
b. 11 (Oversize)	Scrapbook	1912-1914, undated

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

American literature -- 19th century
American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- Archives

Genres / Formats

Clippings (information artifacts)
Photographic prints
Scrapbooks

Occupations

Authors

Names

Giles, Marie Florence, 1883?-1960
Huneker, James, 1857-1921
Irving, H. B. (Henry Brodribb), 1870-1919
Le Gallienne, Richard, 1866-1947
Saltus, Edgar, 1855-1921