

# Guide to the Michael Roemer Papers

MS 1837



compiled by Mary Caldera

November 2009

Yale University Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1837

**CREATOR:** Roemer, Michael, 1928-

**TITLE:** Michael Roemer papers

**DATES:** 1948-2009

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 14.75 linear feet (19 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of drafts, screenplays, notes, school papers, poems, writings by and about Michael Roemer, and documents regarding publication.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1837>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1837>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

Gift of Michael Roemer, 2004, 2006, and 2012.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Michael Roemer Papers (MS 1837). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Michael Roemer, filmmaker and professor at the Yale School of Art, was born in Germany in 1928. He left Germany during World War II and lived in England until 1945 when he emigrated to the United States. He attended Harvard University and made his directorial debut in 1949 with *A Touch of the Times*. Following graduation, he made educational films and documentaries before making his first fictional film, *Nothing But a Man*, in 1964. *Nothing But a Man* earned two awards at the Venice Film Festival. In addition to making feature films, Roemer has continued to make documentaries, including *Dying* (1975), a film about several terminally ill cancer patients.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of drafts, screenplays, notes, school papers, poems, writings by and about Michael Roemer, and documents regarding publication.

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## Collection Contents

### Writings and Other Materials, 1948-2003

b.1	<i>Act of God</i>	Circa 1998
b.1	<i>Divertissement</i>	1949
b.1	<i>Ellen</i>	1960
b.2,1	<i>Famous Long Ago</i>	Circa 1988-1990
b.2	<i>Famous Long Ago</i>	Circa 1988-1990
b.2	<i>The Flop</i>	1949-1952
b.2	<i>Harry</i>	1967
b.2	<i>Haunted</i>	Circa 1981-1982
b.2	<i>The Heart of Harry</i>	Circa 1957
b.3	<i>Losing Emily</i>	Circa 1984
b.3	<i>Emily</i>	1985
b.3	<i>Emily Lost and Found</i>	1985-1989
b.4	<i>Mr. Lincoln</i>	1954
b.4	<i>The Last Frontier</i>	1957
b.4	<i>Nothing But a Man</i>	Circa 1963
b.4	<i>Pilgrim Farewell</i>	Circa 1978-1979
b.4	<i>A Place in Sunset</i>	Undated
b.4	<i>The Plot Against Harry</i>	Undated
b.5	<i>Sneaking into Eden scene notes</i>	Circa 2001
b.5	<i>The Sprung Heart</i>	Undated
b.5	<i>Stone My Heart</i>	1972-1988
b.6	<i>Stone My Heart notes</i>	Circa 1972
b.6	<i>Stone River Romance</i>	1957
b.6	<i>A Touch of the Times</i>	1950-1951
b.6	<i>Vengeance is Mine</i>	1977
b.7	<i>Telling Stories</i>	Circa 1995
b.7	Writing by and about Michael Roemer	1948-2003
b.8	<i>Mortal Longing notes</i>	Undated

b. 8	<i>Charles and Charlie</i>	Undated
b. 8	Notebooks on American architecture	Undated
b. 8	<i>The Heart of Harry</i>	1958
b. 8	<i>The Power of Darkness</i>	1955
b. 8	<i>Passage to Paradise</i>	1949
b. 8	Poems	Undated
b. 8	<i>Heartbreak House</i> , "Introduction: A Note on Literary Theories"	1948-1949
b. 8	<i>An Innocent Beginning</i>	Undated
b. 8	<i>Ellen</i>	1960
b. 8	Notes	Undated
b. 8	Unidentified screenplay	Undated
b. 9	Contracts	1963-1979
b. 9	<i>Act of God</i> , <i>Losing Emily</i> , <i>Mortal Longing</i> , <i>Stone My Heart</i>	1995-1997
b. 9	Notes	Undated
b. 9	"Hey Rockefeller" English	Undated
b. 9	Notes for <i>Stone My Heart</i>	Undated
b. 9	<i>Mortal Longing</i>	1995
b. 9	Lecture notes	1977-1996, undated
b. 9, f. 15	Correspondence and drafts of article on Charlie Chaplin A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1973-1977
b. 9	Correspondence, unopened	1972-1978, 1996
b. 9	Reviews of <i>Dying</i>	1976
b. 10	Notes for <i>Sad But Funny</i>	Undated
b. 10	Notes for <i>Sneaking into Eden</i>	Undated
b. 10	<i>Heartbreak House</i>	1949
b. 10	Poems	Undated
b. 10	A Collection of Bunce Court Memories	Undated
b. 10	Notes	Undated

b. 10

Writings by Michael Roemer

1960-1964

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**Accession 2007-M-013: Additional Materials, 2003-2005**

b. 1, f. 1	<i>Been Here and Gone</i>	Undated
b. 1, f. 2-14	<i>Home Body</i>	2003-2005
b. 2, f. 15	<i>Losing Emily</i> notes	Circa 2003
b. 2, f. 16-17	<i>Sneaking Into Eden</i> scene notes	Circa 2003



**Accession 2012-M-038: Additional Materials, 2002-2004**

The 2012-M-038 addition to the Michael Roemer papers includes drafts, notes, and scenes from the screenplay *Been Here and Gone*. Drafts include handwritten edits and marginalia.

Drafts		
b. 1, f. 1	First Draft	2003
b. 1, f. 2	Second Draft The folder includes notes for <i>Sneaking into Eden</i> .	2004
b. 1, f. 3-5	Final 2004 Draft	2004
b. 2, f. 1-4	New Story	2002
b. 3, f. 1-4	New Story	2002-2003
b. 3, f. 5	Original Notes	Undated
b. 4, f. 1-3	Scenes and Moments	Undated
b. 4, f. 4-5	Scene Sheets	Undated

**Accession 2013-M-030: Additional Materials, 2007-2009**

This accession includes drafts and manuscript copies of screenplays for Michael Roemer's films, *Bed Rock* and *Home Body*, as well as original notes pertaining to each film.

b. 1, f. 1	<i>Home Body</i>	
b. 1, f. 1	Screenplay	2007
b. 1, f. 2-4	Draft	2007
b. 1, f. 5-8	Original notes	2007
b. 2, f. 1-2	Original notes	2007
	<i>Bed Rock</i>	2009
b. 2, f. 3	Screenplay	2009
b. 2, f. 4-6	Original notes	2009
b. 3, f. 1-6	Original notes	2009

## **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**

Motion picture producers and directors

### **Names**

Roemer, Michael, 1928-