Bernard Kops:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

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Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Kops, Bernard, 1926-
Title:	Bernard Kops Papers
Dates:	1954-2003
Extent:	20 boxes (8.4 linear feet)
Abstract:	The papers include drafts of published and unpublished plays, stories, poetry, and notes for various projects, as well as Kops's autobiography *Shalom Bomb; scenes from my life*. Also present is personal and career-related material such as articles, correspondence, and travel notes. Correspondence includes letters with fellow artists and to Kop's wife.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-02333
Language:	English
Availability:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Purchases, 2001, 2003 (Reg. nos. 14679, 15181)
Accessioned by:	Liz Murray, 2001
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

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Scope and Contents

The 2001 addition to the Bernard Kops collection at the Ransom Center includes drafts of published and unpublished plays, stories, and poetry as well as his autobiography *Shalom Bomb; scenes from my life*. Play titles include *The Boy Who Wouldn't Play Jesus*, *Change for the Angel*, *The Dream of Peter Mann*, *Enter Solly Gold*, *Falling in Love Again*, *I Want to Go Home,* and *Stray Cats and Empty Bottles*. Also included is correspondence with Lindsay Anderson, Michael Horovitz, Harold Innocent, Warren Mitchell, Olga Rudge, Arnold Wesker and others, and Kops's letters to his wife Erica.

The 2003 addition includes drafts of published and unpublished plays, stories, poetry, and notes for various projects. Also present is personal and career-related material such as articles, correspondence, and travel notes.

This segment is arranged in three series: I. Works, II. Notes, and III. Personal and Career-Related.

The Works series contains primarily plays for stage, radio, and television, beginning with Kops' earliest works, *Goodbye World* produced in 1959 and *David It Is Getting Dark*, 1960, to various drafts of *I Am Isaac Babel* in 2003. Also of interest is his poetry, especially new unpublished poems completed as recently as 2002.

Series II contains notes for literary projects with typescript fragments interspersed. Articles, biographical information, correspondence, interviews, and travel notes are found in Series III. Personal and Career-Related. Kops' trip aboard the cruise ship *Saga Rose*, leading to an article in the *Guardian*, is particularly well-represented.

Books received with the with the 2001 and 2003 additions were transferred to the Ransom Center Library.

Note to Researchers

The inventory for the Bernard Kops Papers is a conflation of two preliminary inventories created in 2001 and 2003 which described two additions to the unprocessed collection. Both of these additions are minimally processed and the 2003 addition was appended to the end of the 2001 inventory. Because both additions began the box numbering with Box 1, the 2003 addition is differentiated with adding the letter "a" to the original box number (e.g., Box 1a, Box 2a, etc.). The inventories were combined in 2025 to comply with a new content management system.

I. Works

After You've Gone, synopsis for stage play — **Box** 1 **Folder** 1

Audition Piece, script and director's critique — **Folder** 2-3

Barricades in West Hampstead, poetry, setting copy — **Folder** 4

The Boy Who Wouldn't Play Jesus, play, disbound sheets of Cassell's, 1965, 2nd edition, revised — **Folder** 5

By the Waters of Whitechapel, script — **Folder** 6

Call in the Night, script, drafts and notes — **Folder** 7-9

Call in the Night, cont'd — **Box** 2 **Folder** 1-2

Cardboard City, novel for teenagers — **Folder** 3-4

Change for the Angel, script — **Folder** 5

The Dream of Peter Mann, script, 1960 — **Folder** 6

Dreams of Anne Frank,On Margate Sands,Call in the Night, page proofs of plays — **Folder** 7

East End Tales, script, 1969 — **Folder** 8

East End Tales and *Inner Circle*, scripts — **Box** 3 **Folder** 1

East End-West End, London Saturday Night Broadcast, 1961 — **Folder** 2

Enter Solly Gold, script, first version — **Folder** 3

Falling in Love Again, radio script, 2000 — **Folder** 4

The Ghost Child, radio script, 1994 **Folder** 5

Golem, play, drafts **Folder** 6-7

Golem, cont'd **Box** 4 **Folder** 1-2

Grandchildren and Other Poems, typescripts **Folder** 3-4

Houdini Escapes, play, notes and drafts **Folder** 5-7

I Want to Go Home, opening of the 1964 play which became the novel "Yes from No Man's Land" **Box** 5 **Folder** 1

In a Strange Land, short television plays, 1972 **Folder** 2

The Jericho Players with *Rogues and Vagabonds*, script, 1998 **Folder** 3-6

A Jewish Wedding, BBC talk, 1960 **Folder** 7

Kafe Kropotkin, script, drafts **Folder** 8

Kafe Kropotkin, cont'd **Box** 6 **Folder** 1-2

Make-Up, screenplay **Folder** 3

More Out Than In and *On Margate Sands*, scripts **Folder** 4-5

Neither Your Honey Nor Your Sting, outline of `saga' **Folder** 6

The Party of Peregrin and Penelope Pig, unpublished story **Folder** 7

Risorgimento, play notes, 1996 **Folder** 8

Sailing with Homer, script, 1994 **Folder** 9

Shalom Bomb

Outline **Box** 6 **Folder** 10

Outline, cont'd	**Box** 7 **Folder** 1
Various pages, changes, cuts	**Folder** 2
Final page proofs	**Folder** 3
Final corrected proof	**Folder** 4-5
Simon, script	**Folder** 6-7
Soho nights, script	**Folder** 8
Songs and Sorrows of Mean Streets, scenario	**Folder** 9
Space Orpheus, opera, notes, scenarios, etc.	**Folder** 10
Stray Cats and Empty Bottles, stage sketch	**Box** 8 **Folder** 1
Untitled playscript	**Folder** 2
"Why the Geese Shrieked" by I.B. Singer, dramatized by BK, 1976, BBC script	**Folder** 3
Abandoned children's novel, 1985	**Folder** 4
Draft of play and other drafts	**Folder** 5
Draft of short story about actors and various other drafts	**Folder** 6
Handwritten notes	**Box** 8a **Folder** 7
Miscellaneous notes	**Box** 8 **Folder** 8
Notes for various abandoned projects	**Folder** 9
Miscellaneous papers and abandoned projects	**Box** 9 **Folder** 1
Unpublished, abandoned projects, and notes	**Folder** 2
Reviews and interviews	**Folder** 3

Reviews and worksheets from plays	**Folder** 4
Printed material, programs, articles, reviews	**Folder** 5

II. Correspondence

General	**Box** 9 **Folder** 6
BK to his wife, Erica, 1954-1995	**Folder** 7
Computer discs	**Box** 10

Addition (Reg. no. 15181), 2003

Series I. Works

Anarchist B & B, play, revised typescript, fragments and notes	**Box** 1a **Folder** 1-2
Androcles and the Lion, play, typescript	**Folder** 3
The Appointment, libretto, B.B.C. commission	**Folder** 4
The Boy Who Wouldn't Play Jesus, children's play, 1968, corrected typescript	**Folder** 5
By the Waters of Whitechapel, uncorrected proof, to p.28, 1969	**Folder** 6
Call in the Night, play, typescript	**Folder** 7
Colour Blind, Thirty Minute Theatre, radio play, B.B.C.	**Folder** 8
Congress in Manchester, radio play for B.B.C. and Thirty Minute Theatre, 1990	**Folder** 9-10
[*The Dark Ages*], play, incomplete typescript, 1965	**Folder** 11
David It Is Getting Dark, play, two typescript versions	**Folder** 12-13
Dreams of Anne Frank, Hampstead players flyer and information on the Hungarian performance with Roma cast	**Folder** 14
East End Tales, play, partial corrected typescript	**Box** 2a **Folder** 1
Ezra Pound, teleplay, 1981 and rehearsal script, 1982, with related typescript prose fragment	**Folder** 2
Falling in Love Again	

Typescript fragments and handwritten notes **Folder** 3-4

Revised play script, B.B.C. Radio 4, July 2000 **Folder** 5

Golem, play

Typescript fragments and handwritten notes **Folder** 6

Uncorrected typescripts, two versions **Folder** 7-8

Goodbye World, play, typescript, 1960 **Folder** 9

I Am Isaac Babel, radio play **Box** 3a

First handwritten notes through March-April 2003 **Folder** 1-4

Draft one, two typescript versions **Folder** 5-6

Typescript before first revision **Folder** 7

Notes and revised first draft, March-April 2003 **Folder** 8

Notes and ideas with second draft **Folder** 9

Notes for third draft **Folder** 10

I Grow Old, I Grow Old, radio script, 1979 **Folder** 11

I Want to Go Home, teleplay, camera script **Folder** 12

Ich Bin Schon Ganz Zuhause, published play, 1985 **Box** 4a **Folder** 1

In a Strange Land, teleplay, revised typescripts **Folder** 2

The Jericho Players, revised radio script, 1996 **Folder** 3

More Than One Way Out, typescript synopsis, B.B.C. project, 1960 **Folder** 4

Moss, play, typescript **Folder** 5

The Opening (American Play) 2002/3, play, subsequently titled *Wasteland*

Handwritten notes for "The Opening" **Folder** 6-8

Notes and annotated draft, "Wasteland" **Folder** 9

Typescript, with fragments, "Wasteland" **Folder** 10-11

Typescript, "Wasteland" cont'd **Box** 5a **Folder** 1

Over the Rainbow, radio play, typescript **Folder** 2

The Painting Class, notes for a projected play, 2003/04 **Folder** 3

Pictures at an Exhibition, treatment for a radio play **Folder** 4

Playing Sinatra, play, revised typescript **Folder** 5

Poetry

Notes and miscellaneous **Folder** 6

Poems and handwritten notes **Folder** 7

New unpublished poems, Sept.-Nov. 2002 **Folder** 8

Published poems in journals and newspapers [*oversize removed to Oversize Flat Files] **Folder** 9*

Unpublished poems **Folder** 10

Riverchange, play

Notes **Folder** 11-12

Notes, cont'd	**Box** 6a **Folder** 1
Typescript fragments and notes	**Folder** 2-3
Various typescript versions	**Folder** 4
Rogues and Vagabonds, play, typescript	**Folder** 5
Shalom Bomb, autobiography, review and photocopy of dust jacket [*printed dust jacket removed to Oversize Flat Files]	**Folder** 6*
Simon at Midnight, play, excerpted in *Manna*, Autumn 1984	**Folder** 7
A Small World, radio script, 1961	**Folder** 8
Stray Cats and Empty Bottles, teleplay	**Folder** 9-10
To the Land of Lost Birthdays, unpublished children's story, corrected typescript, 1972	**Folder** 11
The World is a Wedding, radio play, 1980	**Box** 7a **Folder** 1
Yes from No-Man's Land, story excerpt in *American Judaism*, 1965	**Folder** 2
Abandoned projects, not pursued	**Folder** 3-4

Series II. Notes

Notes on Ernst Toller's "Masses Man"	**Box** 7a **Folder** 5
Handwritten notes	**Folder** 6-8
Miscellaneous typescript and handwritten notes	**Folder** 9
Miscellaneous notes and print material	**Box** 8a **Folder** 1-3

Notes and information on China	**Folder** 4-5
South America project and Yangtze	**Folder** 6-7

Series III. Personal and Career-Related

Articles by and about Kops, biographical information, and miscellaneous career-related material [*oversize article by Kops removed to Oversize Flat Files]	**Box** 9a **Folder** 1*
Correspondence	**Folder** 2
Interviews	**Folder** 3
Introduction to book of plays by Mike Leigh	**Folder** 4
O'Brien, Willis and stop motion animation	**Folder** 5
Programs, various events [*oversize removed to Oversize Flat Files]	**Folder** 6*
Travel notes	
Borneo, Feb. 2003	**Folder** 7-8
China, Yangtze notes, and *Guardian* article	**Folder** 9-10
China, Yangtze notes, and *Guardian* article, cont'd	**Box** 10a **Folder** 1
Guardian, journey notes, *Saga Rose* cruise, 2001	**Folder** 2-6
Wayne State College	**Folder** 7
Workshop notes	**Folder** 8