

**The Inventory
of the
Loften Mitchell
Collection
#847**

Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center



mitche.1

Mitchell, Loften

October, November 1985

#847

Manuscript materials, correspondence, printed items and photographs associated with the twentieth-century playwright. 3 boxes.

I. MANUSCRIPT MATERIALS

All are photocopied typescripts unless noted otherwise.

A. Non-Fiction

Box 1

1. Black Drama: The Story of the American Negro in the Theatre, Hawthorn, 1967. Photocopies of pages from the chapter entitled "The Nineteen-Sixties: Broadway Reconsidered." 2 p. (#1)
2. "Comments on a Collection." A brief autobiographical account dated Oct. 16, 1985 with some holo. corr. Signed by L.M. 27 p. (#2)
3. "Mother Strayhorn." Typescript of a speech to an unidentified audience dated 7/15/84 concerning Betty Brown Strayhorn. 6 p. (#2)
4. "Notes on a Forthcoming Production." "A proposal for a professional production in the downtown Binghamton, New York area to benefit the State University of New York at Binghamton Playwrights Program." Three copies, 11 p. each. (#2)
5. "Voices of the Black Theatre." Typescript, "Two chapters of a proposed volume..." in two drafts (incomplete) with some holo. corr. Ca. 45 p. (#3)

B. Fiction. Including Narratives by L.M. on the Original Production of Two of His Plays.

1. "Bubbling Brown Sugar"
 - a. "First draft written at SUNY Binghamton (1975)." Some holo. corr., dated 4/15/75. Ca. 54 p. (#4)

MITCHELL, LOFTEN

Box 1

- b. Draft marked "Winfield Theatrical Prod. 30 E. 40th St." and dated 1980. Some holo. corr. Ca. 50 p. (#5)
 - c. A final revision dated 11/7/84 to be submitted to Broadway Plays, Inc. for publication. Some holo. corr. with prefatory holograph note dated 10/17/85. Ca. 65 p. (#6)
2. "Cartoons for a Lunch Hour"
"Produced at Perry Street Theatre - 1978" and dated January 1979 with holo. corr. Ca. 68 p. (#7)
 3. "City Called Harlem"
An "unproduced" play written ca. 1964. Ca. 71 p. (#8)
 4. "A City Full of Tears" [screenplay]
Filmed with the title "I'm Sorry." 37 p. (#9)
 5. "The Lightning"
A signed narrative dated 11/14/85 that explains the origins and production of the play. Two copies, 5 p. each. (#10)
 6. "Miss Ethel Waters"
 - a. "First copy of the script...produced in New York City, 1983." With holo. corr. 98 p. (#11)
 - b. Complete draft with some holo. corr. 98 p. (#12)
 - c. Incomplete draft segments. Ca 60 p. (#13)
 - d. Typescript (some photocopied pages). Incomplete draft with many holo. corr. Ca. 90 p. (#14)
 - e. Typescript. Draft pages from Act I, Scene 1 and Act II, Scenes 10-12. 11 p. Holograph: Lyrics for song beginning "Do I have to always explain..." 1 p. (#15)

MITCHELL, LOFTEN

Box 2

7. "The Phonograph"

Bound typescript text. 106 p. (Loose in Box 2)

8. "Sojourn to the South of the Wall"

a. An "early draft" with holo. corr., ca. 1971.
93 p. (Box 2, #1)

b. Two drafts signed and dated 11/8/83. 78 p.
each. (#2)

9. "Star of the Morning"

"Uncut version," typescript with holo. corr.
107 p. (#3)

10. "Tell Pharoah"

a. "1980 version." 43 p. (#4)

b. An early draft with holo. corr. of a narrative
explaining the origins and production of
the play. Two copies, 13 p. each.

c. "Notes on Tell Pharoah" A shorter version of
the above narrative. Two copies, 5 p.
each. (#5)

C. Writings for the New York Voice (1978-79)

Including the L.M. column "The Little Cat."
Typescript drafts, some photocopied, some with
holo. corr. and additions. 98 p. (#6)

D. Materials Concerning L.M. and His Works

1. Transcript of an interview of L.M. by Glenda E.
Gill on June 28, 1980. Typescript, 5 p. (#7)

2. Photocopied galley proofs of a bibliography and
criticism of L.M. works by Ja A. Jahannes with
profuse holograph comments and corrections by
L.M. 8 p. (#7)

II. CORRESPONDENCE (1973-1985)

A. Correspondence received by L.M. 25 items filed
alphabetically by correspondent. (#8)

Alim, Marilyn Abdel (Tuskegee Institute) 1 TLS
5/25/83

MITCHELL, LOFTEN

Box 2

Branch, Bill 1 card signed (#8)
Brownridge, Ina 1 AN 6/10/82
Campbell, Dick Form letter signed 8/29/83
Cohen, Bernice (ASCAP) 1 TLS 3/15/83
Gaffield, Dick 1 TLS 8/21/85
Hay, Samuel A. (Morgan State University) 1 TLS
7/12/84 See also materials in 3/4
Henderson, Luther (songwriter) 1 TLS with
typescript lyrics of two songs by Deanna Fix
France 3/23/83
Hughes, Blanche Robert 2 TLS form letters 3/9/83
and 5/26/83
Jackson, Delilah ALS on card 5/18/85
Jahannes, Dr. Ja A. (Savannah State College) 1 TLS
5/13/83
Meltzer, Milton 1 ALS 4/19/84
Morris, James C. 1 AL with carbon typescript poetry
(11 p.) 8/10/83
Pollard, Freddie 1 card (signed)
Rosenberg, Max J. Photocopy TLS 4/10/73
Rowland, William 1 TLS 11/15/84
Scott, William (Oberlin College) 1 TLS 10/15/84
Stewart, Charlotte 1 TLS 6/3/83
Watts, Richard, Jr. 1 AN with L.M. typewritten
comments dated 10/10/85

B. Correspondence Sent by L.M.

One confirmation copy of a mailgram sent to
Ms. Cheryl Black (Rochester, N.Y.) (#8)

MITCHELL, LOFTEN

Box 2 C. Melvin L. Mitchell Correspondence

Letters received by Melvin Mitchell (L.M.'s son) in response to his talk before students at Westview Junior High (Miami, Florida), Feb. 1984. Also Melvin Mitchell's reply TLS 4/5/84, and a prefatory note by L.M. in his hand dated 10/9/85. 42 items. (#9)

III. PRINTED MATERIAL

Box 3 A. Newsclippings

1. Photocopies and clippings of articles by L.M. as they appeared in The New York Voice, including the L.M. column "The Little Cat." 31 items. (Box 3, #1)
2. Miscellaneous newsclippings including reviews of many L.M. plays. Ca. 35 items. (#2)

B. Publicity and Other Printed Material

1. Announcements, programs and invitations mostly relating to L.M. plays. 20 items. (#3)
2. Material associated with a national conference for Black American Protest Drama and Theatre held in April 1985 at Morgan State University. 5 items. (#5)
3. Various copies of various periodicals including the Afro-American and African Studies Newsletter (SUNY, Binghamton). 20 items. (#5)
4. Oversize document appointing L.M. as an official "Arkansas Traveler" dated Oct. 8, 1982. (#6)

IV. PHOTOGRAPHS

Five color and two black and white prints from two different performances of "Star of the Morning." (#7)

MITCHELL, LOFTEN

#847

ADDENDA

8/29/88

I. PRINTED MATERIAL

Box 3

A. News clippings/

1. clip. re: Bubbling Brown Sugar.
1 item. (#8)

B. Publicity

1. Announcement, program. re:
Bubbling Brown Sugar. 2 items.
(#8)