



## Dalhousie University Archives

### Finding Aid - Dark Night Theatre fonds (MS-3-45)

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# Dark Night Theatre fonds

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Dalhousie University Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Dark Night Theatre fonds
<b>Reference code:</b>	MS-3-45
<b>Date:</b>	1984-1993 (date of creation)
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Physical description:</b>	67 cm of textual records
<b>Note [generalNote]:</b>	Preferred citation: [Identification of item], Dark Night Theatre fonds, MS-3-45, Box [box number], Folder [folder number], Dalhousie University Archives and Special Collections, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

The Dark Night Theatre was established in January 1988 under the auspices of the Nova Scotia Drama League. It was a small informal group of writers, actors, and directors based in Halifax, Nova Scotia and it operated in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The mission of Dark Night Theatre was to promote interest in theatre, to develop and support writers (particularly those in Atlantic Canada), and to provide a forum for ongoing exchange of ideas and information.

Dark Night Theatre's primary activities involved script reading and critiquing. The group held weekly meetings each Monday at the Cunard Street Theatre, and later, the CBC Radio Room. The meetings were known as "ScripTease" and later, "Playwright's Corner." The reading series focused primarily on local theatrical works in development, but occasionally read plays of national or international significance. The group led to the creation of Upstart Theatre and had connections to the Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia.

### Custodial history

The fonds remained in the custody of L.H. Paris until it was donated to the Dalhousie University Archives in October, 2010.

## Scope and content

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This collection primarily consists of theatre and film scripts read during the "ScripTease" dramatic reading series or "Playwright's Corner." The fonds also contains some correspondence and administrative records and two catalogues of plays.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Restrictions on access

All records are open.

### Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

### Related material

See the Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia (MS-3-29).

### Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
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## Access points

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- Textual record (documentary form)
- Scripts (subject)
- Theaters--Nova Scotia--Halifax (subject)
- Theatrical companies--Canada (subject)
- Halifax (N.S.) (place)

## Collection holdings

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### **Series: Administrative records of the Dark Night Theatre**

Title: Administrative records of the Dark Night Theatre

Date: 1984-1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains correspondence, schedules, programs, and financial records of Dark Night Theatre. It also contains related materials from the Drama League of Nova Scotia, Upstart Theatre, and the Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia.

Physical description: 8 cm of textual records

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### **Item: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 1 - List of scripts**

Title: List of scripts

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 1

Date: 1988-1990 (date of creation)

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### **Item: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 2 - Playwright's Corner 1990/1991 Season**

Title: Playwright's Corner 1990/1991 Season

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 2

Date: 1990-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The first series of readings was presented in cooperation with the Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia as the "Off-Stage Readings Mini-Festival."

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### **Item: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 3 - ScripTease (Dramatic Reading Series)**

Title: ScripTease (Dramatic Reading Series)

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 3

Date: 1989-1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File also contains records involving the Playwright's Corner and a Dark Night Theatre financial summary.

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**Item: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 4 - Correspondence, schedules, programs, and financial records for Dark Night Theatre**

Title: Correspondence, schedules, programs, and financial records for Dark Night Theatre

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 4

Date: 1988-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains contents of a 3-ring binder; File also contains 1990 catalogue of plays from Playwright's Canada Press.

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**Item: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 5 - Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia Catalogue No. 4**

Title: Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia Catalogue No. 4

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 5

Date: 1989-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File also contains 1989 financial statements from the Nova Scotia Drama League; See File 2-6 for additional materials.

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**Item: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 6 - Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia Survival Kit No. 4**

Title: Dramatists' Cooperative of Nova Scotia Survival Kit No. 4

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 6

Date: 1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

See File 2-5 for additional materials.

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**Item: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 7 - Correspondence of the Play Selection Committee**

Title: Correspondence of the Play Selection Committee

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 7

Date: 1989-1990 (date of creation)

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**Item: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 20 - Poster for "Honey and White Blood" by Wanda Graham**

Title: Poster for "Honey and White Blood" by Wanda Graham

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 20

Date: 1992 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains poster for an Upstart Theatre production.

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**Series: Scripts**

Title: Scripts

Date: 1985-1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains scripts read during "ScriptTease" and the "Playwright's Corner."

Physical description: 59 cm of textual records

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 4 - "Eric" by Glenn Watson**

Title: "Eric" by Glenn Watson

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 4

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 5 - "Sand Boxes" by Shandi Mitchell**

Title: "Sand Boxes" by Shandi Mitchell

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 5

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 6 - "The Summer of the Piping Plover" by Catherine A. Banks**

Title: "The Summer of the Piping Plover" by Catherine A. Banks

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 6

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 7 - "The Summer of the Piping Plover" by Catherine A. Banks**

Title: "The Summer of the Piping Plover" by Catherine A. Banks

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 7

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains earlier draft of the play.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 8 - "The Professor's Ashes" and "The Hearing of Memory's Voice" by J.J. Steinfeld**

Title: "The Professor's Ashes" and "The Hearing of Memory's Voice" by J.J. Steinfeld

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 8

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 9 - "Remembrance Day" by Andrew Wetmore**

Title: "Remembrance Day" by Andrew Wetmore

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 9

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 10 - "Snake Sleep"**

Title: "Snake Sleep"



Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 10

Date: [1989?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Possibly by T.H. Hatte

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 11 - "A Woman's Got to Do..." by Christine Zinck**

Title: "A Woman's Got to Do..." by Christine Zinck

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 11

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 12 - "Danceland" by Glen Cairns**

Title: "Danceland" by Glen Cairns

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 12

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 13 - "Masquerade" by Aaron Bihari**

Title: "Masquerade" by Aaron Bihari

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 13

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 14 - "The Journey of the Fifth Horse" by Robert Ribman**

Title: "The Journey of the Fifth Horse" by Robert Ribman

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 1, Folder 14

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 1 - "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea" by John Patrick Shanley**

Title: "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea" by John Patrick Shanley

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 1

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 2 - "Automatic Pilot" by Erika Ritter**

Title: "Automatic Pilot" by Erika Ritter

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 2

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 3 - "Remembrance Day" by Andrew Wetmore**

Title: "Remembrance Day" by Andrew Wetmore

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 3

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains second draft of script.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 8 - "The Grace of Mary Traverse" by Timberlake Wertenbaker**

Title: "The Grace of Mary Traverse" by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 8

Date: 1985 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 9 - "Stragglers" by Eric Roland Martin**

Title: "Stragglers" by Eric Roland Martin

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 9

Date: [1985?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 10 - "Cecil and Cleopatra" by Daniel Libman**

Title: "Cecil and Cleopatra" by Daniel Libman

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 10

Date: 1989-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains two drafts of script.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 11 - "Resort: A Snapshot Revue in Twenty-Four Exposures" by Mark Blgrave**

Title: "Resort: A Snapshot Revue in Twenty-Four Exposures" by Mark Blgrave

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 11

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 12 - "By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept" by Elizabeth Smart; Edited by L.H. Paris and Renee Davis**

Title: "By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept" by Elizabeth Smart; Edited by L.H. Paris and Renee Davis

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 12

Date: 1991 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 13 - "Burning Times" by Marilyn Livingston**

Title: "Burning Times" by Marilyn Livingston

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 13

Date: [1991?] (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 14 - "October Memoir" by Moira Dann**

Title: "October Memoir" by Moira Dann

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 14

Date: 1992 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 15 - "Vertical Sidewalk" by John Davis**

Title: "Vertical Sidewalk" by John Davis

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 2, Folder 15

Date: 1993 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 1 - "Killing" by Claudia Gahlinger**

Title: "Killing" by Claudia Gahlinger

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 1

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 2 - "Jewel" by Joan MacLeod**

Title: "Jewel" by Joan MacLeod

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 2

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 3 - "Falling Hands" by Jonathan Campbell**

Title: "Falling Hands" by Jonathan Campbell

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 3

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 4 - "The Brides 'O Bras D'Or" by Vera L. Davison**

Title: "The Brides 'O Bras D'Or" by Vera L. Davison

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 4

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 5 - "From Dilemma to Delight" by Jackie Yarn**

Title: "From Dilemma to Delight" by Jackie Yarn

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 5

Date: [1990?] (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 6 - "The Lost Sea Gull" by Alice Walsh**

Title: "The Lost Sea Gull" by Alice Walsh

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 6

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 7 - "Happy 'Til I Met You" by Marnie Hay**

Title: "Happy 'Til I Met You" by Marnie Hay

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 7

Date: n.d. (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 8 - "Writing With Our Feet" by Dave Carley**

Title: "Writing With Our Feet" by Dave Carley

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 8

Date: 1991 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 9 - "The Swallow's Nest" by Christopher Majka**

Title: "The Swallow's Nest" by Christopher Majka

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 9

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 10 - "Sea Marks" by Gardner McKay**

Title: "Sea Marks" by Gardner McKay

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 10

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 11 - "The Christmas of Rat and Fox" by Paul Bourgeois**

Title: "The Christmas of Rat and Fox" by Paul Bourgeois

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 11

Date: 1986-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File also contains 12 poems written by Bourgeois in Canada, India, and Nepal.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 12 - "Letters to Julianna" by Ron Wheatley**

Title: "Letters to Julianna" by Ron Wheatley

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 12

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 13 - "Legal Games" by John A. Baker**

Title: "Legal Games" by John A. Baker

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 13

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 14 - "Inbetween Days" by Rob Plowman**

Title: "Inbetween Days" by Rob Plowman

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 14

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 15 - "Criminals in Love" by George F. Walker**

Title: "Criminals in Love" by George F. Walker

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 15

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 16 - "Gideon's Blues" by George Boyd**

Title: "Gideon's Blues" by George Boyd

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 16

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains script for a play that was first produced by Upstart Theatre in 1990 and then by Neptune Theatre.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 17 - "One in a Million" by T.H. Hatte**

Title: "One in a Million" by T.H. Hatte

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 17

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 18 - "David for Queen" by John Lazarus**

Title: "David for Queen" by John Lazarus

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 18

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 19 - "Moose Meat" by T.H. Hatte**

Title: "Moose Meat" by T.H. Hatte

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 3, Folder 19

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 1 - "The Strings of Hospitality" by Fara E. Spence**

Title: "The Strings of Hospitality" by Fara E. Spence

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 1

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 2 - "Memories of You" by Wendy Lill**

Title: "Memories of You" by Wendy Lill

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 2

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 3 - "Gravel run" by Conni Massing**

Title: "Gravel run" by Conni Massing

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 3

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 4 - "Dimetos" by Athol Fougard**

Title: "Dimetos" by Athol Fougard

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 4

Date: [1989?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains photocopies.

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 5 - "The Big Burp Blues" by Peter Smith and Brenda MacKenzie**

Title: "The Big Burp Blues" by Peter Smith and Brenda MacKenzie

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 5

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 6 - "The Gravediggers" by James MacSwan**

Title: "The Gravediggers" by James MacSwan

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 6

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 7 - "1935 Exhibition" by Arlo M. Moen**

Title: "1935 Exhibition" by Arlo M. Moen

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 7

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 8 - "Moving Day" by Lynn Ostergaard**

Title: "Moving Day" by Lynn Ostergaard

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 8

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 9 - "Dispossessed" by Paul Zann**

Title: "Dispossessed" by Paul Zann

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 9

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 10 - "Sweet Sue" by A.R. Gurney Jr.**

Title: "Sweet Sue" by A.R. Gurney Jr.

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 10

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 11 - "The Visitor" by Paul Gouett**

Title: "The Visitor" by Paul Gouett

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 11

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 12 - "Norma Jean and John" by John A. Baker**

Title: "Norma Jean and John" by John A. Baker

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 12

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 13 - "The Prophet of Tantramar" by Silver Donald Cameron**

Title: "The Prophet of Tantramar" by Silver Donald Cameron

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 13

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 14 - "Captain John Speaks" by Philip Milner**

Title: "Captain John Speaks" by Philip Milner

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 14

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 15 - "Misty Speaks" by Philip Milner**

Title: "Misty Speaks" by Philip Milner

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 15

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains three drafts of script

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 16 - "The Miss Who Couldn't Kid" by Jim Regan**

Title: "The Miss Who Couldn't Kid" by Jim Regan

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 16

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 17 - "Great Moral One" by Jonathan Campbell**

Title: "Great Moral One" by Jonathan Campbell

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 17

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 18 - "College Without Success" by Sarah Holland**

Title: "College Without Success" by Sarah Holland

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 18

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 19 - "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" by Charlene Gaetz**

Title: "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" by Charlene Gaetz

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 19

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

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**File: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 20 - "Moose Meat" by T.H. Hatte**

Title: "Moose Meat" by T.H. Hatte

Reference code: MS-3-45, Box 4, Folder 20

Date: 1988 (date of creation)

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