

Richard Montoya Papers

MS.2011.3

Finding aid prepared by Tracy Grimm

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 02, 2012

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

06/15/2011

230 McKenna Hall

Notre Dame , Midwest, 46556

574-631-7391

ilslib@nd.edu

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Related Materials</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5

Summary Information

Repository	Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies
Creator	Montoya, Richard
Title	Richard Montoya Papers
Date [inclusive]	2004-2010
Extent	0.5 Linear foot 1 document box and 2 dvds
General Physical Description note	Good
Language	English
Abstract	The Richard Montoya Papers cover a sampling of Montoya's work as an American playwright and as co-founder of the collective performance trio, Culture Clash. They include flyers, theater programs (including a Culture Clash 25 souvenir program), playbills, performance drafts, published playscripts, and recorded performances. Includes a digital copy of rare footage of a 1979 Sacramento, California poetry reading featuring Montoya's father, artist and poet José Montoya, Ricardo Sanchez, Lucia Corpi, and others.

Preferred Citation note

Researchers wishing to cite materials from this collection may use the following acknowledgement: [title of item], Richard Montoya Papers, Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.

Biographical/Historical note

Richard Montoya is an American playwright, actor, and co-founder of the collective performance trio, Culture Clash which was formed in 1984 in San Francisco. Born in 1959, Montoya is the son of well-known artist, poet, and activist José Montoya, a co-founder of the Chicano artistic collective known as the Royal Chicano Air Force. While growing up, Montoya witnessed his family's involvement in the civil rights movement and the United Farm Workers movement as artist activists. Richard Montoya continues that legacy through his career as a playwright and actor. Through comedy and satire, Montoya's writings relate real-life experiences of everyday people as they confront racism, discrimination, and the difficulties and dangers of living in the margins of American society and on the Mexico-U.S. border. He has co-authored several important works for the national stage and several published anthologies of plays. Among others, he has authored commissioned works for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage, the Mark Taper Forum, Yale Repertory, Huntington Theater, Berkeley Rep, the South Coast Repertory and the San Diego Repertory Theater. As a solo writer he has created "Water & Power", "Palestine New Mexico", "Anthems", "American Night" and "The River." Montoya is an alumni of Luis Valdez' Teatro Campesno and of the Sundance Institutes Writers and Directors Lab, as well as a two-time Annenberg Fellow. Montoya was also a staff writer on the critically acclaimed television show "Southland." He studied at California State University Sacramento and received certification from the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco.

Scope and Contents note

The Richard Montoya Papers provide a sampling of Montoya's artistic output as a member of the comedy troupe "Culture Clash" and as an American playwright who, through comedy and satire, addresses topics of human rights, racism, American culture, stereotypes, and current (first decade of the 21st century) prevalent issues revolving around the U.S.-Mexico border such as immigration and drug-related violence. The papers are housed in one document box and include three series: Manuscripts, Printed Material, and Media. The manuscripts include a performance draft and a proposal for a television series. Printed material includes several flyers, playbills, and theater programs from Montoya's and Culture Clash's productions as well as published plays. The media series includes recorded Culture Clash performances and a digital copy of a rare 1979 recording of a poetry reading in Sacramento, California featuring José Montoya, Ricardo Sanchez, Lucia Corpi and others. Of note is a related oral history interview conducted with Richard Montoya and his brother, Carlos Montoya, on April 20, 2011 as part of the Julian Samora Library's oral history program. The interview includes candid recollections of their childhood experiences and impressions in a household at the center of the civil rights and farm labor movement, movements in which their father, artist and poet José Montoya was deeply involved in. The interview recounts frequent

household visits and experiences with artists, poets, writers and activists (all close family friends) such as members of the Royal Chicano Air Force, Luis Valdez, Cesar Chavez, and Dolores Huerta.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies 06/15/2011

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

An oral history interview with Richard Montoya and brother Carlos Montoya was conducted on April 20, 2011 by the Julian Samora Library.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- American poetry--Mexican American authors

Personal Name(s)

- Montoya, José, b. 1932
- Montoya, Richard

Subject(s)

- Culture Clash (Comedy troupe)
- Mexican American theater
- Mexican Americans