

MG 623

Claude McKay Collection (Additions)
ca. 1912 - 1953

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Malcolm X Boulevard
New York, New York 10037-1801

Bulk Dates:	1912 - 1953
Extent:	Linear feet: 1/2 a.b.
Source and Date:	Various sources and dates
Processor's Name:	Rosalie P. Jeter
Date Finding Aid Completed:	1997
Processed:	
Abstract:	Claude McKay was born in Jamaica, West Indies on September 15, 1889. He grew up and attended high school in Jamaica. In 1912 he came to the United States as a student and attended both the Tuskegee Institute and Kansas State Agricultural College, where he studied agriculture. McKay began his writing career as he travelled about the United States working as a Pullman porter and dock hand. Known as one of the major artists of the Harlem Renaissance, at the time of his death on May 24, 1948 McKay was the author of many published and unpublished novels, manuscripts and poems. He counted among his works: <u>Banana Bottom</u>, <u>Banjo</u>, <u>Harlem Glory</u>, and "Note to Harlem". After many years as a self identified Communist, McKay became a practicing Catholic in 1942. The collection contains the galley for book, <u>Selected Poems of Claude McKay</u>. The introduction of this work is done by John Dewey, with a biographical sketch on McKay by Max Eastman. The correspondence in this collection consists mostly of letters from McKay to Simon Williamson, which trace the development of their friendship and its dissolution. Letters to Ruth Raphael, discuss McKay's health, writings and conversion to Catholicism, are also included. The news clippings are mostly obituaries on him and matters relating to the distribution of his literary papers. The general

	correspondence folder contains letters about "Bambara" magazine, a literary endeavor proposed during the Harlem Renaissance. McKay was to be the editor of the publication, with A. A. Schomburg as sponsor, and Harold Jackman as treasurer. Other items in the collection are, a poem by McKay, with editorial notes, entitled "Note to Harlem", along with a corrected typescript of <u>My Greenhills of Jamaica</u> .
Provenance:	The collection was donated to the Schomburg Center.
Organization note:	Collection is organized in one series.
Access:	Unrestricted access
Reproductions:	All requests subject to limitations noted in divisional policies on reproduction.
Copyright:	No copyright information available.
Other Source of Description:	RLIN #: NYPW.....
Citation:	[Item], Claude McKay Collection (Additions) , Sc MG 623, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library
Index Terms	
Names:	
Subject:	

Container List

Box **Folder**

Correspondence

- 1 General, 1919-1944
- 2 Simon Williamson, 1941-1945
- 3 Ruth Raphael, 1942-1945
- 4 Corrected Transcript of My Green Hills of Jamaica
- 5 Galley for Selected Poems of Claude McKay
- 6 Bibliography, Reviews, Transcript and Writings
- 7 “Russian Reactions”
- 8 Clippings and News Articles, 1945-1953
- 9 Contracts