

FINDING AID FOR THE LOFTEN MITCHELL COLLECTION

Beth Turcy Kilmarx

Binghamton University, State University of New York

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Contact Information

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Title

The Loften Mitchell Collection

ID**Extent**

4.5 linear ft

Repository

Binghamton University, State University of New York University Libraries, Special Collections
Binghamton, NY 13902-6012

Abstract

Loften Mitchell, a renowned African American playwright and former faculty member in Binghamton University's Departments of Theater and Afro-American Studies, began donating his papers to the University Libraries in 1980, and he continued to do so until 1985. The Loften Mitchell Collection spans several decades from 1938 to 1985, and includes playscripts, reviews, production notes, lecture notes, personal correspondence, and memorabilia. The Loften Mitchell Collection was first organized by Richard Gannon, Associate Librarian, and Lisa Solo, a student intern. The original finding aid was completed by Ms. Solo in 1987. The entire collection was reorganized, and the finding aid revised and edited by Beth Turcy Kilmarx, Assistant for Special Collections and Preservation, in 1995.

Binghamton University LibrariesSpecial CollectionsState University of New Yorkat Binghamton

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: LOFTEN MITCHELL

Personal

1919 Born April 15, 1919, Columbus, North Carolina.
1943-? Served in the US Navy during World War II.
1948 Married Helen March.

1992 Married Gloria Anderson.

Education

1937-1938 City College, New York, New York.

1943 BA, Talladega College.

1951 MA, Columbia University.
Union Theological Seminary.

Career

1938-1939 Performed with the Rose McClendon Players.

1950-1962 Actor in New York, New York. Writer of the weekly program *The Later Years*, WNYC-Radio.

1954 Writer of daily program *Friendly Advisor*, WWRL-Radio.

1955 *Star of the Morning* opened in Cleveland, Ohio.

1957 *A Land Beyond the River* opened at the Greenwich Mews Theatre.

1967 *Black Drama: the Story of the American Negro in the Theatre* published.

1967 *Tell Pharaoh* opened at the Golden Theatre, Queens, College, New York, New York.

1975 *Voices of the Black Theatre* published.

1975 *Bubbling Brown Sugar* performed by the AMAS Repertory Theatre.

1971-1985 Professor, Department of Theater and Department of African-American Studies, State University of New York at Binghamton.

1985- Professor emeritus.

1993 *The Stubborn Old Lady who Resisted Change* published; *The Complete Works of Lofton Mitchell* published.

Major Awards

1958-1959 Guggenheim Award.

1974 Playwriting award, Research Foundation, State University of New York.

1976 *Bubbling Brown Sugar*, nominated for a Tony Award for Best Musical.

1977 *Bubbling Brown Sugar*, Best Musical of the Year Award.

1979 Outstanding Theatrical Pioneer Award.

Access: Unrestricted

BTK 3/25/96

FINDING AID INDEX

Container Title

Film, Theater and Television Scripts

Box 1 Plays A-C

Box 2 Plays D-O

Box 3	Plays P-S
Box 4	Plays T-V
	Loften Mitchell's Writings
Box 5	Articles Monographs Poems Speeches Miscellaneous writings
Box 6	Incoming correspondence, 1941-1985 and undated
Box 7	>Outgoing correspondence, 1963-1984 and undated
Box 8	Third party correspondence, 1946-1985 and undated
Box 9	Biographical materials
Box 10	Business materials
Box 11	Miscellaneous materials Oversized materials

CONTAINER LIST

Part 1

Box	Item	Contents
BOX 1		Film, Theater, and Television Scripts
	Item: 1.	<i>Ballad of a Blackbird</i> , copy 1, undated, photocopy.
	2.	<i>Ballad of a Blackbird</i> , copy 2, undated, photocopy.
	3.	<i>Ballad of a Blackbird</i> , copy 1, 2/25/80, photocopy.
	4.	<i>Ballad of a Blackbird</i> , copy 2, 2/25/80, title page is missing, photocopy.
	5.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , outline, June 28, 1981, photocopy.
Box 12	6.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , lyrics, undated, photocopy.
	7.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , rewrite, July 20, 1981, photocopy.
	8.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , partial copy 1, pgs. 3, 20-89, photocopy.
	9.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , partial copy 2, pgs. 1-2-1 to 1-2-7, typescript original.
	10.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , partial copy 3, pgs. 7-14 photocopy.
	11.	<i>Barbados, a Ballad for Bimshire</i> , partial copy 3, pgs. 1-2-1 to 1-2-8, typescript original.
	12.	<i>Black Cavalcade</i> , outline for six television movies about theatrical pioneers, copy 1, 1980, photocopy.
	13.	<i>Black Cavalcade</i> , outline for six television movies about theatrical pioneers, copy 2, 1980?, photocopy.
	14.	<i>Bubbling Brown Sugar</i> , first draft, 1975, photocopy.
	14a.	<i>Bubbling Brown Sugar</i> , 1985, published script.

15. Cartoons for a Lunch Hour, 1978, photocopy.
 16. Cartoons for a Lunch Hour, January 1979, typescript original.
 17. *Cartoons for a Lunch Hour*, partial copy, pgs. 1-28, typescript original.
 18. *Carver*, lyrics for "My Friend Booker T.", undated, photocopy.
See BOX 12 for accompanying oversized musical scores for Items 18-20.
 19. *Carver*, lyrics for "Peanut Man", undated, photocopy.
See BOX 12 for accompanying oversized musical scores for Items 18-20.
 20. *Carver*, lyrics for "Thru the Years, I will Remain with You", undated, photocopy.
See BOX 12 for accompanying oversized musical scores for Items 18-20.
 21. City Called Harlem, undated, photocopy.
- BOX 2
1. *A Gypsy Girl*, Act I, first draft plus notes, May 9, 1982, photocopy.
 2. *A Gypsy Girl*, Act II, May 9, 1982, photocopy.
 3. *A Gypsy Girl*, Pine Buff version, October 7, 1982, photocopy.
 4. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, undated, typescript original.
 5. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, undated, photocopy.
 6. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, pgs. 1-3-14 to 2-2-22, March 17, 1982, photocopy.
 7. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, pgs. 1-1-1-1 to 1-1-6, undated, photocopy.
 8. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, pgs. 1-1-2 to 1-1-25, 1-14-19 to 1-4-21, undated, photocopy.
 9. *A Gypsy Girl*, partial copy, March 17, 1982, photocopy.
 10. *Her Stormy Weather, Scenes in the Life of Ethel Waters*, first draft, 1/16/82, photocopy.
 11. *Her Stormy Weather, Scenes in the Life of Ethel Waters*, copy 2, undated, photocopy.
 12. *I'm Sorry*, undated, typescript original, script was first titled *A City of Tears*.
- BOX 3
1. *The Phonograph, Scenes in the Life of a Harlem Family*, undated, photocopy.
 2. *The Phonograph, Scenes in the Life of a Harlem Family*, signed copy, November 13, 1980, photocopy.
 3. *Sojourn to the South of the Wall*, copy 1, March 25, 1971, photocopy.
 4. *Sojourn to the South of the Wall*, copy 2, March 25, 1971, photocopy.
 5. *Sojourn to the South of the Wall*, Act II of an early script, May 28, 1979, photocopy.
 6. *Sojourn to the South of the Wall*, November 8, 1983 script version, photocopy.
 7. *A Song for Langston Hughes*, undated, typescript original.

8. *Star of the Morning*, discarded page, **undated**, typescript original.
9. *Star of the Morning*, **April 1984**, photocopy.
- BOX 4
1. *Tell Pharaoh*, copy 1, **undated**, typescript original and photocopies interleaved.
2. *Tell Pharaoh*, copy 2, **undated**, photocopy.
3. *Tell Pharaoh*, pgs. 28-41, **undated**, photocopy.
4. *Tell Pharaoh*, pgs. 1-5, **undated**, typescript original.
5. *Tell Pharaoh*, copy 3, **1981?**, typescript originals and photocopies interleaved.
6. *Tell Pharaoh*, copy 4, copyright 1967, **1978**, photocopy.
7. *Tell Pharaoh*, copy 5, 1970 copyright, photocopy.
8. *Tell Pharaoh*, lyrics, **undated**, typescript original.
9. *Together! A Carver Celebration*, copy 1, **August 10, 1979**, photocopy.
10. *Together! A Carver Celebration*, copy 2, **August 10, 1979**, photocopy.
11. *The Vampires of Harlem*, **1972**, photocopy.

BOX 5

Loften Mitchell's Writings

Articles

1. An Anglican from Harlem, in *The Episcopalian*, **undated**, photocopy.
2. A day with the Robinsons, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **1982**, typescript original.
3. Death of a beloved friend, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **undated**, typescript original.
4. The times are evil, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **undated**, carbon copy.
5. Upstate, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **undated**, typescript original.
6. untitled, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **1979**, typescript original.
7. untitled, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **October 20, 1979**, carbon copy.
8. The Little Cat talks about the Pulitzer Prize and the price of programs, The Little Cat, in *The New York Voice*, **1982?**, typescript original.
9. The Little Cat, in *The Village Voice*, 20 newspaper clippings from **June 23, 1978 - July 7, 1979, and 1 undated** photocopy.
10. Memories of the NAACP, **summer 1981**, prepared for publication in *The Crisis*, but never published, typescript original.
11. Season is now: review of two plays, in *The Crisis*, **January/February 1967**.

Monographs

12. Clarendon County, section I, copy 1, signed, **1958**, carbon copy.
13. Clarendon County, section I. copy 2. missing page 6.

carbon copy.

14. Negro spettacolo, in *Encyclopedia Dello Spettacolo*, undated, typescript original.
15. The Negro in the American theater since 1948, in the *Oxford Theater*, undated, typescript original.
16. untitled chapter in *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*, January 1982, typescript original.
17. *Voices of the Black Musical Theatre*, chapters 1-2, undated, photocopy.
18. *Voices of the Black Musical Theatre*, revised copies of chapters 1-2, photocopy.

Poems 1938-1978

19. "Jeanne", 1945, holograph.
20. "For Louisa", by Mitchell, France, and Peters, undated, typescript original.
21. "Harlem Allegory", undated, typescript original.
22. untitled, 3 copies, undated, photocopy.
23. untitled, undated, typescript original.

Speeches 1972-1982

24. "The theatre of my dreams", for the Emanuel Peterson Historical Society, undated, carbon copy.
25. "A Harlem playwright views Afro-American Studies", Plattsburgh, 1972, carbon copy.
26. untitled, given at the 3rd Annual Community Awards Banquet, April 24, 1982, holograph.
27. "Father Langston, memories of a great writer", given at the twelfth anniversary of the Langston Hughes Library and the Black Heritage Center, signed copy, copy 1, April 26, 1981, photocopy.
28. "Father Langston, memories of a great writer", given at the twelfth anniversary of the Langston Hughes Library and the Black Heritage Center, signed copy, copy 2, April 26, 1981, photocopy.

Miscellaneous Writings

29. Death of a social investigator, undated, typescript original.
30. For David Rollius: memories of an extended brother, undated, typescript original.
31. Hosea Spaulding, 1891-1975, undated, carbon copy.
32. The Lightning, November 14, 1985, photocopy.
33. Notes on a collection, October 16, 1985, copy 1, photocopy.
34. Notes on a collection, October 16, 1985, copy 2, photocopy.
35. Notes on a forthcoming production, 1983?, copy 1, photocopy.
36. Notes on a forthcoming production, 1983?, copy 2, photocopy.
37. Notes on *Tell Pharaoh*, undated, photocopy.

38. Personal notes on a writing course, **undated (circa 1970)**, photocopy.
39. The Vampires of Harlem, **undated**, photocopy.
40. untitled, **undated**, photocopy.

BOX 6

Incoming Correspondence

1941-1969

1. Houston Brummet, **April 29, 1963**, carbon copy.
2. Houston Brummet, **May 6, 1963**, typescript original.
3. Andrew Burris, **1942**, holograph, addendum by Loften Mitchell, **June 10, 1982**, holograph.
4. Buel G. Gallagherr, **February 25, 1943**, typescript original.
5. A.C. Hall, **December 1945**, holograph.
6. Richard Horner, **March 13, 1963**, typescript original.
7. State Senator Wyona Moore Lipman, **April 14, 1941**, holograph.
8. Mel, **June 3, 1945**, holograph.
9. Bro Melvin, **August 8, 1963**, holograph.
10. Louis D. Mitchell, **June 26, 1969**, typescript original.
11. Stanford Melvin Mitchell, **October 7, 1942**, holograph.
12. Sut, **September 25, 1943**, holograph.
13. W.L. Suttle, **March 5, 1943**, typescript, original.

1973-78

14. Brooks Atkinson, **October 20, 1973**, photocopy.
15. Beir, **November 4, 1977**, holograph.
16. Alfred G. Brooks, **May 27, 1976**, photocopy.
17. Brother Louis, **September 30, 1975**, typescript original.
18. Claude Brov/Patrick Farrell, **March 1976?**, typescript original.
19. Louise Canty, **March 3, 1976**, typescript original.
20. Jean Ackiss Davis, **March 18, 1976**, holograph.
21. Betty C. Edwards, **March 2, 1976**, holograph.
22. Harriet G. Eston, **February 22, 1976**, holograph.
23. Charles and Irene Hunter, **March 5, 1976**, holograph.
24. C. Peter Magrath, **September 24, 1974**, typescript original.
25. Eleanor F. McLean, **March 14, 1976**, holograph.
26. R. Baxter Miller, **August 11, 1975**, typescript original.
27. Jack Quander, **February 4, 1976**, typescript original.
28. M. David Samples, **March 10, 1976**, holograph.
29. Pat Speyser, **August 4, 1974**, holograph.
30. Amelia Irijarry Voorsaugy, **March 18, 1976**, holograph.
31. Paul B. Zuber, **December 4, 1978**, typescript original.

1980-1981

32. Phillip W. Atlakson, **September 8, 1981**, typescript original.
 33. Dolores Bartlett, **November 11, 1981**, typescript original.
 34. Gladys Blair, **June 30, 1981**, typescript original.
 35. William B. Branch, **November 9, 1981**, typescript original.
 36. Ina C. Brownridge, **November 20, 1981**, typescript original.
 37. Ina C. Brownridge, **December 22, 1981**, typescript original.
 38. Carl P. Coates (student), **September 16, 1981**, holograph.
 39. Bernice Cohen, **October 22, 1981**, typescript original.
 40. Joel Colton, **April 22, 1981**, photocopy.
 41. Joseph E. Dahm, **November 11, 1981**, typescript original.
 42. Dick, **October 28, 1980**, typescript original.
 43. J.N.G. Joseph Nathan Gayles, **April 27, 1981**, holograph.
 44. Earl G. Graves, **July 29, 1981**, typescript original.
 45. Sheldon Grebstein, **July 28, 1981**, typescript original.
 46. Marion Hanscom, **November 18, 1981**, typescript original.
 47. Ja Arthur Jahannes, **December 18, 1981**, typescript original. Addendum: reply from Loften Mitchell, **March 17, 1982**, typescript original.
 48. John, **July 30, 1981**, typescript original.
 49. Office of Sponsored Program Development, **December 28, 1981**, typescript original.
 50. Max T. Rosenberg, **July 31, 1981**, typescript original.
 51. Rosie, **November 11, 1981**, typescript original.
 52. Sally and William, **October 14, 1981**, holograph.
 53. David E. Schoonover, **November 20, 1981**, typescript original.
 54. Leon P. Spencer, **March 2, 1981**, holograph.
 55. Lucy M. Walker, **December 21, 1981**, typescript original. Addendum: reply from Loften Mitchell, **February 10, 1982**, typescript original.
 56. William H. White, **February 8, 1980**, typescript original.
 57. David Wilk, **September 1981**, typescript original.
- 1982**
58. Jervis Anderson, **June 18, 1982**, typescript original.
 59. George H. Bass, **May 25, 1982**, typescript original.
 60. Cynthia Reasoner Bassiry, AKA Erica Copeland and Najima Bassiry, **July 1, 1981**, typescript original.
 61. John Bielenberg, **April 26, 1982**, typescript original.

- 61a. John Bielenberg, [June 3, 1982](#), photocopy.
62. Bill, [December 8, 1982](#), typescript original.
63. Brother Louis, [September 14, 1982](#), typescript original and photo of Brother Louis.
64. Mary Lynn Broe, [March 8, 1982](#), holograph.
65. Janet Brown, [February 16, 1982](#), typescript original.
66. Ina C. Brownridge, [September 22, 1982](#), holograph.
67. Hazel Bryant and Duane Jones, [April 30, 1982](#), typescript original.
68. Dick Campbell, [June 22, 1982](#), typescript original.
69. Horace Carter, [August 13, 1982](#), typescript original.
70. Arlene Caruso, [April 28, 1982](#), typescript original.
71. Clifford D. Clark, [March 25, 1982](#), typescript original.
72. Clifford D. Clark, [October 22, 1982](#), typescript original.
73. Bernice Cohen, [April 27, 1982](#), typescript original.
74. Juanita M. Crabb, [June 15, 1982](#), typescript original.
75. Ossie Davis, [July 20, 1982](#), holograph.
76. Elton C. Fax, [February 12, 1982](#), typescript original.
77. Walter Gidaly, [December 23, 1982](#), typescript original.
78. Dean David Gitlitz, [January 15, 1982](#), holograph.
79. Ronald J. Himes, [Nov. 15, 1982](#), typescript original.
80. Ja A. Jahannes, [January 6, 1982](#), typescript original.
81. Ja A. Jahannes, [May 7, 1982](#), typescript original.
82. Ja A. Jahannes, [August 24, 1982](#), typescript original.
83. Ja A. Jahannes, [September 22, 1982](#), typescript original.
84. Ja A. Jahannes, [November 18, 1982](#), typescript original.
85. John, [March 7, 1982](#), typescript original.
86. Elaine Kuracina, [October 15, 1982](#), holograph and newsclipping.
87. Kim and Robert Little, [summer 1982](#), holograph.
88. Louis, [May 11, 1982](#), typescript original.
89. Louis, [June 3, 1982](#), typescript original.
90. Marjorie K. McNeil, [September 2, 1982](#), typescript original.
91. The Right Reverend Paul Moore, Jr., [April 28, 1982](#), typescript original.
92. Donald P. O'Dowd, [February 11, 1982](#), typescript original.
93. Frederick O'Neal, [September 21, 1982](#), postcard/holograph.
- 93a. Frank Pogue, [March 4, 1982](#), photocopy.
94. Cynthia A. Reasoner, [May 20, 1982](#), typescript original. Addendum: Note, [May 14, 1982](#), typescript

and holograph.

- 95. Max J. Rosenberg, **June 18, 1982**, typescript original.
- 96. Sister, **April 27, 1982**, holograph.
- 97. George H. Stein, **January 4, 1982**, typescript original.
- 98. Ric Wellwood, **November 3, 1982**, typescript original.

1983

- 99. Frank Avellino, **March 17, 1983**, holograph.
- 100. John Bielenberg, **February 4, 1983**, typescript original.
- 101. Cheryl Black, **April 29, 1983**, typescript original.
- 102. Carole B. Davies, **March 8, 1983**, typescript original.
- 103. Claude Fawcett, **February 16, 1983**, typescript original.
- 104. Howard Gottlieb, **August 18, 1983**, typescript original.
- 105. Rodger Allen Hall, **January 12, 1983**, typescript original.
- 106. Ja A. Jahannes, **February 10, 1983**, typescript original.
- 107. Ja A. Jahannes, **March 16, 1983**, typescript original.
Addendum: Brochure from the Tenth Annual National Conference on the Black Family in America.
- 108. ASJ, **September 21, 1983**, holograph. Addendum: Note from Lofton Mitchell.
- 109. Denise Josephs, **July 27, 1983**, typescript original.
- 110. Susan Kinelson, **May 18, 1983**, holograph.
- 111. Jerry Lapidus, **March 7, 1983**, typescript original.
- 112. Kenneth A. Marvald, **May 2, 1983**, typescript original.
- 113. Mical, **May 1, 1983**, holograph.
- 114. Henry Miller, **January 18, 1983**, typescript original.
- 115. Newton, **March 3, 1983**, holograph.
- 115a. Frederick O'Neal, **October 6, 1983**, photocopy.
- 115b. Carole Powell, **July 26, 1983**, holograph.
- 115c. Toy Cooke Thompson, **December 1983**, holograph.

1984

- 116. William Branch, **January 28, 1984**, typescript original.
- 117. Ja A. Jahannes, **April 23, 1984**, typescript original.
- 118. Eva Jessye, **January 9, 1984**, typescript original.
- 119. Eva Jessye, **March 23, 1984**, typescript original.
Addendum: Photocopied award of Jessye's poem.
- 120. Milton Meltzer, **January 3, 1984**, typescript original.
- 121. Ray, **May 17, 1984**, typescript original.
- 122. Audrey Smedley, **November 29, 1984**, typescript original. Addendum: Booklet on Paul Robeson.
- 123. Percy Sutton, **August 28, 1984**, typescript original.
- 124. Scott L. Ufford, **January 25, 1984**, typescript original.

1985

- 125. Lucille Arazullo, **February 7, 1985**, holograph.

- 126. Henri Brown, **April 1, 1985**, typescript original.
- 127. Henri Brown, **July 29, 1985**, typescript original.
- 128. Virginia Caufield, **April 29, 1985**, holograph.
- 129. Clifford Clark, **April 10, 1985**, typescript original.
- 130. Juanita M. Crabb, **March 28, 1985**, typescript original.
- 131. Dick Gaffield, **May 22, 1985**, holograph.
- 132. Dick Gaffield, **August 27**, typescript original.
- 133. Mo'nique Gooding, **September, 10, 1985**, holograph.
- 134. Samuel A. Hay, **April 25, 1985**.
- 135. Lizzette Hill, **April 30, 1965**, holograph.
- 136. John and Grace Killens, **August 1985**, holograph.
- 137. Bill Johnson, **May 1985**, holograph.
- 138. Herbert Marshall, **April 12, 1985**, photocopy.
- 139. Norman (Gene) Niles (?), **August 1985**, holograph.
- 140. Steve Park, **April 26, 1985**, holograph.
- 140a. John and Sarah Randolph, **July, 15, 1985**, holograph and flyer.
- 141. Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation of Greater New York, **July 1985**, photocopy.
- 142. Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation of Greater New York, **August 20, 1985**, photograph. Addendum: newspaper article concerning Apollo Theater Hall of Fame nominees (*The New York Voice*, **August 17, 1985**).
- 143. George Stein, **May 1, 1985**, typescript original.

Undated

- 144. Jerri Alexander, holograph on a brochure.
 - 145. Bill, holograph on back of invitation.
 - 146. Carol Dale, holograph.
 - 147. Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, signed portrait.
 - 148. Francesca, holograph.
 - 149. Gloria, holograph.
 - 150. Bill Johnson, holograph.
 - 151. Steve Koren, holograph.
 - 152. Mel Leiman, holograph.
 - 153. Michael D. Quinn, holograph on back of playbill.
 - 154. Betsy Reinstein, holograph.
 - 155. Adele T. Rosen, holograph.
 - 156. Roy, (James T. White Publisher), holograph.
 - 157. Aaron Sugarman, holograph.
 - 158. Vernon Washington, holograph and photocopy.
- Greeting Cards **1947-1976 and undated**
- 159. Lenore Wheatly, **January 25, 1947**, an envelope, no actual card.
 - 160. Agnes, **August, 1974**.
 - 161. Louise Canty, **August, 1974**.

162. Jerry Averette, **August 5, 1974.**
163. Sister, **August 6, 1974.**
164. Nan, **August 10, 1974.**
165. Sarah Wright, **August 11, 1974.**
166. Connie Brown Bodyer, **February 3, 1976.**
167. Mother, **undated.**
168. Gloria Munoz, **undated.**
169. Gloria Munoz, **undated.**
170. Board of Directors, Library Action Committee or Corona-East Elmhurst, and the Langston Hughes Community Library and Cultural Center, **undated.**
171. Don, Jeanne, Joanne and Chuck, **undated.**
172. Ron Wiggins, **undated.**
173. Helen Steiner Rice, **undated.**
174. Doug and Sally Owen, **undated.**
175. Fritzie, **undated.**
176. Jay et al., **undated.**
177. Jeanne, **undated.**

1963-1971

1. Dr. Brummet, **April 30, 1963**, carbon copy.
2. Edward Cambridge, **April 22, 1963**, photocopy.
3. Ann and Ed Carpenter, **February 18, 1971**, carbon copy.
4. Ann and Ed Carpenter, **February 18, 1971**, carbon copy.
5. Unknown (*Star of the Morning?*), **April 23, 1963**, carbon copy.

1976-1978

6. Charles and Irene, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
7. Connie, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
8. Carol Dale, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
9. Dave, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
10. Dick, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
11. Ed, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
12. Patric Farrell, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
13. Harriet, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
14. Maya, **March 20, 1976**, carbon copy.
15. Elmer Zinner, **July 19, 1978**, photocopy.

1980-1981

16. Warren Anderson, **November 11, 1981**, carbon copy.
17. John Bielenberg and Professor Muhammad, **September 22, 1981**, typescript original.
18. Bill, **November 10, 1981**, carbon copy.
19. Campus Security, **October 8, 1981**, carbon copy.
20. Richard Cuyler, **October 26, 1980**, photocopy and carbon copy cover letter

21. Marion Hanscom, **November 11, 1981**, carbon copy.
22. Melinda Hull, **June 24, 1981**, photocopy.
23. Innovational Project Board, **January 29, 1981**, carbon copy.
24. Innovational Project Board, **October 4, 1980**, carbon copy.
25. Edward Kennedy, **November 11, 1981**, carbon copy.
26. Barbara Lawler and cast, **February 25, 1981**, carbon copy.
27. Dan McCormack, **October 3, 1980**, carbon copy.
28. Sidney Poitier, **November 1, 1981**, carbon copies (2).
29. Pearl Primus, **October 10, 1980**, carbon copy.
30. Mr. Quackenbush, **November 12, 1981**, carbon copy.
31. Albert Stella, **November 11, 1981**, carbon copy.
32. Vernon Washington, **March 8, 1981**, photocopy.
33. Larry Williams and Glen Belgrave, **October 7, 1981**, typescript original.
34. Unknown (re: Patricia Whittaker), **October 22, 1981**, carbon copy.
35. Unknown (Mr. President), **November 11, 1981**, carbon copy.

1982

36. John Bielenberg, **May 26, 1982**, carbon copy.
37. John Bielenberg and Dr. Mohammad, **May 26, 1982**, photocopy.
38. Ina Brownridge, **February 2, 1982**, carbon copy.
39. Circle-in-the-Square Theatre School, **February 3, 1982**, carbon copy.
40. Clifford Clark, **April 8, 1982**, carbon copy.
41. Debby Epstein, **March 11, 1982**, carbon copy.
42. Ja A. Jahannes, **June 8, 1982**, carbon copy.
43. Tom Kremer, **March 1, 1982**, carbon copy.
44. Michael (Pelter?), **May 22, 1982**, carbon copy.
45. Frank Pogue, **March 11, 1982**, carbon copy.
46. Cynthia Reasoner, **May 26, 1982**, carbon copy and **May 27, 1982**, typescript copy.
47. David E. Schoonover, **February 2, 1982**, carbon copy.
48. George Stein, **February 2, 1982**, carbon copy.
49. William White and Ray McGill, **May 21, 1982**, carbon copy.
50. To whom it may concern (re: George Brown), **May 4, 1982**, carbon copy and undated typescript original.
51. To whom it may concern (re: Kimberly Ann Constine), **March 31, 1982**, typescript original.
52. To whom it may concern (re: Eva Dunbar), **February 3, 1982**, typescript original.
53. To whom it may concern (re: Michael Pelter), **May 21, 1982**, carbon copies (2).

54. To whom it may concern (re: Clarissa Robinson), **February 5, 1982**, carbon copy.
 55. To whom it may concern (re: Bernardo Rosa Jr.), **April 6, 1982**, carbon copy.
 56. Unknown, **September 29, 1982**, typescript original.
- 1983**
57. John Bielenberg and Audrey Smedley, **May 20, 1983**, typescript original.
 58. Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, **July/August 1983?**, carbon copy.
 59. Kari, **January 12, 1983**, holograph on envelope and *Bubbling Brown Sugar* tour schedules of rehearsals, performances, and travel times.
 60. Denise Josephs, **August 8, 1983**, photocopy.
 61. Kenneth Marvald, **May 6, 1983**, carbon copy.
 62. Kenneth Marvald, **August 8, 1983**, photocopy.
 63. Rory Monteith, **April 29, 1983**, holograph on manila envelope.
 64. Scott Ufford, **August 8, 1983**, photocopy.
 65. Open letter to the Playwriting and Performance Media classes, **May 9, 1983**, carbon copy.
- 1984-1985**
66. John Bielenberg and Audrey Smedley, carbon copy, **November 23, 1984**.
 67. Ralph Greene, **February 7, 1984**, carbon copy.
 68. Christian P. Gruber, **April 24, 1984**, photocopy.
 69. Donovan Howard, **May 17, 1984**, carbon copy.
 70. Donovan Howard, **May 22, 1984**, carbon copy.
 71. Herbert Marshall, **May 21, 1985**, typescript original.
 72. Unknown, **June 28, 1985**, photocopy.
 73. Unknown, **November 16, 1985**, carbon copy.
- Undated**
74. Debbie, holograph.
 75. Woodie, holograph.

Part 2

BOX 8

Third Party Correspondence

1946-1982

1. William Branch to Kwame Botwe Asamoah, **October 15, 1981**, photocopy.
2. William Branch to George R. Brown, **2/1/1982**, photocopy.
3. Virginia Brieant to Arthur K. Smith, **12/29/1981**, photocopy.
4. Ina Brownridge to Vivian Robinson, **June 16, 1982**, carbon copy.

5. Broadus N. Butler to Louis D. Mitchell, **August 7, 1975**, carbon copy.
6. Curtis E. Claymont to Max Elsen, **March 20, 1979**, photocopy. Addendum: photocopy of *Miami Times* review of *Carver*.
7. Ossie Davis to Joint Awards Council, **October 31, 1973**, typescript original.
8. Alex Dupuy to Friends/Colleagues, **February 10, 1982**, typescript original.
9. Debby Epstein to Pat Misciagna, **March 1, 1982**, carbon copy.
10. Donald C. Farber to Ann Elmo, **November 1, 1979**, photocopy.
11. Walter Gidaly to J. Lloyd Grant, **June 16, 1982**, photocopy.
12. Margaret Halliwell to the People's Theatre, **March 1, 1946**, typescript original.
- 12a. James Hatch to Joel Colton, **February 9, 1981**, photocopy.
13. Curtis L. King to members of the Junior Black Academy of Arts & Letters, **September 7, 1982**, photocopy. Addendum: photocopy of *Dallas Times Herald*, **July 22, 1982** article about Curtis King.
14. Louis F. McAuley to Trudy Cobb, **April 13, 1982**, photocopy.
15. Burgess Meredith to Barret Clark, **circa November 11, 1946**, telegram carbon copy. Addendum: note from L.M. Mitchell **dated June 10, 1982**.
16. Louis D. Mitchell to Lucy M. Walker, **September 14, 1982**, photocopy.
17. Leyzatta Morris (?), **circa early 1940's**, holograph.
18. John T. Reilly to The Research Foundation/SUNY Binghamton, **July 30, 1981**, photocopy.
19. Dyann Robinson to Arline Cone, **January 30, 1979**, typescript original.
20. Barbara Schultz to the American Literary Exchange, **September 27, 1968**, photocopy.
21. Carole Stacy and Nicholas Sterling to Clifford Clark, **October 19, 1982**, photocopy.
22. Vernon Washington to the

Editor, 2/17/81, photocopy.

1983-1985

23. William Branch to Sydney Grusm, January 21, 1984, photocopy.
24. Dick Campbell to invitees of the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation, July 1, 1983, photocopy.
25. Dick Campbell to Friends of the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation, August 29, 1983.
26. Ralph E. Greene to the American Literary Exchange, January 23, 1984, typescript original. Addendum: page of *Tell Pharaoh*, photocopy.
27. Frederick O'Neal to Friend, January 4, 1985, photocopy.
28. Daniel W. Spaulding to Cousins, January 20, 1984, photocopy.
29. Lhezia Thompson to Gladys Blair, April 15, 1983, typescript original.
30. A.S. to AAAS faculty, December 13, 1984, memo carbon copy.
31. A.S. to AAAS faculty, March 8, 1985, memo carbon copy.

Undated

32. Bill Mitchell to Friend of the NAACP, photocopy.
33. Asa T. Spaulding to Spaulding Family Member, photocopy.

Telegrams/Mailgrams

Incoming

34. John and Grace Killins, telegram, August 4, 1974.
35. Chicha Berman, telegram, March 2, 1976.
36. Ruby and Ossie, telegram, March 2, 1976.
37. Billy Reed, telegram, March 2, 1976.
38. Irving Burgie, telegram, March 2, 1976.
39. Sam and Phyllis Schatsky, March 2, 1976.
40. The Tell Pharaoh Co., Brooklyn Center, Long Island University, March 2, 1976.
41. Joan and Eddie, telegram, March 2, 1976.
42. Leon Summit, telegram, March 2, 1976.
43. Farth and Elmer Zinner, mailgram, March 20, 1976.
44. Ted Kennedy, October 23, 1981.

Outgoing

45. To members of the family of Claude Buddy Young from Horace Carter and Loften Mitchell, **September 8, 1983**, photocopy of mailgram.

Third Party

46. Clifford D. Clark to Warren M. Anderson, telegram, (with "Best Wishes" to Loften), **undated**.

BOX 9

Biographical Material

Articles, Interviews and Reviews

1. Cat from Harlem sees a oneness, in the *Los Angeles Times*, **July 24, 1968**. Article about Loften Mitchell by Cecil Smith, photocopy.
2. From Harlem to Broadway: Loften Mitchell offers students bubbling savvy, in *SUNY - Inside*, **October 8, 1981**. Article about Loften Mitchell by Hal Smith.
3. *Tell Pharaoh*: a theater review, in *NewSpeak*, **November 1981**. Play review by Scott Ufford.
4. PB audience vigorously approves of *A Gypsy Girl*, in the *Pine Bluff Commercial*, **October 8, 1982**. Play review by John Obrecht, photocopy.
5. Stage outlet for Mitchell's writing talent: current play brought back a lot of sentimental memories, in *The Vestal News*, **March 17, 1983**. Article by Marek Waldorf, photocopy.
6. Playwright: blacks not treated fairly, in the *Savannah Morning News*, **April 29, 1983**. Article about Loften Mitchell by Tony Brown, photocopy.
7. Newsmakers: from Harlem to Broadway, **February 1985**, photocopy. Publication and author unknown.
8. *SHOWBIZ*, copies from **March, April, May, September and October 1985**.
9. A word about American Folk Theatre, in the *AFT Newsletter*, **1986?** Interview with Loften Mitchell.
10. Theatre: a land beyond the river, in *The Village Voice*, **April 3, 1957**. Review of Mitchell's play *A Land Beyond the River*.
- 10a. High Voltage, *A Ballad for Bimshire* glows, in the *Newark Evening News*, **October 16, 1963**. Play review by Gene Palatsky, photocopy.
- 10b. Assorted newspaper reviews of *Bubblina*

Brown Sugar productions.

- 10c. Assorted newspaper reviews of *Carver*.
- 10d. Assorted newspaper reviews of *A Land Beyond the River*.
- 10e. Review of *Cartoons for a Lunch Hour*, in the *New York Voice*, **December 1, 1978**. Review by Sabrina Gill.

Miscellaneous Personal Materials

- 11. Jane White chosen for lead part in *Strange Fruit* play. Newspaper and date unknown (**circa 1940's**).
- 12. Church programs (2) from the U.S. Naval Hospital, Shoemaker, CA.
- 13. Part of class assignment by Miss Rowe Wright for Loften Mitchell's class in Professional Writing, **1946**.
- 14. Banks Independent Political Association club card, **June 8, 1944**.
- 15. Biographical information on Courtney Hafela, film producer for *I'm Sorry*, **1961**.
- 16. G. C. Dewey Corporation Common Stock dividend check for \$0.75.
- 17. Note for Loften Mitchell with the business card for Edward W. Allen.
- 18. Contralto Carol Brice, newspaper and date unknown.
- 19. The Harlem Eye and Ear Hospital members card #34333.
- 20. Thomas R. Mitchell's resume.
- 21. Obituary for Frederick Weaver, in *The New York Times*, **April 6, 1982**.
- 22. 3rd Annual Community Awards Banquet program, **April 24, 1982**.
- 23. Annual Faculty Report, **1982-1983**, SUNY-Binghamton, photocopy.
- 24. Theater: Hughes Poems, review of a former graduate student's play, in *The New York Times*, **October 13, 1983**.
- 25. *Prizzi's Honor*, 5 newspaper and magazine articles about the novel, movie, and the actor John Cunningham.

Talladega College

- 26. Talladega College football squad roster for the Homecoming game, **November 11, 1939**.
- 27. Draft of letter requesting monetary contributions for a gift for departing friend, Dr. William Jacobs Knox, Jr., **1942**.

28. *Our Town* program (stage managed by Loftin Mitchell), **April 24, 1943.**
29. Note from the Registrar's Office to Loftin Mitchell, **May 14, 1943.**
30. Voucher #25015 for check of \$10.00 paid by Loftin Mitchell to Talladega Reunion, **August 7, 1981.**
31. Edited pages (3-6) from the Talladega College reunion article, **undated**, typescript original.
32. Talladega College/Still Shinning Brightly, by Loftin Mitchell, **undated.**
33. Talladega College Arts Festival 1979, program.
- 33a. standing in the middle of me, a literary magazine, **Spring 1982.**

Posters and Tickets

34. Gramercy Park Cinema Program, **1938.**
35. Two season tickets for The People's Theatre Repertory, **1946.**
36. Poster for *A Land Beyond the River.*
37. Ticket to President Johnson's inauguration ceremonies, **1965.**
38. Poster for *Ballad Antiqua*, **October 1971.**
- 38a. Poster for *Tell Pharaoh*, **September 16, 1972.**
39. Poster for "An afternoon with Mr. Ossie Davis", **November 5, 1972.**
40. Ticket from Game 3 of the Yankees 1978 Playoff series, **undated**
41. Ticket from The People's Theatre, **undated.**
42. Lyceum Series posters from Savannah State College, **1982-1983.**

Play and Concert Programs

43. Cartoons for a Lunch Hour.
44. A Gypsy Girl.
45. Miss Waters, to you.
46. The Phonograph.
47. A Song for Langston Hughes.
48. Songs I Heard Mahalia Sing.
49. Tell Pharaoh, **June 29, 1975.**
50. Tell Pharaoh, **October 24, 1981** (4 copies).
51. *Tell Pharaoh* program draft.
52. Long Day's Journey into Night.
53. Symphony in Black.
- 53a. Timbuktu!

53b. Department of African-American Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Tenth Anniversary Celebration.

Photographs

54. Loften Mitchell with Floyd Strayhorn, 1979 (color).
55. Loften Mitchell at the 20th Fine Arts Festival, Talladega College, 1979?, (bxw).
56. Loften Mitchell at the 20th Fine Arts Festival, Talladega College, 1979?, (bxw).
57. Loften Mitchell with William B. Garcia, conductor, Talladega College Choir, at the 20th Fine Arts Festival, 1979?, (bxw).
58. Lauren Ashley Williams, 1983, (color).

Awards (Personal)

59. Certificate of Achievement in The Arts, July 21, 1968. Inner City Cultural Center of Los Angeles.
60. Outstanding Pioneer Award presented by Audience Development Committee, Inc., at the 7th Annual Audelco Recognition Awards. Program from the Awards, November 19, 1979.
61. Yearbook Dedication to Loften Mitchell by the S. Randolph Edmonds Players, 1980.
62. Black Student Union Award 1981-82.

Awards (Family)

63. 128th Annual Fordham Dinner and Achievement Awards for Education Program, November 10, 1982.
64. Louis Mitchell, Educator of the Year. Newsclipping from *The Scranton Times*, September 30, 1982.

BOX 10

Business Materials

1975-1976

1. Weekly royalty payment report, December 28, 1975.
2. Mary Greenslaw (Ann Elmo Agency Inc.) to Betty Edwards, receipt of payment into Loften Mitchell's bank account: Three memos dated November 1975 - February 1976.
3. Alfred G. Brook to Loften Mitchell, receipt of check, May 27, 1976.

1980-1982

4. Simulated backers' audition, Theatre

- 161, **October 28, 1980.**
5. Proposal for Playwright's Program at SUNY-Binghamton, **September 1981 - June 1, 1982.**
 6. Expense journal for Playwrights Program **1981-1982.**
 7. Income journal for *Tell Pharaoh* benefit **1981-1982.**
 8. Receipts from *Tell Pharaoh* production.
 - 8a. Letter of Agreement between Lofton Mitchell and Irving Burgie for *Ballad for Bimshire* (2 copies).
 9. President Clifford Clark, **October 12, 1981** from Lofton Mitchell concerning monetary loans for the production of *Tell Pharaoh*. Addendum: receipts for donations and payment of employees.
 10. Lofton Mitchell to Chuma Chukwu, **November 10, 1981 and November 4, 1981**, carbon copies.
 11. Deposits for Playwrights Program **1981-1982.**
 12. Correspondence concerning the legal issues between Lofton Mitchell and the Atlanta Renaissance Theater, **1981-1982.**
 13. Pat Reynolds from Lofton Mitchell, **February 10, 1982.**
 14. *Tell Pharaoh* performance contract, **March 12, 1982.**
 15. Agreement between Lofton Mitchell and SUNY-Binghamton, **March 1982.**
 16. Office of Sponsored Program Development monthly report.
 17. Blank agreement and contract forms.
 18. Constitutional information concerning the Playwrights Program.
 19. Prospectus for funding The Martin Luther King, Jr. Theatre Inc.
 20. Playwrights Program press releases, playbills, and posters.
 21. Playwrights Program completed vouchers.

BOX 11

Miscellaneous Materials

1. Eva Jessye for Kansas Ambassador for the Arts materials.
2. Newspaper clippings file.
3. Journals and publications.
4. Manuscripts written by former students. There are numerous term papers, essays,

digests and criticism of plays by Loftin Mitchell's students. These are located in the last file drawer of the University Archives, and in alphabetical order by student name.

5. A selected bibliography of Black theatre and play anthologies by Dick Gaffield, [June 19, 1985](#).

6. Biography of Loftin Mitchell, author and date unknown.

BOX 12

Oversized Materials

1. *Carver*, musical score for "My Friend Booker T.", [undated](#), photocopy.

2. *Carver*, musical score for "Peanut Man", [undated](#), photocopy.

3. *Carver*, musical score for "Thru the Years, I will Remain with You", [undated](#), photocopy.
Revised BTK 1/95
MH: sks 4/9/87

Addenda

Box 2 Item 13 *Miss Ethel Walker*, undated photocopy

Box 9 Item 38b *Tell Pharaoh* poster drafts and notes

Item 65 "Stage Outlet for Mitchell's Writing Talent," *Vestal News*, [3/17/83](#), photocopy
Prepared by: Julie Boerst
Date: 6/22/99