

PENNSSTATE



Guide to the Jorge Amado Papers, 1970-1987 (bulk 1970-1971)

Accession number: 1971-0057R
University Libraries
The Pennsylvania State University
Special Collections Library
Rare Books and Manuscripts

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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Amado, Jorge, 1912-2001
Title: Jorge Amado Papers, 1970-1987 (bulk 1970-1971)
Accession: 1971-0057R
Extent: .35 cubic feet
Repository: Pennsylvania State University, University Libraries, Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Access

Unrestricted access.

Source of Acquisition

Gift of Stanley Weintraub, 1971.

Preferred Citation

Jorge Amado Papers, 1970-1987 (bulk 1970-1971), Accession 1971-0057R, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Special Collections Library, University Libraries, Pennsylvania State University.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into three series: Correspondence and Clippings, Photographs, and Publications.

Biographical Note

Jorge Amado, Brazil's all-time best-selling author, was born 10 August 1912 in Itabuna, Bahia, Brazil, the son of Joao Amado de Faria (a cacao plantation owner) and Eulalia

(Leal) Amado. He married Matilde Garcia Rosa, 1933 (divorced, 1944), and Zélia Gattai, 14 July 1945, with whom he had two children, Joao Jorge and Paloma. Amado attended a Jesuit boarding school, and received his J.D. in 1935 from Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

Amado began his writing career as a reporter for *Diario da Bahia*, Bahai, Brazil, in 1927. Amado published his first novel, *O paiz do carnaval* (1931), when he was nineteen. His second novel, *Cacau* (1933), made evident his political leanings and interest in the newly formed Brazilian Communist Party. He was imprisoned for political reasons in 1935. His adversarial relationship with the Brazilian government continued, and in 1937 the government staged a public book burning in which the majority of books destroyed were Amado's. He went into exile in 1937, and 1941-1943. Following his appointment as federal deputy of Brazilian parliament, 1946-1948, on the Communist Party ticket he was again exiled from 1948-1952 where he lived in France and Czechoslovakia, then returned to Brazil again in 1952. After Joseph Stalin's death there was much debate over the future and ideological position of the Brazilian Communist Party. In 1955 Amado left the party, and from then on his relationship with communism was ambiguous. His writing underwent a significant change, becoming less political and more universally recognized by critics. Subsequently, Amado became the editor of *Para Todos* a cultural periodical in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1956-1959. During the fall of 1971 Amado came to America as a visiting fellow at the Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies at Pennsylvania State University.

Amado became a well-loved national and much-acclaimed international novelist. He has published novels, short stories, and nonfiction including travel and memoir. Nineteen of Amado's novels have been translated from the original Portuguese into English, and his works have been translated into French, Spanish, Russian, and numerous other languages.

Contemporary Authors Online notes that Amado is ranked by some critics as Brazil's greatest twentieth-century novelist, and certainly was the most widely read. His depictions of the social, political, and cultural aspects of Brazil's northwestern Bahia region have been translated into as many as fifty languages. Amado wrote with the eye of a social realist; his early work was politically inflammatory and evoked a poverty-stricken land afflicted by brutal government management. In his later novels Amado mellowed his political approach--still depicting the underclass, but with informed compassion and humor.

Through the 1990s to his death in 2001, Bahia's leading literary authority continually painted a lyrical image of his homeland, aggrandizing Brazil's downtrodden in rollicking tales of passion and mystique. Two of his later novels, *Tent of Miracles* and *Tieta, the Goat Girl; or, The Return of the Prodigal Daughter*, were reprinted in honor of the writer, and "continue his undying concern for the future of Brazil," according to Sophia A. McClennen in *Review of Contemporary Fiction*. "Rich in narrative structure and remarkable in the description of Brazilian plenitude, these novels are smart, witty, and fun," McClennen continued, adding that the fictions characterize Amado's transition, after the mid-twentieth century, "from more overtly political narrative to writing that was full of excess, sensual delight, and the richness of everyday life."

Amado won numerous literary prizes including Stalin International Peace Prize, 1951; National Literary Prize (Brazil), 1958; Calouste Gulbenkian Prize, Academie du Monde Latin, 1971; Italian-Latin American Institute Prize, 1976; Nonnino literary Prize (Italy), 1983; candidate for Neustadt International Prize for Literature, 1984; Neruda Prize, and Volterra Prize (Italy), 1989; Sino del Duca Prize (Paris), and Mediterranean Prize, 1990. He was named commander, Legion d'Honneur (France).

He died 6 August 2001, in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, of a heart attack.

Scope and Content

The small collection contains correspondence, clippings, and photographs documenting Amado's visit to Penn State in 1971; book reviews of *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands: A Moral and Amorous Tale* (1969) and *Tent of Miracles* (1971); biographical essay, "Intimate Picture of Jorge Amado," by his wife Zélia Gattai Amado; a one-page photocopy of "Hansen's Bahia," by Jorge Amado; and proof copies of *Tent of Miracles*.

Index Terms

These materials are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Pennsylvania State University. Researchers wishing to find related materials should search the catalog under these index terms.

Personal Name Subjects

Amado, Jorge, 1912-2001

Topical Subjects

Authors, Brazilian

Corporate Creators

Pennsylvania State University. Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies

Form/Genre Terms

Clippings

Correspondence

Galley proofs

Photographs

Reviews

Container List

Correspondence and Clippings Series

Correspondence and clippings, 1970-1971.

Box 1

Folder 1

Correspondence about Amado's visit to Penn State, 1970-1971

Box 1

Folder 3

Clippings, memos, and bulletins about Amado's visit to Penn State, 1970-1971

Photographs Series

Photographs, 1970-1987, undated.

Box 1

Folder 2

Photographs of Amado at Penn State, and Knopf publicity photos, 1971-1987, undated

Map Case

Drawer 25

Inscribed, enlarged mounted photograph of Amado at Penn State, 1971

Publications Series

Publications, 1970-1971.

Box 1

Folder 4

Tent of Miracles -- galley proofs

Box 1

Folder 5

Tent of Miracles -- advance uncorrected proofs, dust jacket

Box 1

Folder 6

Reviews, biographical essay, and "Hansen's Bahia," 1970-1982

Reviews of *Tent of Miracles* and *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands: A Moral and Amorous Tale*; clipping about Amado and Alfred Knopf, 1982; 2 photocopies of "An Intimate Picture of Jorge Amado," by his wife Zélia Gattai Amado; a one-page photocopy of "Hansen's Bahia," by Jorge Amado.