



## **EDGAR H. LEONI PAPERS**

**Coll2007-019**

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### Date Completed

December 31, 2007



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## Descriptive Summary

### Title

Edgar H. Leoni Papers

### Creator

Edgar H. Leoni

### Extent

Number of containers: 6 archive cartons + 1 archive shoebox  
Linear feet: 3 linear feet

### Date

1935-1995 (bulk, 1956-1985)

### Repository

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

### Abstract

The collection consists of correspondence, writings, drafts, copies, research files, diaries, photographs, and miscellaneous ephemera, of Edgar H. Leoni, author under his real name of *Nostradamus: Life and Literature* (1961), and under his pseudonym of Noel I. Garde of *Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History* (1964).

## Administrative Information

### Access

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

### Publication Rights

Researchers wishing to publish material must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives as the physical owner of the material. Note that permission to publish does not constitute copyright clearance. ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives can grant copyright clearance only for those materials for which we hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain copyright clearance for all other materials from the copyright holder(s).

### Preferred Citation

Box #, folder #, Edgar H. Leoni Papers, Coll2007-019, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

### Indexing Terms

This collection is indexed under the following terms:

- Astrology
- Diaries
- Garde, Noel I.
- Homosexuality—history
- Homosexuality in literature—bibliography
- Jonathan to Gide*
- Leoni, Edgar H.
- ONE, Inc
- Prophecies (Occultism)

### Acquisitions Information

Acquired about 1995. Precise date and means of acquisition unknown.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Michael P. Palmer, December 31, 2007.

## Biography

Edgar Hugh Leoni was born in 1925. He graduated BA from Harvard in 1945, and later earned an MA from Columbia. He worked in the insurance industry in New York City, and retired to Clearwater, Florida.

Leoni's intellectual interests were the work of Nostradamus and the homosexual in literature and history. His *Nostradamus: Life and Literature* (New York 1961) was in its time considered the standard work on the subject. He published on homosexual themes under the name "Noel I. Garde", an anagram of his real name. As Garde he published *The Homosexual in Literature* (New York 1959) and *Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History* (New York 1964), and contributed articles, book reviews, and notes to both the *Mattachine Review* and the *ONE Institute Quarterly* in the late 1950s and early 1960s.



## Scope and Content and Container List

The collection consists of correspondence, drafts and copies of Leoni's writings, both under his real name and under his pseudonym of Noel I. Garde, research files on the occult and on gays in literature and history, diaries, photographs, and miscellaneous ephemera. The collection is divided into five series: (1) Correspondence, (2) Writings, (3) Research Files, (4) Personal, and (5) Miscellaneous.

### Series 1: Correspondence.

Date: 1946-1995

Extent: 9 folders.

This series consists of Leoni's correspondence, both under his own name and the pseudonym Noel I. Garde. The Leoni correspondence contains a notable series of letters to and from John Wojtowicz and George Heath relating to the former (whose fictionalized story is told in Sidney Lumet's 1975 film, *Dog Day Afternoon*). Much of the Garde correspondence with ONE appears to have been added to the collection after its acquisition by ONE from ONE's own files: the letters are Leoni's originals, stamped with the date they were received by ONE.

### Box Folder

		Leoni	
1	1	General.	1959-1994
1	2	Mark Bassett.	1980-1981
1	3	Booksellers.	1956-1993
1	4	Forman Brown ("Richard Meeker").	circa 1980-1991
1	5	ONE.	1960
1	6	Ned Rorem.	1946-1995
1	7	John Wojtowicz & George Heath.	1975-1981
		Garde	
1	8	General.	circa 1970-1980
1	9	ONE.	1958-1965

### Series 2: Writings

Date: circa 1942-1994

Extent: 16 folders

This series consists of drafts of Leoni's writings, together with relevant correspondence, notes, and research materials. The majority of the articles, essays, biographical sketches, and book reviews written under his Garde pseudonym were intended for publication by ONE. Many of the materials are stamped with the date of receipt by ONE and are accompanied by ONE's publications committee, recommending publication or rejection, suggesting that, like the Garde correspondence with ONE, they were added to the collection after its acquisition by ONE, from ONE's own files.

**Box Folder**

		<i>The Homosexual in Literature</i> (Garde)
1	10	Photocopy. 1959
		<i>Nostradamus</i> (Leoni)
1	11	Correspondence. 1968-1994
1	12	Dust Jackets & Table of Contents. 1961-1982
1	13	Library Holdings, Sales, Returns. circa 1961-1970
1	14	Notes. circa 1945-1985
1	15	Pamphlets & Articles. circa 1942-1982
2	1	Publicity. 1961-1985
2	2	<i>Spiegel</i> Article. 1981
2	3	Texts. English
2	4	Texts. French
		<i>Jonathan to Gide</i> (Garde)
2	5	Correspondence. 1969-1971, 1984
2	6	Dust Jacket. 1964
2	7	Library Sales, Gifts, Returns. circa 1965-1971
2	8	Articles, Essays & Biographical Sketches (Garde). circa 1960-1985
2	9	Book Reviews (Garde). circa 1957-1963
2	10	Fiction. circa 1960-1985

**Series 3: Research Files**

Date: 1953-1985

Extent: 28 folders + 1 box of note slips.

This series contains general research files. The most significant item is a file containing several hundred 6-by-4 inch slips of paper containing detailed analyses of English-language fiction with homosexual characters and themes, perhaps preparatory to an unrealized update to Young's 1975 *The Male Homosexual in Literature*. The materials also include transcripts of graffiti found in railroad and bus terminals between 1949 and 1959 and a handwritten transcript of *Priapea sive diversorum poetarum in Priapum lusus*.

**Box Folder**

2	11	Astrology & the Third Reich (Ellic Howe). Miscellaneous Photocopies. 1984
2	12	Biology Notes. circa 1960-1985
2	13	Chronological Chart, 395-1815. Part 1 (395-1453). 1935
2	14	Cordan, Wolfgang. "Days with Antonio". 1960
2	15	Erotic Book Flyers. circa 1960-1970
2	16	European Royalty. Genealogy. circa 1960-1985
2	17	Excerpts from Other Authors. circa 1960-1985
2	18	Geography. 1964-1988
2	19	Graffiti (Train/Bus Stations). 1949-1959
3	1	Hemingway, Ernest. <i>Suppressed Poems</i> . circa 1960
		Homosexuality Bibliography
3	2	Parker, William. <i>Homosexual Bibliography</i> . 1970-1977. Photocopy

3	3	Young, Ian. <i>The Male Homosexual in Literature</i> . 1975. Photocopy
3	4	Homosexuality Bibliographies & Book Lists. circa 1960-1985. Photocopy
7		Summaries of English-language fiction with homosexual characters and themes (6 x 4 cards). circa 1958-1987
3	5	Human Rights Practices for 1993, Country Reports on (103d Congress, 2d Session). 1994. Photocopy.
3	6	Miscellaneous Notes. circa 1960-1985
3	7	Newspaper Clippings. 1941-1992
3	8	Newspaper Clippings. Yukio Mishima. 1958-1974
3	9	Palaeontology. circa 1960-1985
3	10	Photocopies, Miscellaneous.
3	11	<i>Priapea sive diversorum poetarum in Priapum lusus</i> . Transcript (manuscript). circa 1960-1985
3	12	Prokosch, Frederic. <i>The Asiatics</i> . circa 1941
3	13	Roberts, Hermese E. <i>The Third Ear: A Black Glossary</i> . 1971. Photocopy
3	14	Rochester, John Willmott, Earl of. <i>Rochester's Sodom</i> . 1904. Transcript (typescript). circa 1950-1970
3	15	Saul, John. <i>Sins of the Cities of the Plain</i> . 1881. Photocopy
3	16	<i>Sexology; Sex Science Magazine</i> . June 1953
4	1	Symmonds, John Addington. <i>A Problem in Greek Ethics</i> . 1901. Photographic copy.
4	2	Weston, Patrick (Gerald Hamilton). <i>Desert Dreamers</i> . 1914. Photocopy.
4	3	Windham, Donald. <i>The Hitchhiker</i> . 1950. Photocopy.

**Series 4: Personal**

Date: 1935-1993

Extent: 19 volumes + 8 folders

This series contains documents of a personal nature, including extensive diaries from 1935 to circa 1995, as well as materials relating to Leoni's status as a Harvard alumnus, including a copy of the 1941 freshman class yearbook and his correspondence with *Harvard Magazine*. The photographs appear to document a visit to Europe in the late 1940s or early 1950s.

**Box Folder**

		Diaries
5	1	January-May 1935
5	2	1938
5	3	1939 (locked)
5	4	1940 (locked)
5	5	1941 (locked)
5	6	1942 (locked)
5	7	1943
5	8	1944 (locked)
5	9	1945
5	10	1946
5	11	1947
5	12	1948-1952
6	1	1953-1957

6	2	1958-1962
6	3	1963-1967
6	4	1968-1972
6	5	1973-1977
6	6	1983-1987
6	7	1993
		Harvard
4	4	Harvard Class of 1945. Freshman Yearbook. 1941
4	5	Harvard Class of 1945. Newspaper Clippings. Circa 1945-1955
4	6	Harvard Class of 1945 in Print. circa 1995
4	7	<i>Harvard Magazine</i> . 1977-1991
4	8	Class Notes (Government). circa 1941-1945
4	9	Miscellaneous. circa 1975
4	10	Christmas Cards. circa 1990
4	11	Photographs. circa 1945-1960

**Series 5: Miscellaneous**

Date: circa 1960-1985

Extent: 8 items

This series contains miscellaneous materials found in the collection, including graphics of homosexual erotic images and ephemera with both homosexual and heterosexual erotic images.

**Box Folder**

4	12	Graphics. circa 1960-1985
6	8	Microfilm (unidentified)
6	9	Microfilm (unidentified)
6	10	Climax 69 Playing Cards (heterosexual). circa 1960-1975
6	11	DSI Playing Cards (homosexual). circa 1960-1975
6	12	Coin of Elizabeth II in Lucite. 1965
6	13	"Miss Demontagia" (German). circa 1960-1975
6	14	Keyholder with color male physique transparency. circa 1960-1975