

# Morris Panych fonds

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# Fonds Description

**Morris Panych fonds.** – 1947-2006.

1.40 m of textual records.

ca. 134 photographs.

17 video cassette tapes.

## Biographical Sketch

Morris Panych is an award winning Vancouver playwright, actor, and director. Born in Calgary in 1952, Panych received a diploma in Radio and Television Arts from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1973 and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia in 1977. He has since performed in and directed many stage productions as well as becoming a prolific writer of original plays in which he has acted, directed, and produced. His first play, *Last Call - A Post-Nuclear Cabaret*, was nominated for three Dora Mavor Moore Awards (Toronto). Other plays by Panych include *Contagious* (1984), *Cheap Sentiment* (1985), and *Simple Folk* (1987). During the early 1990's Panych wrote a series of plays for young people, including *The Cost of Living* (1990), and *2B WUT UR* (1991). Panych was artistic director for Vancouver's Tamahnous Theatre from 1984 to 1986. Shortly thereafter, he won seven Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards for the production of his play *7 Stories* (1989). Panych has received a total of fourteen Jessie awards for both acting in and directing the works of other playwrights, most notably for his direction of *Sweeney Todd* (2000). He has received two Governor-General's Literary Awards for Drama for his plays *The Ends of the Earth* (1994) and *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* (2004). Panych has also been awarded three Sidney Riske Writing Awards and five Dora Mavor Moore Awards. Panych has continued to write, and six books of his plays have been published by Talon Books (Vancouver). These include, *7 Stories* (1990), *The Ends of the Earth* (1993), *Other Schools of Thought* (including *Life Science*, *2B WUT UR*, and *The Cost of Living*) (1994), *Vigil* (1997), *lawrence & holloman* (1998), and *earshot* (2001). In addition, Panych has appeared and in film and television productions. Panych has also directed television productions such as *Da Vinci's Inquest* filmed in Vancouver, BC.

## Scope and Content

The fonds consists of typescripts, handwritten drafts, notes and reviews relating to plays written, performed, or directed by Panych. Also included are photographs relating to his theatre career as well as biographical material including school transcripts, as well as video cassette tapes of an episode of *Da Vinci's Inquest* that Panych directed. The fonds is comprised of four series: Scripts and Manuscripts, Personal, Photographs and Audio/visual.

## Notes

File list available.

## Series Descriptions

**Scripts and Manuscripts series.** - 1981-2006.

1.7 m of textual records.

Series consists of scripts written by Morris Panych, as well as scripts by known and unknown playwrights. The series contains a number of hand written notebooks which relate to plays, as well as others which, while not relating to specific plays, reflect the creative processes of the author.

Boxes 1, 2(1-10), 3, 4, 5(1-16), 6, 7, 8(1-9, 12), 9, 10, 13(1-10).

**Personal Series.** - 1947-1999, 2003-2006.

13 cm of textual records.

Series consists of university transcripts, correspondence, notebooks, and house repair and other estimates.

Boxes 2(12), 5(17), 8(10,11), 11, 13(11-20).

**Photographs Series.** - [ca. 1986]-2005.

ca. 133 photographs.

Series contains Morris Panych receiving the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama, in honour of his work *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* (2004), promotional photographs from *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (1986), undated promotional photographs, and personal negatives. Some are dated 1986, although the majority are not dated.

Selected images are included in UBC Archives' [Historical Photograph Database \(UBC 119.1\)](#)

**Audio visual series.** - 2003.

17 video cassette tapes.

Series consists of footage pertaining to episode #76 of *Da Vinci's Inquest* that Panych directed. Footage includes pick-ups, assembly shots, rough and final cuts, and the director's cut in progress.

Box 12.

# File List

## BOX 1

### SCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS

- 1-1 2B WUT UR [1991?]
- 1-2 The Cost of Living [ca. 1990]
- 1-3 Billy Bishop goes to war (1986)
- 1-4 The Invisible detective - Rehearsal draft (n.d.)
- 1-5 Seven stories [ca. 1990]
- 1-6 Seven stories [ca. 1990]
- 1-7 The Necessary steps (n.d.)
- 1-8 Unidentified

## BOX 2

- 2-1 Quasiland (n.d.)
- 2-2 Last Call (n.d.)
- 2-3 Last Call (1981)
- 2-4 Last Call (n.d.)
- 2-5 Last Call (1982)
- 2-6 Last Call (n.d.)
- 2-7 Last Call - Reviews (1982)
- 2-8 Cheap Sentiment - Master copy of Tamahnous Production (1985)
- 2-9 Miscellaneous scripts (n.d.)
- 2-10 Miscellaneous (n.d.)

**(cont.)**

### PHOTOGRAPHS

- 2-11 Photographs

**(cont.)**

## PERSONAL

2-12 Personal [1947-1977]

**(cont.)**

## BOX 3

### SCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS

3-1 We work and play (n.d.)

3-2 We work and play (n.d.)

3-3 We work and play (n.d.)

## BOX 4

4-1 Victory

4-2 Victory - Final draft (1987)

4-3 The Cost of Living [ca. 1990]

4-4 The Ends of the Earth [handwritten draft] [ca. 1992]

4-5 The Ends of the Earth [handwritten draft] [ca. 1992]

4-6 The Ends of the Earth [1992]

4-7 The Ends of the Earth - Rehearsal draft, Tarragon theatre (September 1992)

4-8 The Ends of the Earth (October 1992)

4-9 The Ends of the Earth - 2nd draft [1992]

4-10 True Science (n.d.)

4-11 Life Science [Draft and correspondence]

4-12 Life Science [ca. 1992]

4-13 Life Science [ca. 1992]

4-14 Life Science - 2nd draft [ca. 1992]

4-15 Life Science (1993)

4-16 2B WUT UR [handwritten draft] [1991?]

4-17 2B (WUT) UR [1991?]

4-18 2B WUT UR - Green Thumb theatre production (1992)

## BOX 5

5-1 Vigil - Notes and draft (n.d.)

5-2 Vigil (n.d.)

- 5-3 Vigil (n.d.)
- 5-4 Vigil - Belfry theatre production (1995)
- 5-5 The Necessary Steps [handwritten draft] (n.d.)
- 5-6 The Necessary Steps (n.d.)
- 5-7 The Story of a Sinking Man (n.d.)
- 5-8 The Company (n.d.)
- 5-9 Northern Lights (n.d.)
- 5-10 Ophelia's Bedroom (n.d.)
- 5-11 Poems (n.d.)
- 5-12 Unidentified manuscript (n.d.)
- 5-13 Unidentified notes (n.d.)
- 5-14 Notebook (n.d.)
- 5-15 Notebook (n.d.)
- 5-16 Notebook (n.d.)

**(cont.)**

#### PERSONAL (cont.)

- 5-17 Personal (n.d.)

**(cont.)**

#### BOX 6

#### SCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS (cont.)

- 6-1 The Dishwasher (n.d.)
- 6-2 earshot (n.d.)
- 6-3 earshot (n.d.)
- 6-4 earshot (n.d.)
- 6-5 earshot (n.d.)
- 6-6 earshot (n.d.)
- 6-7 Girl in the Goldfish Bowl (n.d.)
- 6-8 Girl in the Goldfish Bowl (n.d.)
- 6-9 lawrence & holloman (n.d.)
- 6-10 lawrence & holloman (n.d.)
- 6-11 lawrence & holloman - with resumes and audition schedules (n.d.)

6-12 Lawrence and Holloman script with alternate title *Revenge for Living* (n.d.)

## BOX 7

### Scripts and Manuscripts (some by other authors)

- 7-1 The Overcoat- an original script based on Morris Panych and Wendy Gorling's "music movement" adaptation of a short story by Gogol. (n.d.)
- 7-2 The Overcoat- illustrated staging as well as a partial script
- 7-3 the Overcoat- staging (n.d.)
- 7-4 Assorted notebooks pertaining to The Overcoat and Vigil, as well as to some untitled works
- 7-5 Assorted notebooks pertaining to Vigil as well as to some untitled works

## BOX 8

- 8-1 Watchdog (1996) Michael Chechik and Ian Weir. Fax of a plot synopsis for a one-hour crime drama for the C.B.C.
- 8-2 Three Sisters (n.d.) Anton Chekhov. Translated and altered by Marek Czuma
- 8-3 Blue Valentine (1997) Marianne Ackerman. (With a note to Morris Panych.)
- 8-4 Grace (1997) Michael MacLennan
- 8-5 Sweeney Todd (n.d.) Stephen Sondheim. Assorted lyrics, music, and staging.
- 8-6 Sweeney Todd (n.d.) Audition schedules, resumes, and illustrations of costumes.
- 8-7 Henry V (n.d.) William Shakespeare. Analysis and historical background of the play.
- 8-8 The History of Things to Come (n.d.) Unidentified author.
- 8-9 Hamlet (n.d.) William Shakespeare

**(cont.)**

## PERSONAL (1996-1999)

- 8-10 Personal
- 8-11 Personal - contains reviews and assorted commentary.

**(cont.)**

## SCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS (cont.)

8-12 Costume illustrations for *The Overcoat*, *Hamlet*, and *The History of Things to Come*, with fabric swatches.

### BOX 9

9-1 Earshot - draft. 2001  
9-2 Rehearsal calendar for "*Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*". 2001  
9-3 Leave of Absence - 1st draft. 2005  
9-4 Leave of Absence. 2005  
9-5/6 *The Dishwasher* - draft. [2005]  
9-7 *The Dishwasher* - draft 6. [2005]  
9-8 Notes pertaining to "*The Dishwasher*". [2005]  
9-9 *7 Stories* - draft. [n.d.]  
9-10 *7 Stories*: with script revisions. [n.d.]  
9-11 *7 Histories* - French adaptation by Esmeralda Kroy and John Van Burek. [n.d.]

### BOX 10

10-1/2 *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* - draft. [n.d.]  
10-3 *Restoration Comedy*. [n.d.]  
10-4 *Restoration Comedy* - draft. [n.d.]  
10-5 Miscellaneous scripts. [n.d.]  
10-6 *The Three Penny Opera* (1984) Bertolt Brecht. Altered by Morris Panych and lyrics by Jeremy Sams.  
10-7 Costume illustrations for "*Three Penny Opera*". [n.d.]  
10-8 *Stage Play* storybook. [n.d.]

[\(cont.\)](#)

### BOX 11

#### PERSONAL (cont.)

11-1 Programmes. 1996, 2004-2005  
11-2 Press Coverage. 2003  
11-3 Promotional poster. 2004-2005

11-4 Why do we do drama, notes. [n.d.]

(cont.)

BOX 12

AUDIO/VISUAL MATERIALS

17 VHS tapes of Da Vinci's Inquest (VI), Episode #76. 2003

BOX 13

SCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS (cont.)

- 13-1 Production notes [hand written]. [200-?]
- 13-2 Last Call publishing proof. 2001
- 13-3 Da Vinci's Inquest, Episode 76 "Okay It's Official, We Got An Idiot", pink and yellow drafts. 30 Oct. 2003
- 13-4 Da Vinci's Inquest, Episode 76 "Okay It's Official, We Got An Idiot" storyboard and editor's notes. 2003
- 13-5 Damnation 'Down Below' edited draft. 12 Dec. 2005
- 13-6 Benevolence edited draft. [2006]
- 13-7 Benevolence script. [2006]
- 13-8 Miscellaneous script notes. [199-?]
- 13-9 Miscellaneous production images. [n.d.]
- 13-10 Earshot design cover. [n.d.]

PERSONAL (cont.)

- 13-11 1980s Contracts. 1987-1989
- 13-12 1990s Contracts. 1991-1999
- 13-13 2000s Contracts. 2000-2003
- 13-14 Press Coverage. 1990, 1993, 1996
- 13-15 Correspondence. 1990-1997
- 13-16 Biography. [1991]
- 13-17 Gemini Awards nominations. 1999, 2002
- 13-18 Tarragon Theatre seasonal brochure. 2000-2001

- 13-19 Programmes for "Tantine et Moi" and "7 Stories". 2005-2006  
13-20 Comical drawings of Morris and Ken. [n.d.]

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)

- UBC 119.1/1 Portrait of Morris Panych. [n.d.], b&w, 19.2 x 24.5 cm, large-print.  
UBC 119.1/2 Morris Panych on stage. [n.d.], colour, 17.6 x 13 cm, large-print.  
UBC 119.1/3 Morris Panych receiving the Governor General's Literary Award for  
Drama, in honour of his work, "Girl in the Goldfish Bowl". 2004, colour,  
10.1 x 15.2 cm, large-print.  
UBC 119.1/4 Morris Panych among other Governor General's Award recipients. 2004,  
colour, 20.3 x 25.5 cm, large-print.  
UBC 119.1/5 Contact sheet for the "Overcoat". [2003], b&w, 25.2 x 19.3 cm, large-print.  
UBC 119.1/6 Morris standing near a lake. [n.d.], colour, 15 x 10 cm, large-print.