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November 2020

## Finding Aid for the Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection (MUM00229)

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### Recommended Citation

Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

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# Finding Aid for the Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection (MUM00229)

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The Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection is open for research.

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## Finding Aid for the Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Title:</b>	Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1982-1989
<b>Collector:</b>	Henley, Beth
<b>Physical Extent:</b>	1 box (0.5 linear feet)
<b>Repository:</b>	University of Mississippi. Department of Archives and Special Collections. University, MS 38677, USA
<b>Identification:</b>	MUM00229
<b>Location:</b>	General Special Collections
<b>Language of Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The collection contains promotional materials and articles related to the work of playwright Beth Henley.

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### Administrative Information

#### Acquisition Information

Acquired from various sources

## Processing Information

Collection processed by Archives and Special Collections staff. Finding aid encoded by Kathryn Michaelis, October 2011.

## Additions

Materials may be periodically added to this collection.

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## Subject Terms

Henley, Beth  
Dramatists, American -- 20th century

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## Formats

pamphlets  
playbills  
press releases  
articles

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## Biographical Note

Playwright and screenwriter Beth Henley was born in Jackson, Miss. in 1952. Many of her works are set in Mississippi and feature southern characters and themes. Perhaps her best-known play is *Crimes of the Heart*, for which she won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1981. *Crimes of the Heart* also earned Henley a Tony award nomination, and was adapted as a film of the same title in 1986. Her other works include *The Wake of Jamey Foster* (1983); *The Miss Firecracker Contest* (1985); *The Debutante Ball* (1991); *Family Week* (2000); *Ridiculous Fraud* (2006); and others.

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## Scope and Content Note

The collection contains promotional materials and articles related to the work of playwright and screenwriter Beth Henley.

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## User Information

### Preferred Citation

Beth Henley Small Manuscripts Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

### Access Restrictions

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## Related Material

### Resources at the University of Mississippi

Beth Henley Collection (MUM00228), Archives and Special Collections

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## Container List

- Folder 1 Pamphlet: "Millsaps Arts and Lecture Series Presents An Evening with Beth Henley and Lydy Becker Caldwell," 29 March 1983
- Folder 2 Playbill: "New Stage Theatre presents Broadway's Smash Hit 'Crimes of the Heart' by Beth Henley, Directed by William Partlan, June 1-18, 1983," Jackson, Miss. Two copies.
- Folder 3 Pamphlet: "Mississippi State University. University Honors Program Presents Beth Henley," 1982
- Folder 4 Press release: New Stage Theatre. Re: *Crimes of the Heart*, 1983
- Folder 5 *Studies in American Drama 1945-Present* Vol. 3, 1988  
*Scope:* Contains Laura Morrow's "Orality and Identity in *night, Mother* and *Crimes of the Heart*," pp. 23-39.
- Folder 6 *Studies in American Drama 1945-Present* Vol. 4, 1989  
*Scope:* Contains Jean Gagen's "Most resembling unlikeness, and most unlike resemblance: Beth Henley's 'Crimes of the Heart' and Chekhov's 'Three Sisters'." pp. 119-128.