

Gish, Lillian, Letter

Lillian Gish Letter

1975



Title Statement

Gish, Lillian, LetterLillian Gish Letter, 1975 Ms.1978.006

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)
560 Drillfield Drive
Newman Library, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
Business Number: 540-231-6308
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2010 (CC0 1.0)

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-08-07 13:36:14 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1978.006

Unit Date

1975

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection consists of a letter from actress Lillian Gish (1893-1993) to Charles Haney, librarian at Virginia Tech, in answer to a question about the filmmaker, D. W. Griffith (1875-1948), with whom Gish worked on several films.

Creator

Gish, Lillian, 1893-1993

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Lillian Gish Letter was purchased by University Libraries and transferred to Special Collection in 1978.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Lillian Gish Letter was completed prior to 2010. Additional description was completed in November 2010.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Lillian Gish Letter, Ms1978-006, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Lillian Diana Gish was an American actress, best known for her appearance in such silent screen classics as *Birth of a Nation* and *Orphans of the Storm*. Born October 14, 1893, died February 27, 1993. She spent over 75 years on the screen (1912-1987). Her most prominent films were of the 1910s and 1920s, with D. W. Griffith (1875-1948) as the director. AFI listed Gish as 17th among the greatest female stars of all time. She was awarded an Honorary Academy Award in 1971, and she received an AFI Life Achievement Award in 1984.

Lillian Gish never married nor had children. The association between Gish and D. W. Griffith was so close that some suspected a romantic connection, an issue never acknowledged by Gish, although several of their associates were certain they were at least briefly involved. For the remainder of her life, she always referred to him as "Mr. Griffith."

Scope and Content

The collection consists of a letter from Lillian Gish to Charles Haney, librarian at Virginia Tech, in answer to a question about the filmmaker D. W. Griffith.

Keywords

Women -- History

Griffith, D. W. (David Wark), 1875-1948

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Arrangement

The folder is arranged so that the letter by Lillian Gish is in the front, followed by the envelope, then a brief note on why the letter was written to place the letter in context.

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

Unit Date April 2, 1975

folder 1

Language English.