

# A Guide to the María Julia Casanova Papers

## Overview

<b>Title:</b>	María Julia Casanova Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1943-2003
<b>Collection No:</b>	CHC 5151
<b>Creator:</b>	Casanova, María Julia, 1916-2004
<b>Extent:</b>	4 linear feet (10 boxes)
<b>Repository:</b>	Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami Libraries
<b>Language of Material:</b>	Materials in Spanish.

## Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition Information:</b>	Gift of Diana Martínez de Castro, 2004.
<b>Processed by:</b>	Marta Martínez, January 2008. Edited by María R. Estorino, 2008.
<b>Access Restrictions:</b>	This collection is open for research.
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## Biographical Note

María Julia Casanova was born in Havana, Cuba in 1916 and is recognized for her long career as a script writer for radio and television and as a theater designer and director. She worked for children's theater in Mexico and wrote for the radio serial "La Impostora" broadcast on Cuba's CMQ station. With Margot de Blanck she founded the Sala Teatro Hubert de Blanck in Havana, in which she occasionally presented her own plays such as *Hechizadas* and *Mujeres*.

Exiled in Miami, Florida in 1960, Casanova worked in radio and later with Sociedad Pro-Arte Grateli. With Armando Navarro and Roberto Miñagorri, she founded the Sala Teatro La Danza, which debuted with the play *Corona de Amor* by Alejandro Casona and adapted by Casanova. Casanova also worked for the magazine publisher Editorial de Armas.

In the 1980s, she served as artistic director for the Teatro Bellas Artes in Miami, where she presented original works such as *Lucy* and *La Reina Enamorada*, and designed theater sets for Teatro Avante. In the 1990s, she realized her dream of owning a theater and opened the Teatro Casanova on Miami's Calle Ocho. Ediciones Universal published her autobiography, *Mi vida en el teatro*, in 2000. Four years later, María Julia Casanova died in Miami.

## Scope and Content Note

The María Julia Casanova Papers primarily document the work of radio and television writer and theater designer and director María Julia Casanova (1916-2004) in Cuba and Miami. The Papers include her scripts, photographs, clippings, theater programs, set and costume designs, posters, audiovisual materials, memorabilia, and honors and awards.

## Series Descriptions

### Series I: Works, 1943-1997

*Extent:* 9 boxes (boxes 1-7, 9-10)

*Arrangement:* Arranged in alphabetical order by title within four sub-series:

Sub-Series A: Radio Scripts, n.d., [1960-1970?]

Sub-Series B: Television Scripts, n.d., 1964

Sub-Series C: Theatre Scripts and Related Materials, n.d., 1943-1997

Sub-Series D: Other Works, n.d., 1976- 1993

*Content:* Scripts for radio, television, and theater by Casanova along with theater costume and set designs, photographs, programs, posters and audiovisual materials. This series also includes works by other writers collected by Casanova.

### Series II: Personal Files, 1959-2003

*Extent:* 1 box (box 8)

*Arrangement:* In alphabetical order by document type.

*Content:* Correspondence, postcards, clippings, honors and awards, memorabilia, and guestbook.

## Container List

### Series I: Works, 1943-1997

#### Sub-Series A: Radio Scripts, n.d., [1960-1970?]

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
1	1	<i>Actor</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	2	<i>Amor en Disco</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	3	<i>Ay, Pepe!</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	4	<i>Barrio Lindo</i> (synopsis), n.d.
1	5	<i>El Capuchón Negro</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	6	<i>Destino Miami</i> (serial), n.d.
1	7	<i>Esa Mujer</i> (synopsis), n.d.
1	8	<i>El Hongo Maravilloso</i> , n.d.
1	9 -11	<i>La Impostora</i> (serial), n.d.
1	12	<i>Matrimonio de Prueba</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	13	<i>Me Gusta tu Voz</i> (musical comedy), n.d.
1	14	<i>Mi Hermano, el Indio</i> (synopsis), n.d.
1	15	<i>Mi Marido es Mío</i> (comedy), n.d.
1	16	<i>Mi Perro y Yo</i> (synopsis), n.d.

## Series I: Works, 1943-1997 (cont.)

### Sub-Series A: Radio Scripts, n.d., [1960-1970?] (cont.)

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
2-4		<i>Mini</i> (serial), n.d. (chapters.1- 430)
5	1	<i>Mi Pobre Guajirita</i> (comedy), n.d
5	2	<i>La Noche la Luna y la Música</i> (comedy), n.d.
5	3	<i>El Piano</i> (comedy), n.d.
5	4	<i>Que Tendré en la Mirada</i> (comedy), n.d
5	5	<i>Recuerdas Aquel Diciembre?</i> (comedy), n.d
5	6	<i>Renacer</i> (synopsis), n.d. ( <u>Note</u> : <i>El futuro empieza hoy</i> )
5	7	<i>Rendezvous en Sueño</i> (comedy), n.d.
5	8	<i>Reportaje de un Suceso</i> , n.d.
5	9	<i>Santoral</i> (serial), n.d.
5	10	<i>La Sirena sin Cola</i> (musical comedy), n.d.
5	11	<i>Si Señorita</i> (comedy), n.d.
Gem track	19A3	<i>El Testigo</i> . Radio programs. Audiocassettes, [1960-1970?] <i>El Castillo del Príncipe</i> <i>Familia de Obreros</i> <i>El Interventor</i> <i>Julio Antonio Yedra</i> <i>El Oportunista</i> <i>La Resistencia de los Eléctricos</i>
5	12	<i>Tú y Yo</i> (mini-serial), n.d.
5	13	<i>Two Strangers</i> (synopsis), n.d.
5	14	<i>Un Truco Monísimo</i> (comedy), n.d.
5	15	<i>Vocabulario en Cinco Segundos</i> (program), n.d.

### Sub-Series B: Television Scripts, n.d., 1964

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
5	16	<i>Los Angeles de Sor María</i> (synopsis), n.d..
5	17	<i>Caribbean</i> , n.d
5	18	<i>Caribbean Nostalgia</i> (serial), n.d.
5	19	<i>La Carta más Hermosa</i> (serial), n.d.
5	20	<i>Money Found</i> . Television program (synopsis), n.d.
5	21	<i>La Música Cubana</i> (documentary), n.d.
5	22	<i>El Perdón de Mis Hijos</i> (serial), n.d.
5	23	<i>Rendezvous para Tres</i> (comedy), n.d.
5	24	<i>Sunshines and Stars</i> (program), n.d.
5	25	<i>Tom Thumb</i> (series), 1964
5	26	<i>La Usurpadora</i> (serial), n.d.
5	27	<i>Vida</i> (synopsis), n.d.
5	28	<i>Vietnam</i> (documentary), n.d.

## Series I: Works, 1943-1997 (cont.)

### Sub-Series C: Theatre Scripts and Related Materials, n.d., 1943-1997

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
5	29	<i>Así es Cuba</i> , n.d.
5	30	<i>Cachita</i> (musical comedy), [1989?]
5	31	<i>La Cena</i> (script), n.d.
7	1	<i>Corona de Amor</i> : Photographs, n.d.
7	2	Slides, [1980]
9	2	Photographs (oversize)[1980]
10	1	Scrapbook, n.d.
5	32	<i>Ella, El y el Otro</i> (musical comedy), n.d.
7	3	<i>Escápate Isabel</i> . 1958
Gem track	19A3	<i>Gigi</i> : audio tape, 1976 ( <u>Note</u> : Adapted by María Julia Casanova)
Drawer 33	1	Poster (oversize) n.d
Drawer 33	1	<i>Lucy</i> : Poster (oversize), n.d.
7	4	Slides, n.d.
5	33	<i>Peter Pan</i> . (script), n.d. ( <u>Note</u> : Comedy for puppet theater)
5	34	<i>Peter Pan en Tu Ventana</i> (script), n.d.
7	5	<i>La Reina Enamorada</i> . Slides, n.d
5	35	<i>Volver al Pasado</i> , n.d. ( <u>Note</u> : Translated by María Julia Casanova)
7	7	Sala Teatro Casanova, n.d.
6	1	Programs, 1943
6	2	1980-1990
6	3	1992-1994
6	4	1995-1997
Drawer 33	2	Theatre Designs: Set Designs and Plans (oversize), n.d. ( <u>Note</u> : Teatro Avante , Paradise Island Casino Show Room)
6	5	Costume Designs, n.d.
6	6	Set Designs Notebook, n.d.
6	7	Stage Designs, n.d.

### Sub-Series D: Other Works, n.d., 1976- 1993

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
6	8	<i>El Ateo</i> (synopsis), n.d.
6	9	<i>La Leyenda del hombre sin rostro</i> (synopsis), n.d.
6	10	<i>Mon and Daughter</i> (synopsis) n.d.

## Series I: Works, 1943-1997 (cont.)

### Sub-Series D: Other Works, n.d., 1976- 1993 (cont.)

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
6	11	<i>La Novia Desconocida</i> (synopsis), n.d.
6	12	<i>Remember Jesús</i> (story), n.d.
6	13	<i>Los Reyes Magos pasan por Miami?</i> (scketch), 1976
6	14	<i>Rojo Amanecer</i> (synopsis), n.d.
6	15	<i>Show de Manolo Godínez</i> , n.d.
6	16	Poems. Notebook, n.d.
9	6	Photographs: Actors and Actress (oversize) n.d.
Drawer 33	3	Contact Prints. Unidentified (oversize), n.d.
6	17	Woks by Others: Fernández, Araceli. <i>Caído se ha un clavel</i> , 1978
6	18	Paulos, José. <i>Miembros del Jurado</i> , 1993
6	19	Valera, Jorge Alejandro. <i>Madame Sarah and Alexander the Great</i> , n.d.
6	20	Songs, n.d.

## Series II: Personal Files, 1959-2003

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>
8	1	Casanova Productions Inc, 1992
Gem track	19A3	Seal, n.d.
8	2	Correspondence (Postcards), 1963-1993
8	3	Correspondence, 1969-1982
8	4-5	Guestbooks, [196-?], 1974
9	3-5	Honors and Awards, 1981, 2000, 2003
8	6	Caricatures, n.d.
9	1	Caricature on felt (by Cuban cartoonist David), 1959
8	7	Clippings: About María Julia Casanova, 1996, 2001, n.
8	8	About Humberto Almazán, [196..?]
8	6	Photographs, n.d.
Gem track	19A3	Video tapes: <i>Miami en Acción</i> . Program of channel 51, 06/05/1994
8	17-18	Unidentified, n.d.

## Related Materials

[Cuban/Latino Theater Digital Archive](#), University of Miami Libraries, Coral Gables, Florida.

Cuban and Cuban-American Theater Collection (CHC5169), Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami Libraries, Coral Gables, Florida.

Teatro Avante Collection (CHC0465), Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami Libraries, Coral Gables, Florida.

## Separated Materials

Religious cards. (Cuba Vertical Files, Cuban Heritage Collection)

*Luisa María Güell*. Poster, 1998 (Cuban Poster Collection, Cuban Heritage Collection)

Cuban Flag (1x 0.5) (Cuba Vertical Files: Memorabilia, Cuban Heritage Collection)

## Bibliography

Casanova, María Julia. [\*Mi vida en el teatro: El teatro como culto y profesión. Autobiografía de una teatrera en Cuba y en el exilio.\*](#) Miami: Ediciones Universal, 2001.