

Collection #
SC 3362

COLE PORTER LETTERS, 1933-1949

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION
DATES: 1933-1949

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RESTRICTIONS: None

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NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Cole Porter:

Cole Porter (June 1891-October 1964) was born in Peru, Indiana.

Porter came from a prosperous household being the grandson of a wealthy businessman. He became interested in music as a child and composed his first piece, *The Bobolink Waltz*, in 1902 at age eleven.

Porter attended both Yale and Harvard University. Porter was a top student at Yale, spending his time composing music. Despite his musical leanings, Porter started Harvard as a law student. This did not last long and after one year he switched to a music major. Upon graduation, Porter moved first to New York and then to Paris. In Paris, he met and married his wife, Linda Lee Thomas.

In 1928, Porter had his first success with his musical comedy, *Paris*, which was closely followed in 1929 with the successful *Fifty Million Frenchmen*. He is best known for his hit Broadway musicals such as *Kiss Me Kate* (1948), which won a Tony Award, and *Can Can* (1953) as well as popular songs such as "Night and Day" and "Let's Do It (Let's Fall In Love)."

Patricia Morison:

Patricia Morison (March 1915) is a retired Broadway and film actress. Morison got her Broadway start in 1933 in the production *Growing Pains*. She was fired during rehearsals, but she was given a walk on role later. She is best known in Broadway for her role as leading woman in Cole Porter's *Kiss Me Kate* (1948), which she later appeared in the TV version.

Morison's Hollywood debut was in 1939 in the film *Persons in Hiding*. In Hollywood, she was primarily type-cast as the femme fatale/villainess with her most notable role being in the 1946 film *Dressed to Kill*.

Sources:

"Cole Porter." Indiana Historical Society.

<http://www.indianahistory.org/education/hoosier-facts-fun/famous-hoosiers/cole-porter#.Wcu01rKGPcs>

"Cole Porter." Infoplease. <https://www.infoplease.com/people/who2-biography/cole-porter/>

King, Susan, "Actress Patricia Morison reminisces as 100th birthday nears." LA Times.

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/classichollywood/la-et-mn-classic-hollywood-20150308-story.html>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains four letters from Cole Porter to Pat Morison (January 28, February 19, July 13, July 20, 1949). There is one letter from Kate Cole Porter (January 29, unknown year) and one letter from Porter's secretary, Madeline P. Smith (December 3, 1948) both addressed to Ms. Morison. Also included is one news clipping showing Patricia Morison (New York *Evening Post*, 1933).

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CONTENTS

Six letters from the Porters, addressed to Patricia Morison and 1 news clipping about Ms. Morison, 1933-1949

CONTAINER

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