

Finding Aid for LEGEND Papers

Collection Processed by:

William Coates, 5.31.17

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OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION:

Origination/Creator: Unknown
Title of Collection: LEGEND Papers
Date of Collection: 1983-1985
Physical Description: 2 boxes; 0.57 linear feet
Identification: Special Collection #14
Repository: American Film Institute Louis B. Mayer Library,
Los Angeles, CA

RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS:

Access Restrictions: Collection is open for research.
Copyright: The copyright interests in this collection remain with the creator. For more information, contact the Louis B. Mayer Library.
Acquisition Method: Donated by George McKamy in June 1986.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORY NOTE:

During production on THE DUELLISTS in 1977, director Ridley Scott began toying with the idea of making a fantasy film. Scott came upon the fantasy novels of William Hjortsberg, known for the novel *Falling Angel*. The two men met, bonding over the 1946 Jean Cocteau BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. Before starting shooting for BLADE RUNNER in January of 1981, Scott and Hjortsberg began work on developing a fairy tale. After going through fifteen draft revisions, the final draft was completed in April of 1983. Tom Cruise was cast in the role of Jack O'The Green, Mia Sara as the princess, and Tim Curry as Darkness. Rob Bottin, who had just completed work on John Carpenter's THE THING, was hired to do the makeup for most of the cast, particularly the prosthetic makeup for Darkness.

Principal photography of LEGEND began on March 26, 1984 at Pinewood Studios. In June of 1984, sixteen weeks into production, a fire destroyed Scott's enormous \$10 million forest set at Pinewood Studios, losing three days of production.

Universal scheduled the film to be released on November 8, 1984, but changed their mind after an unsatisfactory audience preview in Orange County. Scott and Universal reduced the film from 125 minutes to 89 minutes. Tangerine Dream, the band who had scored the Tom Cruise film RISKY BUSINESS the year before, replaced Jerry Goldsmith's original score. Scott and Universal allowed the European prints of LEGEND to retain the Goldsmith score.

The film was originally released in Great Britain by 20th Century Fox in 1985; and in 1986 was released in the United States by Universal Pictures. The film premiered in New York and Los Angeles on April 18, 1986. It only earned \$15 million on a \$24.5 million budget. Despite this setback, critics praised the film for the unique makeup and Curry's performance. LEGEND would go on to be hailed as a cult classic.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The LEGEND Papers span from 1983 to 1985. The collection contains preproduction material, such as scripts, correspondence, schedules, breakdowns, budgets, storyboards, and press clippings.

The collection is composed of one series: production. It is arranged by subject, and organized chronologically therein.

CONTAINER LIST:

Series 1: Production

Box 1

- f. 1 Scripts, [second draft, annotated, revised, 150 p.], Hjortsberg, William, 1983
- f. 2 Scripts, [second draft (final), 165 p.], Hjortsberg, William, 1983
- f. 3 Scripts, re: timing [second draft], 1983
- f. 4 Scripts, re: breakdown [20 p.], 1983
- f. 5 Scripts, re: breakdown [second draft, 210 p.], Gmuer, Leonhard (assistant to producer), 1983
- f. 6 Correspondence, 1983
- f. 7 Schedule, re: preproduction [annotated], 1983

- f. 8 Schedule, re: tentative shooting [first draft], 1983
- f. 9 Breakdown, re: Rob Bottin's creature effects, 1983
- f. 10 Breakdown, re: outline set / location / schedule [handwritten copy], 1983
- f. 11 Breakdown, re: outline set / location / schedule [typed copy], 1983
- f. 12 Breakdown, re: cast and schedule, 1983
- f. 13 Agreement, re: rental space, S.D. Herman Co., Inc., undated
- f. 14 Directions, re: Light Industrial Warehouse location, 1983
- f. 15 Lists, re: staff and crew, 1983
- f. 16 Callsheet, re: Interior Subterranean Bedchamber, 1983
- f. 17 Budgets, re: line budgets, undated
- f. 18 Storyboards [broken down by scene], undated [1 of 3]

Box 2

- f. 1-2 Storyboards [broken down by scene], undated [2 of 3]
- f. 3 Cast Credits, 1985
- f. 4 Press Clippings, re: reviews, 1985