

Finding Aid for the Harry Horner Collection

Collection Processed by:

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OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Origination/Creator:	Horner, Harry
Title of Collection:	Harry Horner Collection
Date of Collection:	1973–1977
Physical Description:	3 Boxes; 1.25 linear feet
Identification:	Special Collection #19
Repository:	American Film Institute AFI Archives 2021 N. Western Ave. 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 AFI Archives.
Acquisition Method:	Donated by Harry Horner (1975).

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORY NOTE

Harry Horner, an Austrian art director, was born on July 24, 1910, in the town of Holitz, Bohemia, which is now part of the Czech Republic. He earned a degree in architecture from the University of Vienna, but found time to study dramatic arts and design, as well. In the 1930s he followed theatre director Max Reinhardt, with whom he began his career working as an actor and assistant, to the United States, where he worked in stage design. Horner earned respect in the profession early on when he became the first to utilize a center stage donut turntable ring on the Broadway stage. While Horner continued to design for Broadway throughout his career, he set off for Hollywood after becoming a naturalized citizen in 1940. Horner was known for his extensive research and went on to work with notable film directors, such as George Cukor, William Wyler, and Sydney Pollack. Some of his production design credits include *HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK*, *BORN YESTERDAY*, *MOMENT TO MOMENT*, and *SEPARATE TABLES*. Horner's work garnered him two Oscars for *THE HEIRESS* and *THE HUSTLER* and earned him a spot in the Art Directors Guild Hall of Fame.

Harry Horner married Joan Frankel and had two children – James, who is an Oscar-winning composer, and Christopher, who is also involved in the film business. Horner died on December 5, 1994, in Pacific Palisades, California.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Harry Horner Collection is organized into three series – Series 1: Films, Series 2: Personal, and Series 3: Oversized. Series 1 includes scripts, research notes, location photographs, and budget information relating to the films HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK (1976), MOMENT TO MOMENT (1965), and SIX WEEKS (1982). Series 2 contains general research notes, correspondence, photographs, and Horner’s personal sketchbook. Series 3 contains oversized materials, including set design drawings for the films HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK (1976) and MOMENT TO MOMENT (1965). Collection arrangement reflects the original order.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Films

Box 1

- f. 1 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Scripts, Byrum, John, undated
- f. 2 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Scripts, Kaufman, Robert, 1975, June 9
- f. 3 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Scripts, Kaufman, Robert and John Byrum, 1975, August 18
- f. 4 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Notes, 1975, undated
- f. 5 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Lists, re: locations, schedules, staff and crew, sets, etc., 1975
- f. 6 MOMENT TO MOMENT, Scripts [annotated, H.H. inserted notes], Wagner, Jane, 1977, November
- f. 7 MOMENT TO MOMENT, Notes, 1978, undated
- f. 8 MOMENT TO MOMENT, Location surveys, undated
- f. 9 MOMENT TO MOMENT, Location photographs, undated

Box 2

- f. 1 SIX WEEKS, Scripts [annotated by H.H.], Seltzer, David, undated
- f. 2 SIX WEEKS, Notes, re: set and location, 1977, undated
- f. 3 SIX WEEKS, Financials, 1977, undated
- f. 4 SIX WEEKS, Technical drawings, re: Charlotte and Nikki's bedroom, 1977
- f. 5–7 SIX WEEKS, Location photographs, undated

Series 2: Personal

Box 3

- f. 1 Correspondence and notes, 1976–1977, undated
- f. 2 Notes, re: research, undated
- f. 3–4 Research photographs, undated
- f. 5 Sketchbook, undated
- f. 6 *Diving World*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1973, June

Series 3: Oversize

Box 4

- f. 1 HARRY AND WALTER GO TO NEW YORK, Production Design, undated [ca. 1975]
Fabric swatches and Design drawings
- f. 2 MOMENT TO MOMENT, Production Design, undated [ca. 1965]
Design drawings