GUIDE TO THE CATHREN MICHALAK COLLECTION

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Cathren Michalak collection
Collection dates: 1938 - 1952
Creator: Michalak family
Languages represented: English, German
Repository: Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library
https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/
Extent: 1 box
Genre and Forms: Magazines, newspapers, photo, postcards, letters

Abstract: Pen pal correspondence between Cathren Michalak (nee Lloyd), who completed a Bachelor of Arts in 1941 and her female pen pal Hanna Wegner (nee Miede) in Steinbergen, Germany. Also includes some letters from other correspondents in Germany.

The documents consist of photos, letters (written in German and English), newspaper cuttings and Nazi era newspapers/magazines, mainly written in 1938, but with some post-war letters too.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance
In late 2020, Dr Cat Moir accepted a donation of documents from Helen Brady (Michalak’s daughter) to the Department of Germanic Studies. When Dr Moir left the University, she asked Dr Brangwen Stone to offer the material to the Library.

Access
Rare Books and Special Collections is a closed access collection located on Level 1 of Fisher Library. You must make an appointment two working days prior to your visit to use the material.
https://www.library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/

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Biographical note

Cathren Lloyd attended North Sydney Girls High School, and later Sydney University where she completed a Bachelor of Arts in 1941, including German.

She was an actress before and after a teaching career of more than twenty years, teaching languages at high schools, finishing as Mistress of Languages at Campbell High School, Canberra in the early 1980s. As an actress, she was known for The 13th Floor (1988), Fistful of Flies (1996) and The Crossing (1990).

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Michalak 01

Michalak 02

Michalak 03

Michalak 04
August 1936, Weserbergland Niedersachsen. 10 Jahrgang/Nr. 8. Magazine.

Michalak 05
To Miss Watson from Hanna Miede. Postcard. English.

Michalak 06
Blank postcard.

Michalak 07
To Cathren from Hanna. 27 April 1937. Letter. 5 pages. English, German.

Michalak 08
To Cathren from Hanna. 14 April 1938. Letter. 4 pages. English, German. Includes black and white photograph of Hanna.

Michalak 09
To Cathren from Hanna. September 1938. Letter. 6 pages. English, German.

Michalak 10
To Cathren from Gerhard. 15 September 1938. Letter. 2 pages. German.

Michalak 11
To Cathren from Gerhard Gutknecht. 26 December 1938. Letter. 4 pages. German.
Michalak 12
To Cathren from Hanna. 15 January 1939. Letter. 4 pages. English, German.

Michalak 13
To Cathren from Hanna. With note from Cathren to another person. Postcard. German, English.

Michalak 14
To Cathren from Wilma Schüfft. 18 January 1939. Postcard. German.

Michalak 15
To Cathren from Gerhard. 27 June 1939. Postcard. German.

Michalak 16
To Cathren from Hanna. 20 July 1939. Letter. 2 pages. English, German.
To Cathren from Hanna. 31 July 1939 (postmark). Envelope.

Michalak 17

Michalak 18
To Cathren from Hanna. 22 April 1946. Letter. 4 pages. English.

Michalak 19

Michalak 20
To Cathren from Hanna. 27 May 1951. Letter. 6 pages. German. Fragile.

Michalak 21
To Cathren from Hanna. 30 [?] 1952. Letter. 6 pages. English, German.