



## **CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES**

**Inventory of the  
Harry Rasky fonds**

**Inventory #F0388**

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## F0388 - Harry Rasky fonds

**Fonds/Collection Number:** F0388

**Title:** Harry Rasky fonds

**Dates:** 1953-2005

**Extent:** 8.96 m of textual records  
0.36 m of photographs  
38 film reels (ca. 31 hrs 53 min) : col ; 16 mm  
148 video cassettes : col.

**Biographical Sketch/  
Administrative History:** Harry Rasky (1928-9 April 2007), author and film maker, was born and educated in Toronto, receiving his BA from the University of Toronto (1949). Following a start in the news business (print and radio), Rasky was a co-founder of the News-Documentary Department of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (1952-1955), later working for "Saturday Night". However, it was the development of Harry Rasky Productions Inc. in 1967 that gave Rasky his reputation as one of the major documentary directors of the late twentieth century. His documentaries on Marc Chagall, Edgare Degas, Tennessee Williams, George Bernard Shaw and others have won international acclaim and he has received some of the highest awards in the fields of film and television including, Venice Film Festival, 1970 ("Upon this rock"), an Emmy, the Peabody Award, an award from the Freedom Foundation -- over two hundred awards in all. He has directed some of the major actors of the film world (Welles, Richardson, James Mason, Dirk Bogarde) and his work has been shown in film festivals, on the CBC and the major American networks (ABC, CBS and NBC), as well as overseas. Rasky has also taught at the University of Iowa, the New School for Social Research, and Columbia University. He is the author of "Lower than the Angels," "Tennessee Williams: A Portrait in Laughter and Lamentation," and "Nobody Swings on a Sunday" (a memoir). His film titles include "Modigliani : Body and Soul (2005), "The William Hutt Story" (1996), "Prophecy" (1994), "The War Against the Indians" (1992), "The Magic Season of Robertson Davies" (1990), "Degas" (1988), "The Mystery of Henry Moore" (1985), "The Spies Who Never Were" (1981), "The Man Who Hid Anne Frank" (1980), "Arthur Miller on Home Ground (1979), "Baryshnikov" (1974), "Biography of a Disaster" (1964), "CBC Newsmagazine" (1954), among others.

**Scope and Content:** The fonds consists of records of Harry Rasky's career as author and film maker. It includes personal files, 1953-1995; correspondence, 1957-2004; work files, 1955-1999; films and video cassettes, 1954-2005; photographs, 1958-1995.

**Language of material note:** Donated by Harry Rasky in 1992, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005. Donated by Arlene Rasky in 2012.

**Restrictions on  
Access and Use:** No restrictions on access.

**Finding Aid:** File and item lists available.

**URL of Finding Aid:** <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000388.htm>

**Accruals:** The fonds comprises the following accessions: 1992-012, 1995-033, 1996-040, 1998-018, 1999-062, 2001-043, 2002-042, 2003-054, 2005-027, 2012-038. Further accruals may be expected.

**Provenance Access Points:** Rasky, Harry, 1928-.