

Edoardo Weiss Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.
2009

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LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm80047431>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Collection Summary

Title: Edoardo Weiss Papers

Span Dates: 1919-1970

ID No.: MSS47431

Creator: Weiss, Edoardo, 1889-1970

Extent: 3,000 items ; 10 containers ; 4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English with some French, Italian, and German

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Psychoanalyst and author. Correspondence, writings, and speeches relating chiefly to Weiss's role in the development of psychoanalytic theory and to his association with Sigmund Freud and Paul Federn.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Federn, Ernst--Correspondence.

Federn, Paul--Correspondence.

Federn, Paul.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939.

Jones, Ernest, 1879-1958--Correspondence.

Morselli, Enrico Agostino, 1852-1929--Correspondence.

Weiss, Edoardo, 1889-1970.

Subjects

Agoraphobia.

Death instinct.

Ego (Psychology)

Lesbianism.

Narcissism.

Psychoanalysis.

Occupations

Authors.

Psychoanalysts.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Edoardo Weiss, psychoanalyst and author, were given to the Library of Congress by his sons, Emilio and Guido Weiss, in 1972-1973. Included in the gifts were letters donated by Ernst Federn.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1979-1980. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Edoardo Weiss is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Edoardo Weiss are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Edoardo Weiss Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1899, Sept. 21	Born, Trieste, Italy
1908	Introduced to Sigmund Freud while a medical student at the University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
1913	Joined Vienna Psychoanalytic Society, Vienna, Austria
1914	Awarded doctorate, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria Enrolled in Austrian army in World War I
1931	Moved from Trieste to Rome, Italy Founded Italian Psychoanalytic Society
1939	Emigrated to the United States Joined staff of Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kans.
1940	Moved to Chicago, Ill.
1947-1956	Staff member, Chicago Institute of Psychoanalysis, Chicago, Ill.
1950	Published <i>Principles of Psychodynamics</i> . New York: Grune & Stratton
1952	Edited Paul Federn's <i>Ego Psychology and the Psychoses</i> . New York: Basic Books
1959-1961	Visiting professor, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.
1960	Published <i>The Structure and Dynamics of the Human Mind</i> . New York: Grune & Stratton
1964	Published <i>Agoraphobia in the Light of Ego Psychology</i> . New York: Grune & Stratton
1970	Published <i>Sigmund Freud as a Consultant</i> . New York: Intercontinental Medical Book Corp.
1970, Dec. 16	Died, Chicago, Ill.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Edoardo Weiss (1889-1970) span the period 1919-1970. The collection consists of letters received, some originals of letters sent, and typescript, near-print, and printed copies of lectures, articles, and books organized in two series: [General Correspondence](#) and [Speeches and Writings File](#). Some of the material is in French, Italian, and German.

The papers in this collection are especially valuable as they relate to Sigmund Freud and another early practitioner of the Viennese psychoanalytic circle, Paul Federn. Weiss did not keep copies of his own correspondence, but contained in his letter files are correspondence and notes from Freud that he received between 1919 and 1939 and that are largely reprinted in *Sigmund Freud as a Consultant*. Also in the collection is a larger group of letters between Weiss and Federn. The two had met in Vienna when Weiss was a student and Federn a lecturer. They became close friends, and in addition to communicating about private matters, engaged in a systematic discussion of the theory and problems of psychoanalysis. The letters were long, often twenty to twenty-five pages, and significant for their content. Referring to the exchange in 1944, Federn wrote that the correspondence seemed “worth while even to be published.” This portion of the papers is particularly complete since the originals of Weiss’s letters have been added to the papers by Paul Federn’s son, Ernst Federn.

The writings in the Weiss collection date equally from before and after his Italian emigration. Among the early examples are drafts of *Agorophobia in the Light of Ego Psychology* and a 1930 primer on the origins of psychoanalysis. Later writings include various materials on the id and the ego; papers on narcissism, female homosexuality, and the reality of the death instinct; and seminar lectures given by Weiss at the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis. In accordance with the expressed wish of Paul Federn, Weiss was the editor of *Ego Psychology and the Psychoses*, a manuscript begun by Federn before his death by suicide in 1950. Read in conjunction with the two friends’ long correspondence and with other Federn writings in this collection, the manuscript further documents their long relationship.

Other correspondents include Ernst Federn, Ernest Jones, Enrico Agostino Morselli, and Julius von Wagner-Jauregg.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in two series:

- [General Correspondence, 1919-1970](#)
- [Speeches and Writings File, 1927-1969](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-3

Series

General Correspondence, 1919-1970

Letters received and some originals of letters sent by Weiss.

Arranged alphabetically by name of person and therein chronologically.

BOX 4-10

Speeches and Writings File, 1927-1969

Typescripts and printed and near-printed copies of lectures, speeches, articles, and books by Weiss and his associates.

Arranged alphabetically by name of writer and thereunder by topic.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-3	General Correspondence, 1919-1970 Letters received and some originals of letters sent by Weiss. Arranged alphabetically by name of person and therein chronologically.
BOX 1	Bernhard, Ernst, 1945-1953
BOX 1	David, Michael, 1966-1968
BOX 1	Federn, Ernst
BOX 1	From, 1950-1970 (2 folders)
BOX 1	To, 1950-1970 (4 folders)
BOX 1	Federn, Paul
BOX 1	From
BOX 1	1942-1945 (3 folders)
BOX 2	1946-1950, undated (4 folders)
BOX 2	To
BOX 2	1925-1941 (5 folders)
BOX 3	1942-1949 (8 folders)
BOX 3	Freud, Sigmund, 1919-1939
BOX 3	Jones, Ernest, 1925-1956, undated
BOX 3	Morselli, Enrico Agostino, 1920-1926
BOX 3	Roazen, Paul, 1965-1970, undated
BOX 3	Saba, Linucca and Umberto, 1940-1970
BOX 3	Wagner-Jauregg, Julius von, 1924-1931
BOX 3	Miscellaneous, 1922-1970
BOX 4-10	Speeches and Writings File, 1927-1969 Typescripts and printed and near-printed copies of lectures, speeches, articles, and books by Weiss and his associates. Arranged alphabetically by name of writer and thereunder by topic.
BOX 4	By Weiss
BOX 4	Abstract of presentation before the Chicago Psychoanalytical Society, 1945
BOX 4	Agoraphobia, 1932-1935, undated (11 folders)
BOX 5	“Agoraphobia: hysterie d’angoisse”
BOX 5	“Attitude of an Analyst toward Different External Problems of the Patient”
BOX 5	“Bisexuality and Ego Structure”
BOX 5	Comments on French’s hypertension cases

Speeches and Writings File, 1927-1969

Container

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BOX 5	“Criteria for the Psychotherapeutic Approach to Adjustment Difficulties”
BOX 5	“Discussion of Federn’s Paper: ‘A Dream on General Anaesthesia’”
BOX 5	“Discussion of ‘Clinical Observations of Narcissistic Character Neurosis’”
BOX 5	The ego, preliminary drafts
BOX 5	“Ego-Psychological Aspects of Agoraphobia,” 1952
BOX 5	<i>Ego Psychology and the Psychoses</i> , by Paul Federn, edited by Wess
BOX 5	Manuscript text
	(3 folders)
BOX 6	(3 folders)
BOX 6	Biographical data about Federn, 1958-1964
BOX 6	“Ego Strength and Weakness,” 1953
BOX 6	“Die Fortschritte in der psychoanalytischen Forschung”
BOX 6	Glossary of psychoanalytic terms
BOX 6	Italian manuscripts
	(2 folders)
BOX 6	Paper on agoraphobia, 1965
BOX 6	“Paul Federn: In Commemoration,” 1950
BOX 7	“The Psychodynamic Formulation of Agoraphobia,” 1964-1965
BOX 7	“The Reality of the Death Instinct, Especially in Melancholia”
BOX 7	“Recent Advances in Theory and Application of Ego Psychology”
BOX 7	Seminar lectures, 1951-1952
	(2 folders)
BOX 7	“Sense of Reality and Reality Testing”
BOX 7	“Some Basic Principles for the Understanding of and Psychotherapeutic Approach to Paranoid Delusions”
BOX 7	“Some Developments in Psychoanalytic Research,” with Paul Federn
BOX 7	“Some Vicissitudes of Internalized Objects in Paranoid Schizophrenia and Manic-Depressive States”
BOX 7	<i>The Structure of Dynamics of the Human Mind</i>
	(2 folders)
BOX 8	(5 folders)
BOX 8	“Theoretical and Clinical Aspects of Female Homosexuality,” 1962
BOX 8	“Theoretical Considerations in Psychosomatic Diagnoses”
BOX 8	“Vorlesungen über die Anfangsgründe der Psychoanalyse,” with an introduction by Sigmund Freud, 1930
BOX 8	“Zur Frage der psychoanalytischen Behandlung der Paranoia”
BOX 8	“Zur Frühdiagnose von Psychosen bei Analysanden”
BOX 8	By others
BOX 8	Federn, Ernst
BOX 8	Minutes of a 1913 meeting of the Viennese Psychoanalytical Society (edited)
BOX 8	Printed articles, 1950-1962
BOX 9	“Synopsis of ‘Ego Psychology and the Psychoses,’” 1956
BOX 9	Federn, Paul
BOX 9	Comment on manuscript, 1929
BOX 9	“The Ego as Subject and Object in Narcissism,” 1929
BOX 9	“Narcissism in the Structure of the Ego,” translation of 1927 paper
BOX 9	“On Healthy and Deranged Narcissism”

Speeches and Writings File, 1927-1969

Container

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BOX 9	Printed articles, 1933-1957, undated
BOX 9	“Studies of Ego-cathexis”
BOX 9	Miscellaneous
BOX 9	French, Thomas
BOX 9	Book manuscript
BOX 9	Case material and other papers, with reviews and comments by Weiss, 1943-1965, undated
BOX 10	Specificity studies (2 folders)
BOX 10	Koff, Robert, “A Definition of Identification”
BOX 10	Miscellaneous, 1960-1969, undated
BOX 10	Unidentified book manuscript (3 folders)