

Center for Creative Photography

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Finding aid for the  
Ben Maddow Collection, 1942-1986  
AG 108

**Ben Maddow Collection, 1942-1986**

**AG 108**

**Creator**

Ben Maddow (1909-1992)

**Abstract**

This collection contains materials, 1942-1986, pertaining to the life and career of Ben Maddow (1909 - 1992), writer and photo-historian. Each group of materials will be described separately.

The collection is active.

**Quantity/ Extent**

Fraction of a linear foot.

**Language of Materials**

English

**Biographical Note**

Born in 1909 in New Jersey, Ben Maddow was a screenwriter, novelist, and photo historian. After retiring from films he became well known for his writings on photography including a bibliography of Edward Weston and the book *Faces: A Narrative History of the Portrait in Photography*. He died in Los Angeles in 1992.

(NYT Obituary)

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains materials, 1942-1986, pertaining to the life and career of Ben Maddow (1909 - 1992), writer and photo-historian. Each group of materials will be described separately.

Series 1 contains information pertaining to the life and career of Willard Van Dyke (1906-1986), photographer, curator, teacher, and filmmaker. It includes correspondence, photographic materials, and writings. Series 2 contains information pertaining to the life and career of W. Eugene Smith (1918-1978), photojournalist. It includes correspondence and writings.

**Arrangement**

Series 1: Willard Van Dyke biographical materials (Box 1)

Series 2: W. Eugene Smith biographical materials (Box 1)

### **Names and Subject Terms**

Maddow, Ben, 1909-1992

Smith, W. Eugene, 1918-1978

Van Dyke, Willard Ames, 1906-1986

### **Restrictions**

#### **Conditions Governing Access**

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

#### **Conditions Governing Use**

Some restrictions may apply. See the Archivist for information.

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

### **Provenance**

Materials acquired from Ben Maddow.

Series 1: 1986-1988

Series 2: 1986-1987

### **Preferred Citation**

Ben Maddow Collection, 1942-1986. AG 108. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

### **Processing Information**

The materials in Subgroups 1 and 2 were withdrawn from MISCELLANEOUS SMALL COLLECTIONS (AG 8, Subgroup 41) by Kristi Bradford in June, 1990.

Finding aid updated by Meghan Jordan in May 2016.

## Container List

### Subgroup 1

Contains information pertaining to the life and career of Willard Van Dyke (1906-1986), photographer, curator, teacher, and filmmaker. Includes correspondence, photographic materials, and writings. Gift of Ben Maddow, 1986, 1987, 1988.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Correspondence with Willard Van Dyke, 1976-1985. 6 cards and 5 letters.
	2	Snapshot of Van Dyke in Colombia, 1942.
	3	Photocopy of the beginning chapters of Maddow's account of a trip to South America in 1941-1942 with Willard Van Dyke. 104 pages of photocopies reproducing the handwritten pages of an unlined notebook.

### Subgroup 2

Contains information pertaining to the life and career of W. Eugene Smith (1918-1978), photojournalist. Includes correspondence and writings. Gift of Ben Maddow, 1986 and 1987.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Photocopy of a letter, 6 December 1971, from W. Eugene Smith to a pawn broker, Harry Harlem, requesting several items he needed to get from the pawn broker.
	2	Text of a speech, 1986, written by Maddow about W. Eugene Smith. The speech is titled "An Ironic Distance", and Maddow uses quotes from the 1971 letter Smith wrote to a pawn broker (see previous description).

## Added Entries

### CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

1940-1949

1970-1979

1980-1989

EXHIBITION INDEX-None

NON-MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL INDEX-None

PERIODICAL INDEX-None

PERSONAL AND CORPORATE NAME INDEX

Maddow, Ben

Smith, W. Eugene

Van Dyke, Willard

SUBJECT INDEX

MADDOW, BEN

SMITH, W. EUGENE

VAN DYKE, WILLARD