Thomas Colchie ’64 Collection on Jorge Amado, 1946-1991.: Finding Aid

Summary Information

Call number: C1450
Repository: Princeton University. Library. Dept. of Rare Books and Special Collections
Manuscripts Division
One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA
Size: 0.5 linear feet
2 boxes
Language(s) of Material: Portuguese
English
Abstract: The collection consists of twenty-four audiocassette recorded interviews conducted by Thomas Colchie (Princeton University alumnus, Class of 1964) of or about Brazilian writer Jorge Amado. Recordings include interviews with Jorge Amado and other writers and artists speaking about Amado. Also includes photocopy documents about Amado’s political involvement as an elected representative in Brazil's National Constituent Assembly from 1945-1947, and photocopy documents of Brazil's National Intelligence Service (SNI) file on Amado.
Location: This collection is stored onsite at Firestone Library.
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Jorge Amado (1912-2001) was a Brazilian writer, journalist, and politician. He was born in Itabuna, Bahia at Auricidía, a cacao plantation, or fazenda. He grew up in Ilhéus, and studied law at Federal University in Rio de Janeiro. He published his first novel, *The Country of Carnival*, in 1931 at age 19.

Amado's early work is distinctly influenced by early 20th century fazenda life in the Brazilian state of Bahia. Literary themes of life in cacao plantations, the exploitation of labor among black, mulatto, and poor whites are present in various novels of his, in particular *Cacau* and *Terras do Sem Fim*. Also present in his literary narrative is a strong political inclination toward a communist society. Amado's radical politics as a communist caused strife for him in Brazil under the dictatorial regime of Getúlio Vargas. He was imprisoned in 1935 and his books were banned in Brazil. This ultimately led him to go into exile in Argentina and Uruguay between 1941-1942. He returned to Brazil, and in 1945 he was elected to the National Constituent Assembly, as a representative of the Brazilian Communist Party (Partido Comunista Brasileiro, PCB). Two years later, the party was declared illegal and its members were arrested and persecuted. Amado went into exile again, this time to France and Czechoslovakia.

Amado returned to Brazil in 1954, abandoned active political life, and dedicated the rest of his career to writing. His later works like *Gabriela, Clove and Cinnamon* concentrated on Bahian culture. In 1961 he was elected to the Brazilian Academy of Letters. He received the title of Doctor honoris causa from several Universities in Brazil, Portugal, Italy, Israel and France. The House of Jorge Amado Foundation was created in Salvador in 1987 to promote the protection of Amado's estate and the development of culture in Bahia. Amado died in 2001 in Salvador.

Thomas Colchie (Princeton University alumnus, Class of 1964), is a translator, editor, and literary agent with a specialization in Latin America. He is the editor of *A Hammock Beneath the Mangoes* and *A Whistler in the Nightworld* both of which feature short stories of Latin American Boom and post-Boom writers. He was Reynaldo Arenas' literary agent and wrote an introduction to Arenas' *Hallucinations, or, the ill-fated peregrinations of Fray Servando*. His translations include Manuel Puig's *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and Carlos Drummond de Andrade's *Travelling in the Family*. He was a personal friend of Jorge Amado and wrote an article in the *Washington Post* titled, "The life of a Latin American literary giant parallels the story of a tumultuous century" shortly after Amado's death in 2001.

Description

Consists of twenty-four audiocassette recorded interviews of Jorge Amado and other writers and artists conducted by Thomas Colchie between 1987 and 1990. Interviewees include André Kedros, Ana Stella Schic, René Depestre, Joelson Amado, Fanny Amado, João Falcão, Carybé, Calassans Neto, Carlos Sciliar, and Wilson Lins. Also includes photocopy documents about Amado’s political involvement as an elected representative in Brazil's National Constituent Assembly from 1945-1947, and photocopy documents of Brazil's National Intelligence Service (SNI) file on Amado. A map of Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil exists.
Arrangement

Organized into the following series: Series 1: Audio Recordings, Series 2: Political Involvement / Map of Brazil.

Series 1: Audio Recordings, 1984-1991
  Subseries 2: Commercial and Other Recordings, 1984-1990
Series 2: Political Involvement / Map of Brazil, 1946-1987

Access and Use

Access

This collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. No further photoduplication of copies of material in the collection can be made when Princeton University Library does not own the original. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.

For preservation reasons, physical access to original audio and visual media in a variety of magnetic and optic formats is restricted. The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections does not have playback equipment and facilities, and all original media, especially in obsolete formats, must be digitally remastered or converted in accordance with prevailing preservation standards in order to be safely accessed. Subject to curatorial approval, patrons may request duplicates of such original media, but will be responsible for both the cost of digital conversion and the cost of the duplicate, payable in advance. Public Services staff handles all such requests. Depending on the nature of the media, this process can take 4-6 weeks or longer.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition


Appraisal

Nothing was removed from the 2015 processing.

Processing and Other Information
Preferred Citation
Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Thomas Colchie '64 Collection on Jorge Amado, Box and Folder Number; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez in September 2015. Finding aid written by Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez in September 2015.

Encoding
This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2015-09-30T12:05-0400

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Headings</th>
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<tr>
<td>· Amado, Jorge 1912-2001</td>
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<td>· Colchie, Thomas.</td>
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<td>· Authors, Latin American -- 20th century -- Interviews.</td>
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<td>· Brazilian literature -- 20th century</td>
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<td>· Latin American literature -- 20th century.</td>
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<td>· Audiocassettes -- 20th century.</td>
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<tr>
<td>· Latin American literature</td>
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</table>
Series 1: Audio Recordings, 1984-1991

Arrangement: Chronologically.

Description: Includes audio recordings of interviews conducted by Thomas Colchie. Interviewees include Jorge Amado himself and Amado’s friends and family members talking about Amado. Also includes commercial audiocassettes. Note: titles reflect natural language written on audiocassettes and may include misspellings. See description notes for correct spellings. Some cassette containers include Colchie’s marginalia about the interviews, notes, or summaries. However, due to their illegibility, these descriptions are not made available on finding aid description.


Arrangement: Chronologically.

Description: Audiocassette recorded interviews with Sá Barreto, Luis Carlos Prestes, Mirabeau Sampaio, Osvaldo Peralva, Jorge Amado, André Kedros, Ana Stella Schic, Pierre Gamarra, Jean Laffitte, Lise London, René Depestre, Joelson Amado, Fanny Amado, João Falcão, Carybé, Calassans Neto, Carlos Scliar, and Wilson Lins. Note: titles reflect natural language written on audiocassettes and may include misspellings. See description notes for correct spellings.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sá Barreto (1-2), circa 1987-1990</td>
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<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.</td>
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<td>Description: Side A written description on tape: Sa Barretto 1. Side B written description on tape: Sá Barretto 2 (1/2). Interview with Brazilian social historian Sá Barreto.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson Lins (1-2), circa 1987-1990</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.</td>
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<td>Luis Carlos Prestes (1-2), circa 1987-1990</td>
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<td>Description: Side A written description on tape: Prestes 1. Side B written description on tape: Prestes 2. Interview with Brazilian politician and communist, Luis Carlos Prestes.</td>
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<td>Joelson Amado and Fanny Amado / Caribe (1), 1988</td>
<td>L-000003</td>
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</table>
Subseries 1: Interviews ... (Continued)

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interviews with Joelson Amado and Fanny Amado, Jorge Amado's brother and sister-in-law; and "Caribe". Note: "Caribe" is most likely a misspelling of Brazilian painter, Carybé's (Héctor Julio Páride Bernabó), name.

Carybe (2) / René Depestre, 1988-1989

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

Description: Side A written description on tape: Carybe 2 / René Despestre 1 May 12, 1989. Side B written description on tape: [none].

Interviews with Brazilian artist Carybé (Héctor Julio Páride Bernabó) and Haitian novelist, René Depestre.

Mirabeau Sampaio / Mulher Pastinha / Calassans (1), 1988

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

Description: Side A written description on tape: Mirabeau Sampaio 8.17.88. Side B written description on tape: Mulher de Pastinha Calassans 1.

Interviews with Mirabeau Sampaio, Jorge Amado's childhood friend; Maria Romelia Costa Oliveira, wife of Brazilian capoeirista, Vicente Ferreira Pastinha, both of whom were friends of Jorge Amado; and Brazilian painter, José Júlio de Calasans Neto.

Calassans (2-3), circa 1988

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with Brazilian painter José Júlio de Calasans Neto.


Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

Description: Side A written description on tape: Jorge 2 Mar 29, 89. Side B written description on tape: Jorge 1 Mar 29, 89.

Interview with Jorge Amado.

Jorge Amado - Mar 29, 1989 (3) / Jorge Amado - April 15, 1989 (6), 1989

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with Jorge Amado.

Jorge Amado - April 15, 1989 (4-5), 1989

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.
Subseries 1: Interviews ... (Continued)


Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with Jorge Amado.

Carlos Scliar (1-2), circa 1989  

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with Brazilian painter Carlos Scliar who lived in the same hotel as the Amados in Paris between 1947-1949. Tape is undated. Part 1 of 3 of Carlos Scliar interview. Placed before "Carlos Scliar / João Falcão" tape because it precedes dated tape with Scliar interview in 1989.

Carlos Scliar (3) / João Falcão (1), 1989  

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interviews with Brazilian communist leader João Falcão who worked with Jorge Amado in the 1940s; and Brazilian painter Carlos Scliar who lived in the same hotel as the Amados in Paris between 1947-1949.

Osvaldo Peralva, 1989  

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with communist journalist Osvaldo Peralva who lived in the USSR in the late 1940s and early 1950s when Jorge Amado visited Moscow.

Ana Stella Schic (1-2), 1989  

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.


Interview with Brazilian pianist Anna Stella Schic.

Ana Stella Schic (3), 1989
Subseries 2: Commercial and Other Recordings, 1984-1990

Arrangement: Chronologically.
Series 2: Political Involvement / Map of Brazil, 1946-1987

Description: In 1945, Jorge was elected to the National Constituent Assembly as a representative of the Brazilian Communist Party (Partido Comunista Brasileiro, PCB). As a representative, Amado introduced a law guaranteeing freedom of religious faith. In 1947, the Communist Party was declared illegal in Brazil, and its members were persecuted and imprisoned, which led Amado to go into exile to Europe from 1947-1954. Included here are photocopy documents related to Amado’s political involvement - his time at the National Constituent Assembly and Serviço Nacional de Informações (SNI) file on Amado. A photocopy of a publication titled, "O Partido Comunista e a Liberdade de Criação", and a map of Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil exist.

Title | Box | Folder
--- | --- | ---
Brazilian National Constituent Assembly - Anais, 1946 | B-0000561 | 
Brazilian National Constituent Assembly - Câmara dos Deputados, 1946 | B-0000562 | 
Brazilian National Constituent Assembly - Súmulas de Pronunciamentos do Deputado, 1946-1947 | B-0000563 | 
Brazilian National Constituent Assembly - Diário do Congresso Nacional, 1947 | B-0000564 | 

Arrangement: Chronologically.

Title | Box
--- | ---
Faces, Mirrors, Masks: Jorge Amado, 1984 | L-000003

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

Description: Side A written description on tape: Faces, Mirrors, Masks: Jorge Amado 1984 National Public Radio All rights reserved. This material has been furnished for non-profit, non-broadcast purposes and may not be duplicated or otherwise used in violation of Copyright Law. Side B written description on tape: [none].

Bahia Sounds / Missette, circa 1987-1990 | L-000003

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

Description: Side A description on tape: Sounds Bahia Julia 3+- Laura 3-6 months?. Side B description on tape: Misette.

The World Of Books Wk 5, 1989 | L-000003

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape.

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>O Partido Comunista e a Liberdade de Criação, undated</td>
<td>B-0000565</td>
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<td>Serviço Nacional de Informações (SNI) File, 1960s-1980s</td>
<td>B-0000566</td>
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<td>Serviço Nacional de Informações (SNI) File - Secretaria de Estado dos Negócios da Segurança Pública, 1970s-1980s</td>
<td>B-0000567</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map of Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil, 1987</td>
<td>B-0000568</td>
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