

U DX364 Scripts and Screenplays by Anthony Minghella 1989-1998

Biographical Background:

Anthony Minghella was a playwright, screenwriter and film director, working on stage, radio and screen. He was born in 1954 on the Isle of Wight, the son of ice-cream factory owners. He studied Drama at the University of Hull, graduating with a first class degree in Drama and went on to become a lecturer in the Department, staying at the University for ten years in total. Whilst at Hull he produced his first play, a stage adaptation of Gabriel Josipovici's story *Mobius the Stripper*. He studied for (but later abandoned) a doctoral thesis on Samuel Beckett, whose writing was a major influence on his work. He made his stage directoral debut with a double bill of Beckett's *Play* and *Happy Days*.

In the 1980s he was employed as a script writer and editor on various TV series, including *Magpie*, *Grange Hill* and *Inspector Morse*. The London Theatre Critics voted him Most Promising Playwright in 1984 and gave him a Best New Play award for *Made in Bangkok* in 1986. His BBC radio play *Hang Up* won the Prix Italia in 1988 and *Cigarettes and Chocolate* won the 1989 Giles Cooper Award and 1989 Sony Award.

He was awarded an honorary DLitt by the University in 1997

Minghella achieved most fame as a screen writer and director, beginning with the film *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, which won several awards, including a BAFTA and Writer's Guild awards. He won an academy award in 1996 as director of *The English Patient*, for which he also co-wrote the screenplay. Other films include *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *Cold Mountain*.

In 2005 Minghella made his directoral debut in the field of opera, with a production of *Madame Butterfly* at English National Opera. The production transferred to the Metropolitan Opera in New York in 2006.

One of his last projects was a television adaptation of *The No1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, which he co-wrote and directed, and which was broadcast after his death, in March 2008.

Custodial history:

Given to Norman Staveley by Anthony Minghella

Description:

Draft scripts and screenplays for *Cello* (later renamed *Truly, Madly, Deeply*), *The Talented Mr Ripley* and *The English Patient*.

Extent: 5 items

Related material:

Anthony Minghella - theatre papers, 1980s-2008 [Ref U DTM]

Access conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader. Please note that items in this collection may not be copied

Hull History Centre: Scripts and Screenplays by Anthony Minghella

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|-----------|---|----------|
| U DX364/1 | 'Days like these' by Anthony Minghella
Typescript. Script, written for Comic Relief, for a woman's monologue in verse about her recollections of events in her life
1 item | 1989 |
| U DX364/2 | 'Cello' by Anthony Minghella
Typescript. First draft of the script that was subsequently renamed 'Truly, Madly, Deeply'
1 item | Sep 1989 |
| U DX364/3 | 'The English Patient' by Anthony Minghella
Typescript. First draft of the screenplay based on the novel by Michael Ondaatje includes a note from Antony Minghella to Norman Stavely
1 item | Apr 1994 |
| U DX364/4 | 'The English Patient' by Anthony Minghella
Typescript. Second draft of the screenplay based on the novel by Michael Ondaatje includes a note from Antony Minghella to Norman Stavely. Also includes a number of cuttings from 'The Times' newspaper including 13 BAFTA nominations (26 Feb 1997), Profile of Antony Mighella and Premiere of 'The English Patient' (both 3 Mar 1997)
1 item | Oct 1994 |
| U DX364/5 | 'The Talented Mr Ripley' by Anthony Minghella
Typescript. Screenplay based on the novel by Patricia Highsmith
1 item | Jan 1998 |