**The Tom Fontana Collection**  
*[ca. 1973-present]*

**Descriptive Summary:**

**Title:** The Tom Fontana Collection  
**Date Span:** [ca. 1973-present]  
**Acquisition Number:** N/A  
**Creator:** Tom Fontana  
**Donor:** Tom Fontana  
**Date of Acquisition:** N/A  
**Extent:** 329 linear ft.  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State  
**Processed:** Current

**Information on Use:**

**Access:**  
The Tom Fontana Collection is open for research with prior approval. Please contact an information concerning use and specific areas of the collection.

**Reproduction of Materials:**  
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published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the SUNY Buffalo State assumes no responsibility.

**Preferred Citation:**
[Description and dates], Box/folder number, The Tom Fontana Collection, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State.

**Biographical Note:**
Tom Fontana, a Buffalo native and 1973 graduate of Buffalo State College, is the award-winning writer and producer of three acclaimed television series, "St. Elsewhere," "Homicide: Life on the Street," and "Oz."

Tom has generously placed his collection of scripts and materials associated with the production of the television series and the television movies in the Archives & Special Collections of E. H. Butler Library. His collection also contains videotapes of many of the episodes in the series he has written and produced.

Tom's accomplishments include involvement as a writer and producer on the series "Tattinger's," "Home Fires," and "The Beat." He wrote the ABC special "The Fourth Wiseman," "Firehouse: the Movie" a pilot for CBS, and "Homicide: Life Everlasting", a TV movie of the week for NBC. He also wrote a made-for-television movie "Judas" that premiered on February 15, 2002 at Canisius High School in Buffalo, NY. The premier honored a fellow graduate of the school, Sean Rooney, who died September 11th during the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.


On November 24, 2003 Tom was inducted into the Western New York Entertainment Hall of Fame at the Shea's Performing Arts Center. Past inductees include Lucille Ball, Buffalo Bob Smith, Broadway's George Abbott and Michael Bennett, playwright A.R. Gurney and jazz musician Grover Washington Jr. Tom's portrait, by Buffalo artist George Palmer, will hang in the lobby of the Shea's theater.

Tom has written several plays which have been produced in New York City, San Francisco, and at the Studio Arena in Buffalo. His collection contains one of his unpublished plays entitled "A Slice of Buffalo, A Peace of Paris."

Tom has his own website where he discusses new projects.

**Scope and Contents:**
Advertising, audiocassettes, awards, books, CD, DVD, drawings, ephemera, interviews, invitations, photographs, poems, posters, props, scripts, t-shirts, VHS, and a water bottle.
Fontana

Inventory:
See Excel formatted inventory. The collection adds new materials regularly; please contact the Archivist for the most up to date version of the inventory.