

**SOUTHWESTERN WRITERS COLLECTION**  
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**TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY - SAN MARCOS**

**Michael Zagst**  
Papers 1985-1996

13 boxes (6 linear feet)

**Acquisition:** donated by Michael Zagst from 1989 to 1996. Accession No. 90-005; 91-059, -084, -092; 92-098, -107, -114, -145; 93-015; 94-171, -193; 94-249; 96-103; 96-010, 96-026; 96-042; 96-117.

**Access:** Open for Research

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**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Novelist Michael Zagst was born September 30, 1950, in Houston, Texas, and graduated with a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1973. Mr. Zagst currently lives and works in Houston.

**BOOKS PUBLISHED**

*The Greening of Thurmond Leaner*. New York: Donald I. Fine, 1986.

*"M.H." Meets President Harding*. New York: Donald I. Fine, 1987.

*The Sanity Matinee*. New York: Donald I. Fine, 1987.

**SCOPE AND CONTENTS**

The collection contains manuscript and typescript drafts of each of Zagst's published novels, as well as those of published and unpublished plays, screenplays, novels, and short stories. Editorial correspondence relating to the publication of Zagst's novels include a letter from Bruce J. Friedman introducing Zagst to Donald I. Fine who would become Zagst's publisher; letters from Fine, from the publicity liaison and from the editor. Also included are entries for the Texas Institute of Letters 1993 short story competition which Zagst co-judged, and Zagst's application for Texas Institute of Letters / Dobie Paisano fellowships. Dates range from 1985-1996.

**INVENTORY****Series 1: Works**

## Subseries A: Novels

*Sanity Matinee* (n.d.)

|                                  |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Copies of original typescript    | 257 | 2-3 |
| Early typescript (1972)          | 659 | 1   |
| Annotated typescript, n.d.       |     | 2-3 |
| Typescript, as sent to publisher |     | 4-5 |
|                                  | 660 | 1-2 |

*The Greening of Thurmond Leaner* (1986)

|  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| First draft, annotated typescript (1978-79)                          |     | 3-5 |
| First draft, typescript (1978-79)                                    |     | 6-7 |
| Version entitled "19 <sup>th</sup> Hole", annotated typescript, n.d. | 661 | 1   |
| Spiral bound typescripts   |     | 2-4 |

## ["M.H." Meets President Harding] 1923 (1987)

|                                   |     |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| First draft, annotated manuscript | 662 | 1   |
| Original typescript               |     | 2-3 |
| Copies of portions of typescript  |     | 4   |
| Typescript, part 1                |     | 5   |
| Typescript, part 2                | 663 | 1   |
| Bound annotated typescript        |     | 2   |
| Typescript                        |     | 3   |

**Series 1: Works, cont.**

## Subseries A: Novels, cont.

|   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| <i>The American Falls</i> (n.d.)<br>Typescript                              | 663 | 4-5 |
| <i>The Last Man in Paradise</i> (1993)<br>First Draft, annotated typescript | 664 | 1   |
| Copies of typescripts, 1992-1993  | 258 | 1-4 |
| <i>Mockingbird Blues</i> (1989-90)<br>First Draft, annotated typescript     | 664 | 2-3 |
| <i>Montrose</i> (1988)<br>Annotated typescript                              | 664 | 4   |
| <i>Utopia, Texas</i> , draft and copy of draft                              | 257 | 4-8 |
| <i>Cahoots</i><br>Notes and annotated typescript                            | 822 | 1-2 |
| Typescript fragments, n.d.  | 822 | 3   |
| Typescript, 1994  | 258 | 5   |
| Unidentified annotated typescript (n.d.)                                    | 664 | 5   |
|   | 665 | 1   |

## Subseries B: Short Stories

|   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| An Act of Faith   | 665 | 2   |
| California  |     |     |
| The Daily News Fortune  |     |     |
| Domestic Management (1972-73)   |     |     |
| The End of the World (2)  |     |     |
| The Five o'Clock Show (ca. 1972-73)   |     |     |
| The Freeloader (ca. 1975)   |     |     |
| I Always Knew I'd Get Published   |     |     |
| I Divorce Thee, I Divorce Thee, I Divorce Thee                                      |     |     |
| Isla de Nanas   | 665 | 3   |
| The Newspaper   |     |     |
| Payday (ca. 1975)   |     |     |
| Raspberries (ca. 1975)  |     |     |
| The Roundup   |     |     |
| Texas Ostriches   |     |     |
| Yankee Go Home (ca. 1972-73)<br>(later developed into novel <i>Sanity Matinee</i> ) |     |     |
| Your Gun Is in the Mail (ca. 1975)  |     |     |
| TIL Short Story Competition 1993  | 258 | 6-7 |

## Subseries C: Plays

|                      |     |   |
|----------------------|-----|---|
| And 40 Nights (n.d.) | 665 | 4 |
| Talk Show (ca. 1979) |     | 5 |

**Series 1: Works, cont.**

## Subseries D: Screenplays

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Deadly Blessing (television script) | 666 |
|-------------------------------------|-----|

1

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Hurricane Season | 2 |
|------------------|---|

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Leaner (adapted from novel) | 3 |
|-----------------------------|---|

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| Unid. | 4 |
|-------|---|

Subseries E: Criticism (book reviews by Zagst in  
*Houston Chronicle*)

5

**Series 2: Clippings (1986-1988)**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <i>Leaner</i> | 6 |
|---------------|---|

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>"M.H." Meets President Harding</i> | 7 |
|---------------------------------------|---|

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Sanity Matinee</i> | 8 |
|-----------------------|---|

**Series 3: Editorial correspondence (1985-1992)**

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257 1

**Series 4: Texas Institute of Letters / Dobie Paisano Fellowship applications**

|         |     |   |
|---------|-----|---|
| 1987-89 | 667 | 1 |
|---------|-----|---|

|         |  |   |
|---------|--|---|
| 1989-90 |  | 2 |
|---------|--|---|