

**The Hermann Rorschach Archives and Museum
Berne**

**Inventory Fonds Walter Morgenthaller
Location: Rorschach Archives**

Reference Code: Rorsch WM

**Prepared by Rita Signer
Compliant with ISAD
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**Berne
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Introduction

Walter Morgenthaler (1882-1965) played an important role in finding a publisher for Rorschach's experiment and in publicising and institutionalising the Rorschach method after Rorschach's death in 1922. He was Honorary President of the International Rorschach Society founded in 1952 and in 1957 initiated the Rorschach Archives.

General Information

Reference Code

Ref. Code: Rorsch
ISIL: CH-000956-2

Use

The use of the Rorschach Archives and Museum for scientific purposes is open to all, but notice is required in advance. Access to the fonds may be limited due to conservational requirements or for reasons of the protection of personal rights.

Address

Universität Bern
Institut für Medizingeschichte
Archiv und Sammlung Hermann Rorschach
Bühlstrasse 26
CH-3000 Bern 9 (Switzerland)

Contact

<http://biblio.unibe.ch/rorschach/en/allginfo.html>

Links

The Hermann Rorschach Archives and Museum

<http://biblio.unibe.ch/rorschach>

HAN: Manuscripts and archives

http://aleph.unibas.ch/F?func=option-update-Ing&file_name=find-b&p_con_Ing=ENG&local_base=rorschach

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Inventory

1 **Fonds Walter Morgenthaler** (Fonds)

3 boxes (23 cm). - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM.

Content: The fonds contains the correspondence between Walter Morgenthaler and Hermann Rorschach, drawing an impressive picture of the difficulties encountered during the preparation and publication of "Psychodiagnostik", and Morgenthaler's correspondence pertaining to his strong and lifelong commitment to the Rorschach Test. In addition there are Rorschach test protocols and papers concerning his teaching activity.

Arrangt.: Organised in 2 series: 1) Correspondence 2) Scientific activities.

Access: Only on inquiry.

Biogr.: Walter Morgenthaler was born on 15th April 1882 as the eldest of five siblings in Kleindietwil, a village in the canton Bern. His grandparents on both sides were peasants. His father was a railway engineer and a surveyor. When Walter Morgenthaler was fifteen the family moved to Bern where in 1902 he began his medical studies. After an intermediate semester in Vienna in 1905/06 he matriculated in Zurich and there completed his studies in 1908. Immediately afterwards he turned to psychiatry and commenced work as an assistant in the Bernische Kantonale Irrenanstalt Waldau directed by Wilhelm von Speyr. In 1910 he terminated his service in Waldau and spent a few months in Munich with Kraepelin and then in Berlin with Ziehen and Oppenheim.

Thereafter he took a position in the Heil- und Pflegeanstalt Friedmatt in Basle where he stayed until 1912. After a short term in the Kantonale Heil- und Pflegeanstalt in Münsingen near Bern he was engaged as a head-physician in the Heil- und Pflegeanstalt Waldau. In 1917 he qualified as university lecturer. From 1920 to 1925 he held the position of the medical superintendent of the private psychiatric hospital Münchenbuchsee near Bern. In 1925 he opened a private practice for psychotherapy and marital counselling where he remained active well into old age. Following a stroke he died on 1st April 1965.

Walter Morgenthaler rendered outstanding services to the Rorschach. It was thanks to him that Hermann Rorschach found a publisher for his test, and after Rorschach's early death in 1922 Walter Morgenthaler threw himself into the task of publicising and institutionalising the Rorschach method. That the setting up of the "Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Psychologie" (1942) and of the Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Psychologie und ihre Anwendungen (1943) were successful is due in no small way to his efforts. Prompted by Morgenthaler, the Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Psychologie set up in 1945 the Rorschach Commission, which was to engage itself in all aspects of instruction in and dissemination of information on research into the Rorschach method. Walter Morgenthaler became Honorary President of the International Rorschach Society founded in 1952. In 1957 the Rorschach Commission initiated the formation the Rorschach Archives administered by the University Library of Bern.

Furthermore he was a pioneer in the training of psychiatric nurses which was regularised in Switzerland in 1928, and was also one of the first to recognise the importance of art in psychiatry. His book on Adolf Wölfli „Ein Geisteskranker als Künstler“ was published in 1921 as the first volume in the series „Arbeiten zur angewandten Psychiatrie“ edited by himself.

Reprod.: Only with agreement of the Rorschach-Archives.

Acq.: Transmitted by K.W. Bash in August 1973.

Creat.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

2 **1 : Correspondence** (Series)

8 cm. - 1914-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1.

Ed.: 1914-1958.

Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

3 **1/1 : Correspondence with Hermann Rorschach 1914-1921** (File)

68 letters. - 1914-1921. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 1.

Ed.: 1914-1921.

Lang.: German.

Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Aut.: Rorschach, Hermann. 1884-1922.

Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Rorschach, Hermann. 1884-1922.

4 **1/2 : Correspondence with various persons 1944-1958** (File)

1,5 cm. - 1944-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 2.

Ed.: 1944-1958.

Content: The file contains inter alia correspondence with M. Loosli-Usteri, Hans Huber, and Olga Rorschach.

Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

5 **1/3 : Correspondence with Anna Berchtold-Rorschach 1955-1957** (File)

5 letters and various enclosures. - 1955-1957. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 3.

Ed.: 1955-1957.

Content: Besides the correspondence there are Anna Berchtold-Rorschach's comments on H. Ellenberger's biographical study on Hermann Rorschach and her recollections from her youth "Einiges aus der Jugendzeit".

Lang.: German.

Note: Anna Berchtold-Rorschach was the sister of Hermann Rorschach.

Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Aut.: Berchtold-Rorschach, Anna. 1888-1974.

Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Berchtold-Rorschach, Anna. 1888-1974.

- 6 **1/4 : Correspondence with Marguerite Loosli-Usteri 1944-1958** (File)
36 letters, 6 postcards, various enclosures. - 1944-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 4.
Ed.: 1944-1958.
Lang.: German.
Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Aut.: Loosli-Usteri, Marguerite. 1893-1958.
Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Loosli-Usteri, Marguerite. 1893-1958.
- 7 **1/5 : Correspondence with Ewald Bohm 1945-1953** (File)
28 letters and various enclosures. - 1945-1953. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 5.
Ed.: 1945-1953.
Lang.: German.
Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Aut.: Bohm, Ewald. 1903-1980.
Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Bohm, Ewald. 1903-1980.
- 8 **1/6 : Correspondence with Verlag Hans Huber 1945-1954** (File)
20 letters and various enclosures. - 1945-1954. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 6.
Ed.: 1945-1954.
Lang.: German.
Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Aut.: Verlag Hans Huber (Bern).
Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Verlag Hans Huber (Bern).
- 9 **1/7 : Correspondence with K. W. Bash 1950-1958** (File)
18 letters and various enclosures. - 1950-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 7.
Ed.: 1950-1958.
Lang.: German.
Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Aut.: Bash, Kenower Weimar. 1913-1986.
Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Bash, Kenower Weimar. 1913-1986.
- 10 **1/8 : Correspondence with Emil Oberholzer and Hans Zulliger 1932-1933** (File)
9 items. - 1932-1933. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 8.

Ed.: 1932-1933.
Lang.: German.
Note.: Independent of one another Oberholzer and Zulliger had intended to publish a book on the technique of the Rorschach and for that reason contacted Walter Morgenthaler.
Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Aut.: Oberholzer, Emil. 1883-1958.
Zulliger, Hans. 1893-1965.
Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Oberholzer, Emil. 1883-1958.
Zulliger, Hans. 1893-1965.

11 **1/9 : Various correspondence and documents relating to G.A. Roemer 1947**
(File)

10 items. - 19947. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 1 : 9.

Ed.: 1947.
Lang.: German.
Aut.: Christoffel, Hans. 1888-1959.
Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Rorschach, Olga. 1878-1961.
Addr.: Mohr, Peter.
Roemer, Georg August Hermann. 1892-1972.
Rorschach, Olga. 1878-1961.
Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.
Benno Schwabe und Co. (Basel).

12 **2 : Scientific activities** (Series)

20 cm. - 1921-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2.

Ed.: 1921-1958.
Lang.: German.

13 **2/1 : Rorschach test protocols** (Sub-series)

33 test protocols. - 1933-1962. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 1.

Ed.: 1933-1962.

Content: Contains test protocols with scorings and summaries, notes and some correspondence.

14 **2/2 : Teaching** (Sub-series)

5 cm. - 1934-1950. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 2.

Ed.: 1934-1950.

15 **2/2/1 : Rorschach test protocols selected for possible use in teaching** (File)

28 items. - 1934-1940. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 2:1.

Ed.: 1934-1940.

Lang.: German.

16 **2/2/2 : Papers and correspondence relating to a course in Rorschach technique run by W. Morgenthaler in Neuchâtel in 1950** (File)

1949-1950. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 2:2.

Ed.: 1949-1950.

Lang.: German and French.

17 **2/2/3 : Papers and correspondence relating to Rorschach diploma awarded by W. Morgenthaler** (File)

2 cm. - 1948-1950. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 2:3.

Ed.: 1948-1950.

Lang.: German and French.

18 **2/3 : Szondi Test** (Sub-series)

2 cm. - 1948-1951. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 3.

Ed.: 1948-1951.

Content: Contains sheets with instinctual profiles (Triebprofile), "blind interpretations" of Szondi test results and corresponding correspondence.

19 **2/4 : Miscellaneous** (Sub-series)

3 cm. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 4.

20 **2/4/1 : Handwritten notes and a chart concerning the Rorschach** (Sub-file)

3 items. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 4:1.

Note.: The chart is showing which of the ten Rorschach cards was most favoured by the tested persons.

Aut.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

21 **2/4/2 : Papers concerning the Swiss Rorschach Commission** (Sub-file)

1 cm. - 1947-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 4:2.

Ed.: 1947-1958.

Content: Circular letters, minutes and other papers.

Lang.: German.

22 **2/4/3 : Various lists of publications and papers donated to the Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Bern for the Rorschach Archives** (Sub-file)

7 lists. - 1956-1958. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 4:3.

Ed.: 1956-1958.

Lang.: German.

23 **2/4/4 : Papers concerning the suicide of a young girl** (Sub-file)

4 letters, 1 brochure. - 1945-1950. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch WM 2 : 4:4.

Ed.: 1945-1950.

Content: Correspondence between W. Morgenthaler and M. Loosli-Usteri, a publication containing poems written by the young girl between 1945 and 1947.

Lang.: German.

Aut.: Loosli-Usteri, Marguerite. 1893-1958.

Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Addr.: Morgenthaler, Walter. 1882-1965.

Loosli-Usteri, Marguerite. 1893-1958.

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