

Media Documentation



The media documentation of the library collects and preserves the traces of German-language literature in media such as the press and radio as well as in the cultural scene.

The collection emphasizes fleeting evidence of literary reception and documentation of the literary life. These materials, often difficult to access, offer researchers an ideal complement to research on holdings in the archive and the library.

For more than 50 years, about 40 relevant newspapers and periodicals have been evaluated, and we have archived articles by and about authors (reviews, columns, critical appraisals, obituaries), about German philology, book and manuscript studies and the publishing trade as well as materials about the social and cultural environment around literature. The holding of more than one million articles is complemented by numerous historical newspaper clippings from authors' papers as well as the various press archives from publishers (e.g. Suhrkamp, Insel, Luchterhand).

An additional emphasis of the collection is directed at literary programs in the radio and television as well as the dramaturgical reception of theatre and musical theatre. In cooperation with far more than one hundred theatre houses and with all public service broadcasters in German-speaking countries, we keep an extensive collection of programs, manuscripts and audio-visual materials.

In documenting these media, these materials have been archived into various collections and indexed individually, through a general description, or through systematic filing.



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