Overview

Welcome to the Salman Rushdie digital archive. On this workstation, you will find selected digital files from Rushdie's Macintosh Performa 5400, one of several computers and other related devices that form the born digital component of the Salman Rushdie papers in Emory University's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL).

The majority of the digital files date from 1992-2002, and consists of notes and drafts of Rushdie's writings and selected correspondence. Of particular interest is a small cache of email correspondence, representing Rushdie's first foray into this emerging form of communication in the late 1990s. Writings include drafts of Rushdie's fiction, such as *East, West* (1994)*, The Moor's Last Sigh* (1995)*, and *The Ground Beneath Her Feet* (1999)*. Nonfiction writings include notes and drafts for *Step Across this Line,* Rushdie's collection of essays and criticism, published in 2002. Other writings include drafts of the *Midnight's Children* and *The Courter* play scripts, as well as drafts of letters to the editor, newspaper columns, poems, and speeches. The Performa 5400 contains a backup of an earlier computer, which Rushdie entitled "OLD MAC," and a laptop, the "Powerbook," which Rushdie likely used in tandem with the Performa 5400.

Finding Aid

Note that additional drafts of Rushdie's writings may be found in the non-digital portion of the Rushdie papers. Consult the Salman Rushdie papers finding aid for an overview of the entire collection and a detailed box and folder listing for the paper portion of the collection. The born digital materials are also briefly described to provide a complete picture of the nature and extent of the entire collection.

Searching and Using the Born Digital Files

- **Emulated Environment**

  Start here to experience the look and feel of Rushdie's original computer environment. Emulation employs current technologies to imitate older systems and applications. In this environment, you will be able to view Rushdie's exact directory structure and open each file in the application in which it was created, such as MacWrite Pro or ClarisWorks.

- **Searchable Database**

  Use the searchable database to find a specific text or to browse the Performa 5400 by directory or type of work, such as fiction, nonfiction, or correspondence. This database enables you to conduct simple or advanced full text searches of individual files and displays the majority of files in PDF format; therefore some original formatting and context may be lost.

Special restrictions

Material available on this workstation is for research use only. Researchers are not permitted to copy or download any files or applications from the emulated environment or the searchable database.

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