

PENNSSTATE



Guide to the Black Sparrow Press Archives, 1967-1974

Accession number: 1974-0012R
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Martin, John

Title: Black Sparrow Press Archives, 1967-1974

Accession number: 1974-0012R

Provenance: Purchased, 1974.

Extent: 22 cubic feet

Repository: Pennsylvania State University, University Libraries, Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Access

Unrestricted access.

Preferred Citation

Black Sparrow Press Archives, 1967-1974, Accession 1974-0012R, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Special Collections Library, University Libraries, Pennsylvania State University.

Arrangement

Arranged annually by publication.

Biographical Note

John Martin founded the Black Sparrow Press in Santa Rosa, California in the mid-1960s. One of the few who published avant-garde work profitably, Martin closed the literary house in May 2002. He sold the backlist of Charles Bukowski, Paul Bowles, and John Fante to Ecco; the Wyndham Lewis line to Ginkgo Press of Corte Madera, California, and the rest of the list went to David Godine in Boston, Massachusetts.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of correspondence, manuscripts, galleys, proofs, setting copies, and hardcover and paperback copies of the books (nos. 95-150) published by the Black Sparrow Press. Authors include Paul Blackburn, Paul Bowles, Charles Bukowski, John Cassavetes, Robert Creeley, Robert Edward Duncan, Clayton Eshleman, David Meltzer, Joyce Carol Oates, Sam Shepard, and Diane Wakoski. Also includes financial records, 1967-1971.

Index Terms

These materials are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Pennsylvania State University. Researchers wishing to find related materials should search the catalog under these index terms.

Personal Name Subjects

Blackburn, Paul

Bowles, Paul, 1910-

Bukowski, Charles

Cassavetes, John, 1929-

Creeley, Robert, 1926-

Duncan, Robert Edward, 1919-

Meltzer, David

Oates, Joyce Carol, 1938-

Shepard, Sam, 1943-

Wakowski, Diane

Corporate Subjects

Black Sparrow Press--Archives

Topical Subjects

Authors and publishers

Form/Genre Terms

Correspondence

Galley proofs

Manuscripts for publication

Container List

Publications Series

Publications, 1970-1974.

Box 1

No. 95

Duncan, Robert: *Tribunals*, Passages 31-35 (published 1970).

Correspondence from Duncan regarding publication details for this title and a work identified as "H.D." Typescript and proof of a first draft, set in error and never published. Art work not used. Typescript; 2 copies of a partial, trial setting, both annotated; mock-up of the "Facsimile of the holograph notebook and of final typescript" inserted into all hardcover copies; proofs, annotated. Three copies of paperback, one sewn and stamped "proof;" three copies of hardcover, one leatherbound.

Box 1

No. 96

Creeley, Robert: *As Now It Would Be Snow* (published 1970).

Typescript; designer's layout; page proofs; two sets of handfolded press sheets, one paperback. This is the Press's 1970 Christmas greeting.

Box 1

No. 97

Kyger, Joanne: *Places To Go* (published 1970).

Correspondence regarding details of publication. Kyger mentions several poetry readings and names the poets involved. Suggests the Press might publish poetry of Ebbe Borregaard. Typescript; two sets of galleys; three sets of proofs, all annotated. Layout (revised from printer's design by Barbara Martin); one paper copy and two hardcover copies.

Box 1

No. 98

Bromige, David: *Threads* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Bromige about publication matters; about rejection of a piece by Butterick; includes quotes from letters from Denise Levertov and Warren Tallman

praising his poems. Typescript; manuscript material edited out; cover art; two sets of galleys, both annotated; two sets of page proofs, annotated; miscellaneous. One paperback copy and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with ink drawing.

Box 2

No. 99

Bukowski, Charles: *Post Office* (published 1971).

Letter from Bukowski (signed "Henry") concerning previous publication of parts of the novel; letter from Bill Katz concerning review copy; typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated; three copies of the book, one inscribed with a drawing; miscellaneous.

Box 2

No. 100

Wakoski, Diane: *On Barbara's Shore* (published 1971).

The one hundredth publication of the Black Sparrow Press, published gratis. Photocopy transcript, proof, both annotated. One paper copy. (Hard cover transferred to Rare Books stacks.)

Box 2

No. 101

Wakoski, Diane: *Greed, Parts 5-7* (published 1971).

Three letters from Wakoski, one from Yaddo writers colony in which she bemoans that she is "the only good poet in the world." Refers to a story by Flannery O'Connor. Typescript, galleys and proofs. One paper and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with a poem entitled "A Shot or Two for Buffalo Bill with flourishes to Tony Weinberger."

Box 2

No. 102

Clark, Tom: *Green* (published 1971).

Twelve letters dealing with various aspects of publication, most on Paris Review letterhead. Typescript, galleys, proofs. One paper and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with drawing and one numbered 14.

Box 2

No. 103

Creeley, Robert: *St. Martin's* (published 1971).

Letters and postcards from Robert and Bobbie regarding publication details. Typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated; velox proofs of monoprints. One paperback and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with art work and numbered 45/50.

Box 2

No. 104

Koller, James: *California Poems* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Koller regarding contract and publication details, sale of manuscripts, and requests for copies of other Black Sparrow books. Typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated; one paperback and three hardcover copies, two numbered 8 and 10.

Box 3

No. 105

Jess: *Translations* (published 1971).

Published for Odyssea Gallery of New York City in conjunction with an exhibition of oil paintings by Jess held in May-June 1971. Correspondence from Jess regarding production details and expressing dissatisfaction with finished product; letter from Robert Duncan regarding preface; clipping from The New York Times about the exhibition, from Tony Weinberger; correspondence from Federico Quadroni of Odyssea regarding exhibition, publication, and cost. Exhibition announcement; list of publisher addresses for permissions. Typescript and galley proofs of preface by Robert Duncan, all annotated. Two sets of photographs, one large and one small; page layout; three sets of proofs, all annotated; mock-up, annotated; two sets of printed copy, one uncut; cover art work. One paperback and three hardcover copies, one a velvet-covered vanity edition.

Box 3

No. 106

Kelly, Robert: *Flesh Dream Book* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Kelly regarding details of publication, one letter explaining significance of title. Typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated; three copies of the book, one inscribed with a poem and sketch.

Box 4

No. 107

Eshleman, Clayton: *Altar* (published 1971).

One letter from Eshleman concerning announcements for the book; typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated; four copies of the book, one inscribed with a poem; and miscellaneous.

Box 4

No. 108

Antin, David: *Meditations* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Antin concerning publication details; typescript, galleys and proofs, some annotated; three copies of the book. Correspondence includes excerpts from Antin's "Exercises."

Box 4

No. 109

Elmslie, Kenward: *Circus Nerves* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Elmslie concerning publication details, additional work in progress, and miscellaneous. Correspondence from Joe Brainard regarding cover art and insert for special edition. Two letters from John Martin to the Register of Copyrights. Early and final versions of typescript; galleys, proofs, and hand-folded press sheets; color layout; miscellaneous. Three copies of the book, one enclosing an original drawing by Brainard.

Box 5

No. 110

Cooney, Seamus: *The Black Sparrow Press--A Checklist* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Cooney regarding corrections to the text; typescript, galleys and proofs, most annotated; five copies of the book, one signed by Robert Kelly, Seamus Cooney, and 26 other Black Sparrow Press authors. Others named in the correspondence: Creeley, Duncan, and Diane [Wakoski].

Box 5 and 6

No. 111

Grossinger, Richard: *Book of the Earth and Sky, Books I and II* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Grossinger concerning publication details; named works include *Book of the Cranberries*, *The Alphabet Book*, *Solar Journal*, dream issue of *lo*, *The Continents*. Typescript, galleys and revised galleys, most annotated; handfolded press sheets, two sets for each Book, one of each uncut. Color layout. Three copies of each book, one set is slipcased.

Box 6

No. 112

Haas, Robert B.: *A Primer for the Gradual Understanding of Gertrude Stein* (published 1971).

Correspondence detailing Gertrude Stein Raffel's dissatisfaction with the book, and Robert Haas's and John Martin's explanations. Review from the *Los Angeles Times* by Robert Kirsch. Letters from Thornton Wilder and Seamus [Cooney?]. Correspondence with copyright holders. Typescript, galleys, three sets of proofs with corrections; hand-folded press sheets; copy for second printing; color layout; dust jacket. Five copies of the book, one in paper dust jacket; one slipcases, numbered copy bearing holograph signature of Gertrude Stein.

Box 7

No. 113

Bromige, David; Kelly, Robert; Wakoski, Diane: *Christmas Book: The Nest; Yesod and Malkuth; The Magi* (published 1971).

Typescript and proofs, annotated; printed copy (one with second color out of register); color layout; two copies of booklet.

Box 7

No. 114

Sorrentino, Gilbert: *Corrosive Sublimate* (published 1971).

Correspondence from Sorrentino regarding publication and distribution, from Dan Rice about cover art, and from Karen Hitzig about contract. Typescript, galleys and proofs (one copy of each inscribed); four printed copies, all with rejected author photo; color layout. Four copies of the book.

Box 7

No. 115

Bowles, Paul: *The Thicket of Spring* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Bowles, Jeffrey Miller and others regarding publication details, particularly the locating of previously published poems. Typescript and material cut from typescript; galleys and proofs, all annotated; color layout. Three copies of the book.

Box 22
No. 116
Morris, Wright: *War Games* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Morris regarding publication details. Typescript; galleys and proofs, all annotated; cover mock-up; color layout. Three copies of the book.

Box 7 and 8

No. 117

Whalen, Philip: *Imaginary Speeches for a Brazen Head* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Whalen regarding publication details and his move from Japan. Typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated; hand-folded press sheets; color layout. Two copies of the book.

Box 8

No. 118

Tyler, Parker: *The Will of Eros* (published 1972).

Letter from Gerard Malanga about Tyler manuscript; three letters from Bern Porter regarding copyrights for Tyler, Charles Henri, and Paul Bowles. Correspondence from Tyler regarding publication details. Individuals mentioned: Robert Duncan, Bern Porter, Creeley, Charles Henri Ford, Paul Bowles, Andy B. Typescript, material cut from typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated. Hand-folded press sheets; one paperback and two hardcover copies (one slipcased presentation copy). Color layout; miscellaneous.

Box 8 and 9

No. 119

Ford, Charles Henri: *Flag of Ecstasy* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Ford and Ed Germain regarding publication details, with much haggling over title. Individuals mentioned: Allen Ginsberg, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Claes Oldenburg, Andreas Brown. Also mentions Ford's film, *Johnny Minotaur*, and an exhibition, "Thirty Images from Italy." Manuscript, first and revised typescripts, and material cut from typescript. Two sets of galleys and three sets of proofs, all annotated. Color layout. Two paperback copies and one hardcover.

Box 9

No. 120

Wakoski, Diane: *Smudging* (published 1972).

Typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated. Handfolded press sheets, color layout (with photo not used), copy for second printing. Typescript, layout and one copy of broadside/flyer of poem, "When Metaphor Replaces Meteor Showers." One paperback and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with poem, "Would That Men Share Their Trees." No correspondence.

Box 9

No. 121

Kelly, Robert: *Raleigh* (published 1972).

Typescript, proof, uncut hand-folded press sheets, dummy. One paper copy on Curtis

rag; one hand-bound copy on Hosho paper, inscribed with poem from the sequence "The Chemical Garden: botanicals, vulneraries, and entertainments around the text of Raleigh."

Box 10

No. 122

Bukowski, Charles: *Mockingbird Wish Me Luck* (published 1972).

One letter, signed "Henry," regarding acknowledgments. First manuscript, typescript, galleys, proofs, all annotated. One set of galleys inscribed with cartoon drawings by Bukowski. Hand-folded press sheets; color layout; typescript, layout and copy 26/100 of a broadside/flyer. One paperback and two hardcover copies, one inscribed with a color illustration by Bukowski.

Box 10 and 11

No. 123

Haas, Robert B., ed.: *William Grant Still and the Fusion of Cultures in American Music* (published 1972).

Correspondence with contributors regarding terms and procedures. Two copies of typescript, annotated. One set of galleys, four proofs, all annotated. Revised charts. Handfolded press sheets; color layout. Two sets of proofs for a brochure.

Box 11

No. 124

Palmer, Michael: *Blake's Newton* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Palmer regarding publication details; two letters from Bobbie Creeley about illustrations. Two versions of typescript, one revised. Two sets of galleys, three proofs, all annotated. Handfolded press sheets; color layout. One paper copy and two hardcover copies, one with color illustration by Creeley tipped in.

Box 11

No. 125

Dawson, Fielding: *The Dream/Thunder Road* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Dawson regarding publication details. Other works mentioned include *Krazy Kat*, *Open Road*, *The Black Mountain Book*, *The Mandalay Dream*, *The Sun Rises Into the Sky*, and *The Greatest Story Ever Told*. Typescript (annotated), revised material, two sets of galleys (both annotated), and three sets of proofs (all annotated). Color layout. One paperback and three hardcover copies, one inscribed with drawing.

Box 12

No. 126

Stepanchev, Stephen: *The Mad Bomber* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Stepanchev relating to publication details, includes additional poems. Persons named include Charles Bukowski and Diane Wakoski, plus numerous bookstore owners. Letter from Elizabeth Kray of the Academy of American Poets about Stepanchev's ineligibility for the Lamont Poetry Selection. Original typescript, material cut from typescript, and revised typescript. Two sets of galley proofs, annotated; three

sets of page proofs, two annotated; hand-foled press sheets. Color layout. Broadside/flyer no. 3: two copies unnumbered; copies no. 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 16. Two copies of paperback; three hardcover, one numbered 50.

Box 12

No. 127

Kelly, Robert: *The Pastorals* (Sparrow 1) (published October 1972).

Letters regarding publication details and personal matters. Names mentioned include Saul Marks, David Smith, N. Young, and Diane Wakoski. Typescript, three sets of proofs, two annotated. Paper copy.

Box 12

No. 128

Eshleman, Clayton: *The Sanjo Bridge* (Sparrow 2) (published 1972).

Typescript, galley proof, and proof, all annotated. Paper copy.

Box 12

No. 129

Clark, Tom: *Smack* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Clark regarding publication details. Mentions a new work, Friends, and Bean News. Typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated. Color layout. One paperback and two hardcover copies, one inscribed.

Box 12

No. 130

Creeley, Robert: *Listen* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Creeley regarding publication details. Other works mentioned include a Whitman selection and a Marisol text, A Day Book, and several of Bobbie's projects. Two letters from Bobbie concerning art work for the book. Typescript, notes for production, two copies of revised transcript, all annotated. Galleys and proofs, two sets of each, annotated. Color layout. One paper copy and two hardcover copies, one inscribed.

Box 13

No. 131

Blackburn, Paul: *Early Selected Y Mas* (published 1972).

Correspondence from Blackburn regarding publication details. Poem: "The Long Day" typed on the back of one letter. Three letters from Dennis Jarrett about photographs for the book, one enclosing a poem by Blackburn: "Pentecost, or What's Untied on Whitsuntide." Letter from Robert Kelly about broadside/flyer. Typescript, material cut from typescript, galleys, proofs, most annotated. Hand-folded press sheets. Color layout and photographs. Broadside/flyer layout with poem: "El Camino Verde." One paperback and two hardcover copies.

Box 13

No. 132

Wakoski, Diane: *The Pumpkin Pie* (published 1972).

Letter from Wakoski about personal matters and complimentary copies. Typescript, galleys and proofs, all annotated. Color layout. Two copies of paperback, one of them marked "1st issue reprinted." Three hardcover copies. A Christmas greeting from the Black Sparrow Press.

Box 13

No. 133

Wakoski, Diane: *Form Is An Extension of Content* (Sparrow 3) (published December 1972).

Letter from Wakoski enclosing typescript. Two copies of typescript, two copies of proofs. One paper copy.

Box 13

No. 134

Finlay, Ian Hamilton: *Honey By the Water* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Finlay regarding publication details. Letters from Stephen Bann, Seamus Cooney, and John Martin, also about publication details. Author's manuscript and publisher's typescript, both annotated. Four sets of proofs, annotated. Color layout, art work, photographs. Hand-folded press sheets. One paperback and two hardcover copies.

Box 14

No. 135

Bromige, David: *Three Stories* (Sparrow 4) (published January 1973).

Letter from Bromige answering publisher's questions. Typescript, material cut from typescript; galleys and proofs, annotated. Paper copy.

Box 14

No. 136

Dawson, Fielding: *The Greatest Story Ever Told: A Transformation* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Dawson regarding publication details; references to *Krazy Kat*, *Black Mountain Book*, and *Dream/Thunder Road*. Typescript (with one substituted page), galleys, and proofs, most annotated. Color layout, handfolded press sheets, postcards. One paper copy and two hardcover, one inscribed.

Box 14

No. 137

Shepard, Sam: *Hawk Moon* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Shepard about publication details; references to poet Patti Smith and the play *Tooth of the Crime*. Typescript, galleys, proofs, all annotated. Color layout; hand-folded press sheets. One paper copy and two hardcover copies.

Box 14

No. 138

Bukowski, Charles: *While the Music Played* (Sparrow 5) (published February 1973).

Typescript, galleys, and proof, all annotated. One paper copy.

Box 14

No. 139

Creeley, Robert: *The Creative* (Sparrow 6) (published March 1973).

Correspondence from Creeley about publication details, personal matters. Typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated. One paper copy.

Box 14

No. 140

Loewinsohn, Ron: *The Leaves* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Loewinsohn regarding publication details and personal matters. Typescript. Galleys and proofs, all annotated. Color layout. One paper copy and two hardcover copies.

Box 15

No. 141

Eshleman, Clayton: *Coils* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Eshleman regarding publication details. Letter from David Streeter with copy of letter taking exception to a review. First manuscript and John Martin's copy of manuscript, both annotated. Revised pages. Galleys and proofs, annotated. Color layout. Hand-folded press sheets. One paper copy and two hardcover copies.

Box 15

No. 142

Grossinger, Richard: *Two Essays* (Sparrow 7) (published April 1973).

Correspondence from Grossinger regarding publication details. Typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated. One paper copy.

Box 15

No. 143

Eshleman, Clayton: *Human Wedding* (published 1973).

Published to celebrate the marriage of Diane Wakoski and Michael Watterlond. Typescript and three paper copies, one edited and marked "Proof."

Box 15 and 16

No. 144

Meltzer, David: *Hero/Lil* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Meltzer regarding publication details. Letters from Allan Brilliant at Unicorn Press regarding the release of *Hero* to Black Sparrow. First version of *Lil* and typescript of *Hero/Lil*. Original and revised galleys; proofs. Color layout; hand-folded press sheets. Two paper copies, one with artist's rejected cover. Two hardcover copies, one in slipcase.

Box 16

No. 145

Wakoski, Diane: *Greed, Parts 8, 9, 11* (published 1973).

Correspondence from Wakoski about her writing and personal matters. Writes about poets Mark Strand and Dan Gerber. Typescript, galleys, and proofs, all annotated. Color

layout; hand-folded press sheets; broadside/flyer (three file copies and one copy numbered 93/100). Four paper copies and two hardcover copies

Box 16

No. 146

Antin, David: *After the War (A Long Novel with Few Words)* (Sparrow 8) (published May 1973).

Two letters from Antin regarding publication details. First manuscript (not used) and typescript, annotated. Galleys and proofs, all annotated. One paper copy.

Box 16

No. 147

Cassavetes, John: *Minnie & Moskowitz* (published 1973).

Letters from literary agent Orin Borstin regarding publication details. Typescript with some annotations. Two sets of galleys, one annotated. Three sets of proofs and two sets of revised proofs, all annotated. Color layout; photography; hand-folded press sheets. One paper copy and two hardcover copies, one inscribed.

Box 16

No. 148

Bukowski, Charles: *Love Poem to Marina* (published 1973).

Typescript and proof, both annotated. Color layout. Three copies of broadside, one numbered 14/100.

Box 16

No. 149

Jaffe, Sherril: *Young Lust & Others* (Sparrow 9) (1973)

Correspondence, typescript, galleys, proofs, and paper copy (uncut).

Box 16

No. 150

Oates, Joyce Carol: *A Posthumous Sketch* (Sparrow 10) (published July 1973).

Correspondence from agent Blanche Gregory regarding publication and contractual rights. Letter from Oates about miscellaneous matters. Typescript, galleys, and proof copy, all annotated. One paper copy.

Box 16

Forthcoming Titles September 1973/January 1974; Checklist & Order Form.

Typescript, proofs and final proofs, all annotated. Color layout. Six paper copies of Forthcoming Titles; five copies of Checklist.

Financial Series

Financial Records, 1967-1971

Box 17

Financial Records, 1967

Bank statements, cancelled checks, income tax receipts, production expenses, deductible expenses, overhead, royalties, invoices #1010 - #1300.

Box 17

Financial Records, 1968

Bank statements, cancelled checks, production expenses, deductible expenses, overhead, royalties, invoices #1301-2217.

Box 22

Financial Records, 1968-1969

Invoices #2218-2917, 2918-5900.

Box 18

Financial Records, 1969-1970

Invoices #3738-5900.

Box 19

Financial Records, 1970

Invoices, #5901-8130.

Box 20

Financial Records, 1971

Invoices, #8131-10376.

Box 21

Financial Records, 1971

Invoices, #10377-11330.