

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the John Gould Fletcher Collection

YCAL MSS 467



by Beinecke staff

May 2011

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 467

CREATOR: Fletcher, John Gould, 1886-1950

TITLE: John Gould Fletcher Collection

DATES: 1911-1965

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.34 linear feet (9 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The John Gould Fletcher collection contains material by, about, and relating to American poet John Gould Fletcher.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.fletcher>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.fletcher>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired through various gifts and purchases, 1942-1964.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The John Gould Fletcher Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

John Gould Fletcher Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

The collection received preliminary processing at the time of acquisition. Further organization, rehousing, and description was carried out in 2011.

Formerly classed as Za Fletcher.

John Gould Fletcher (1886-1950)

John Gould Fletcher, born in Little Rock, Arkansas and educated at Phillips Academy and Harvard (1903-1907), was a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and author. Fletcher lived in England for years before returning home to Arkansas where, in the 1920s and 1930s, he was active with a group of writers and poets known as the Southern Agrarians. Works by Fletcher include *Fire and Wine* (1913), *Goblins and Pagodas* (1916), *The Black Rock* (1928), the autobiography *Life is My Song* (1937), *Selected Poems* (1938), for which he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, *The Burning Mountain* (1946), and the history *Arkansas* (1947). Fletcher married twice, in 1916 to Florence Emily "Daisy" Arbuthnot, and in 1936 to children's book author Charlie May Simon.

Scope and Contents

The John Gould Fletcher collection contains writings, journals, correspondence, and photographic and other materials by, about, or relating to the poet John Gould Fletcher. The collection features original drafts, many corrected, for individual poems and collections of poems, including *Breakers and Granite* (1921) and "Rest in the Harbour" (1916-1917), and short essays. In addition to drafts of original writings by Fletcher, the collection contains reproductions of journals and correspondence, and other papers such as documents, clippings, and printed ephemera.

Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Writings, 1913-1947. II. Journals, undated. III. Correspondence, 1911-1965. IV. Photographic Material, 1951-1960. V. Other Material, 1922-1956.

Collection Contents

Series I: Writings, 1913-1947

1.05 linear feet (3 boxes)

Series I. Writings contains original drafts, many corrected, for early writings by John Gould Fletcher. Writings consist chiefly of drafts for individual poems and collections of poems, such as *Breakers and Granite* (1921), "Rest in the Harbour" (1916-1917), and "The Rock in the Storm," but drafts for a number of short essays can also be found.

Unsorted writings are filed at the end of the alphabetical run of titles.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

b.1	"1939: A Poem"	[circa 1940]
b.1	"Antistrophe"	[19]13 September
b.1	"Blake"	undated
b.1	<i>Breakers and Granite</i> 2 Folders	1916-1920
b.1	"A Carol for the Coincidence of Christmas and Judgement Day"	1931 December
b.1	"Carter's Folly"	undated
b.1	"Christmas at Sixty"	1947, undated
b.1	<i>The Dance Over Fire and Water</i> by Elie Faure	undated
b.1	"Death's March"	1915, undated
b.1	"Fruit of Flame"	1914
b.1	"H. D."	undated
b.1	"The Hand in the Dark"	1927 June 18
b.1	"Japanese Prints"	1914 May
b.1	"Literature and the Professors"	undated
b.2	"London at War"	1918 December
b.2	"Love"	1913
b.2	"Love Song"	1913 September
b.2	"Magazitis Americana: A Diagnosis"	undated
b.2	"Midwinter Love"	1916 February
b.2	[Notebooks] 2 Folders	1917-1925
b.2	"Old South Revisited"	undated

b. 2	"On Liberty and Canal Boats"	undated
b. 2	<i>Parables</i> 2 Folders	undated
b. 2	[Poems]	undated
b. 2	"Rest in the Harbour"	1916-1917
b. 2	"The Rock in the Storm"	undated
b. 3	"The Street Musician"	1913
b. 3	"Strophe"	undated
b. 3	"Ten Years"	1924-1925
b. 3	"Three Epitaphs on John Gould Fletcher"	1913 October 17
b. 3	"To Columbus"	1924, undated
b. 3	<i>The Tree of Life</i>	1914-1915
b. 3	Unsorted 2 Folders	undated

Series II: Journals, undated*0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Series II. Journals appears to contain typescript transcriptions from notebooks for the dates 1904 through 1949.

Arranged chronologically.

b. 4	Journals (1904-1936) <i>23 Folders</i>	undated
b. 5	Journals (1938-1949) <i>13 Folders</i>	undated
b. 5	Unsorted <i>12 Folders</i>	undated

Series III: Correspondence, 1911-1965*0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Series III. Correspondence consists chiefly of copies or transcriptions of letters to and from Fletcher and original third-party correspondence, though original letters from Fletcher can also be found.

Dates assigned below represent circa dates for the dates of the original correspondence rather than the copies or transcriptions.

Unsorted correspondence can be found at the end of the alphabetical run of correspondents.

Arranged alphabetically.

b. 6	Aiken, Conrad <i>3 Folders</i>	1919-1948, undated
b. 6	Anderson, Lee	undated
b. 6	Benét, William Rose	1920-1945, undated
b. 6	Brooks, Van Wyck <i>2 Folders</i>	1920-1937
b. 6	Cournos, John <i>3 Folders</i>	1920-1935, undated
b. 6	Greer, Scott <i>2 Folders</i>	1943-1949, undated
b. 7	H. D. (Hilda Doolittle)	1917, undated
b. 7	Knollenberg, ----	1942 March
b. 7	Monro, Harold <i>3 Folders</i>	1911-1935
b. 7	Mumford, Lewis	1927-1946
b. 7	Nash, Paul	undated
b. 7	O'Connor, Norreys Jephson	1937-1952
b. 7	Rogers, Lyman	1905-1907
b. 7	Tate, Allen <i>2 Folders</i>	1927-1945, undated
b. 7	Wilkinson, Marguerite	1919, undated
b. 7	[Business correspondence] <i>2 Folders</i> Contains third-party correspondence	1950-1965
b. 7	Unsorted <i>3 Folders</i> Includes third-party correspondence	1920-1960, undated

Series IV: Photographic Material, 1951-1960*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

Series IV. Photographic Material contains microfilm and slide transparencies of material relating to John Gould Fletcher which appears to have been assembled by Yale professor Norman Holmes Pearson for purposes of research on Fletcher and/or curation of the library's Fletcher collection. Microfilm documents correspondence between Fletcher and others and slide transparencies document locations in Arkansas.

b. 8	Microfilm <i>3 Folders</i>	1951-1960, undated
b. 8	Slide transparencies	undated

Series V: Other Material, 1922-1956*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

Series V. Other Material consists of material by, about, or relating to John Gould Fletcher which appears to have been assembled by Yale professor Norman Holmes Pearson for purposes of research on Fletcher and/or curation of the library's Fletcher collection. Materials include original documents, copies of writings, correspondence, clippings, and printed ephemera.

Arranged alphabetically by material type.

b. 9	Articles on Fletcher	1953-1956, undated
b. 9	"Bibliographical"	1935-[1937], undated
b. 9	"Biographical"	1929-1956, undated
b. 9	"Fletcher essay"	1946-1951, undated
b. 9	Journal excerpts (1907)	undated
b. 9	"Miscellaneous material"	1922-1955, undated
b. 9	"Miscellaneous notes by Fletcher"	1948 August 11
b. 9	"Mrs. Fletcher's Journal on Dr. Schweitzer"	undated
b. 9	"Permissions"	undated
b. 9	Yale exhibition	1942, undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Poets, American -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats

Microfilms

Occupations

Authors
Poets

Names

Fletcher, John Gould, 1886-1950