Christopher Middleton:

A Preliminary Inventory of an Addition to His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Middleton, Christopher, 1926-2015

Title: Christopher Middleton Papers (Addition)

Dates: 1962-2003

Extent: 40 boxes, 6 galley folders (16.8 linear feet)

Abstract: This acquisition of papers from Christopher Middleton, poet,

translator, and essayist, is a substantial addition to his materials previously received and cataloged at the Ransom Center. The papers include his original poetry and prose works, translations, essays,

correspondence, and published writings.

Call Number: Manuscript Collection MS-02822

Language: English

Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchase, 2003 (R15159)

Processed by: Isabel Morales and Liz Murray, 2004

Repository: Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Scope and Contents

This acquisition of papers from Christopher Middleton, poet, translator, and essayist, is a substantial addition to his materials previously received and cataloged at the Ransom Center. The papers include his original poetry and prose works, translations, essays, correspondence, and published writings. Middleton provided a detailed descriptive list for the collection, and his original order has been followed throughout, except for minor adjustments to maintain consistency. For his original writings, Middleton's order of creation follows a progression from handwritten drafts, primarily in notebooks, to typescripts and ultimately to page proofs and galleys. The material is arranged in three series: Series I. Works, 1968-2003; Series II. Correspondence, 1962-2001; and Series III. Periodical Publications.

Series I. Works contains three subseries, each arranged in chronological order: A. Original Poetry and Prose; B. Translations; and C. Essays and Reviews. Titles of works, primarily published poetry, in Subseries A. include *Our Flowers & Nice Bones* (1969), *The Lonely Suppers of W. V. Balloon* (1975), *Pataxanadu, & Other Prose* (1977), *Carminalenia* (1980), *111 Poems* (1983), *Serpentine* (1985), *Two Horse Wagon Going By* (1986), *Selected Writings* (1989), *The Balcony Tree* (1992), *Intimate Chronicles* (1996), *In the Mirror of the Eighth King* (1999), *Twenty Tropes for Doctor Dark* (2000), *The Word Pavilion and Selected Poems* (2001), *Crypto-Topographia: Stories of Secret Places* (2002), and *Of Mortal Fire: 1999-2002* (2003). In addition to handwritten notes for the majority of works in the chronological listing, there are additional notebooks that contain drafts of poems, translations, and essays. Because multiple works are represented in each notebook, an index was created to link the published work with the various notebooks. This alphabetical index is found at the end of the folder list.

The prose and poetry translations in Subseries B. contain anthologies, edited by Middleton and translated in collaboration with others, as well as his translations of others' works. Included are *Modern German Poetry*, 1910-1960 (1962), German Writing Today (1967), Selected Letters of Friedrich Nietzsche (1969), Christa Wolf's The Quest for Christa T (1970), Selected Poems of Friedrich Hölderlin and Eduard Mörike (1972), Robert Walser's Selected Stories (1983), Selected Poems of Goethe (1983), Christoph Meckel's The Figure on the Boundary Line: Selected Prose (1983), Andalusian Poems (1993), and numerous works by Gert Hofmann and Lars Gustaffson (1984-2000). Essays and reviews are found in Subseries C., most especially The Pursuit of the Kingfisher (1983).

Series II. Correspondence, 1962-2001, contains two subseries, Alphabetical Files and Chronological Files. The Alphabetical Files contain letters from poets, writers, and translators, with occasional copies of Middleton's responses. Correspondents include Leonardo Alishan, Basil Bunting, Cid Corman, Michel Deguy, Babette Deutsch, James Dickey, Lawrence Durrell, Ian Hamilton Finlay, Günter Grass, Thom Gunn, Donald Hall, Michael Hamburger, Michael Harlow, John Hawkes, Ernst Jandl, Robinson Jeffers, Erwin Jereb, Ronald Johnson, August Kleinzahler, Denise Levertov, Cecil Day Lewis, Thomas Lowenstein, Gerard Malanga, Robert Marteau, Friederike Mayröcker, Mary McCarthy, W. S. Merwin, Gloria Oden, Octavio Paz, Peter Redgrove, Hans Richter,

David Rokeah, Claude Royet-Journoud, Siegfried Sassoon, Thomás Segovia, Karl Shapiro, Roger Shattuck, Edison Simons, Nathaniel Tarn, Dumitru Tsepeneag, Rosmarie and Keith Waldrop, Donald Weismann, David Wevill, Tom Whalen, John Willett, and Jonathan Williams. The Chronological Files, 1962-2001, are subdivided into three subject areas: Publishers, Periodicals, and Translations and editorial material.

The periodical publications in Series III. contain writings by Middleton, especially poems, but also essays and reviews. The material is arranged in alphabetical order by serial title.

Separated Material

Middleton's works and other books received with the manuscripts have been transferred to the Ransom Center Library.

Series I. Works, 1968-2003

Subseries A. Original Poetry and Prose

Our Flowers & Nice Bones (1969), typescript	Box 1 Folder 1
The Lonely Suppers of W. V. Balloon (1975)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	
1968-1972	Folder 2
1968-1973	Folder 3
Corrected typescript	Folder 4-6
Pataxanadu, & Other Prose (1977), corrected typescripts	Box 2 Folder 1-4
Carminalenia (1980)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks, 1975 and 1977-1978	Folder 5
Corrected typescripts	Folder 6-7
Corrected typescripts (cont'd) Box	3 Folder 1
Page proofs, corrected	Folder 2
"Poems about People," reading in Boston, March 1982, typescripts and published poems	Folder 3
111 Poems (1983), production material and proofs	Folder 4-6
Serpentine (1985), typescript	Folder 7
Typescript, cont'd Box 4	Folder 1-2
Two Horse Wagon Going By (1986)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	

Middleton, Christopher, 1926-2015	Manuscript Collection MS-02822
1984-1985	Folder 3
1985-1986	Folder 4
Typescript with handwritten notes	Folder 5-7
Corrected page proofs	Box 5 Folder 1
Selected Writings (1989), typescript	Folder 2-3
The Balcony Tree (1992)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	
Mar. 1987-Jan. 1990	Folder 4
July 1990-Sept. 1991	Folder 5
Typescripts	Folder 6-8
Typescripts, cont'd	Box 6 Folder 1
Intimate Chronicles (1996)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	
1991-1993	Folder 2
1993-1995	Folder 3
Corrected typescript	Folder 4
Corrected page proofs	Folder 5
"Typescripts removed for French book"	Folder 6
In the Mirror of the Eighth King (1999)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks, n.d.	Folder 7
Typescript	Box 7 Folder 1
Typescript sent to publisher	Folder 2
Corrected proofs	Folder 3

Twenty Tropes for Doctor Dark (2000)	Folder
Handwritten and typescript drafts	Folder 4-6
Corrected proofs	Folder 7
The Word Pavilion and Selected Poems (2001)	Folder
Handwritten notebooks, 1995-1999	Folder 8-9
Corrected typescript	Box 8 Folder 1
Crypto-Topographia: Stories of Secret Places (2002)	Folder
Typescripts, complete and incomplete	Folder 2-3
Two unpublished (omitted) texts	Folder 4
Corrected page proofs	Folder 5
Of the Mortal Fire: 1999-2002 (2003), handwritten and typescript drafts of p	ooems Folder
Miscellaneous notebooks	Box 9 Folder
1971-1974	Folder 1
1974-1975	Folder 2-3
1976-1978	Folder 4
1977	Folder 5
1977-1982	Folder 6
1981-1984	Folder 7
1983	Folder 8
1993	Box 10 Folder 1
1994	Folder 2

Middleton, Christopher, 1926-2015	Manuscript Collection MS-02822
1995	Folder 3
1996	Folder 4
1996-1997	Folder 5
1997	Folder 6
1997-1998	Folder 7
1998	Folder 8-9
Subseries B. Translations	Folder
Modern German Poetry, 1910-1960 (1962), edited by Mich	nael Hamburger and CM
Handwritten and typescript translations	Folder 10-11
Galleys [*removed to galley files]	Folder *
German Writing Today (1967), CM editor and contributing	translator Folder
Editorial material, duplicate typescripts, and translations	Folder 12
Typescript, complete	Box 11 Folder 1-2
Selected Letters of Friedrich Nietzsche (1969), edited and to	ranslated by CM Folder
Handwritten notebooks, translations	Folder 3-4
Additions to Nietzsche letters	Folder 5
Walser, Robert. Jakob von Gunten (1969), CM translator; hand typescripts	randwritten notebooks Folder 6
"Rudolf Kassner, Selected Essays" (ca. 1969)	Folder
Handwritten notebook	Folder 7
Handwritten notebook (cont'd)	Box 12 Folder 1

Folder 7-8

Typescript	Folder 2-3
Wolf, Christa. The Quest for Christa T (1970), CM translator; handwritten notebooks	Folder 4
Selected Poems of Friedrich Hölderlin and Eduard Mörike (1972), CM translator; typescript	Folder 5-6
Richter, Hans. "Begegnungen von Dada bis Heute" (ca. 1974), translation by CM	Folder
Handwritten draft	Folder 7
Complete typescript Box	13 Folder 1
Walser, Robert. Selected Stories (1983), CM editor and contributing translator	Folder
Handwritten notebooks and typescript drafts	Folder 2-5
Galleys [*removed to galley files]	Folder *
Selected Poems of Goethe (1983), CM editor and contributing translator	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	Folder 6-7
Typescripts Bo	x 14 Folder
English	Folder 1-2
German	Folder 3-4
Meckel, Christoph. <i>The Figure on the Boundary Line: Selected Prose</i> (1983), CM editor and contributing translator	Folder
Handwritten notebook	Folder 5
Typescript	Folder 6
Hofmann, Gert	Folder
The Spectacle at the Tower (1984), CM translator	

Handwritten notebooks

Translator's observations on the book	Folder 9
Typescript B	Sox 15 Folder 1-2
Galleys [*removed to galley files]	Folder *
Our Conquest (1985), CM translator	Folder
Handwritten notebooks	Folder 3-4
Typescript	Folder 5-6
Page proofs B	Sox 16 Folder 1-2
Galleys	Folder 3
The Parable of the Blind (1986), CM translator	Folder
Handwritten notebook	Folder 4
Typescripts, revised; received from the publishers	Folder 5-6
Galleys	Folder 7
German edition	Folder
Typescript	Folder 8
Page proofs	Box 17 Folder 1
Galleys	Folder 2
Balzac's Horse and Other Stories (1988), selected and translated by CM	Folder
Handwritten notebook	Folder 3
"Tolstoy's Head" typescript	Folder 4
Typescripts	Folder 5-6
German typescripts by Hofmann	Folder 7
Galleys	Folder 8

Folder 9	Offprints of translations
s Folder	Gustafsson, Lars. The Stillness of the World before Bach: New Selected Poems (1988), CM editor and contributing translator
Folder 10	Handwritten material, possibly not used
Folder 11	Translation of poem by Yvonne Sandstrom; typescript of introduction and editorial note by CM
Box 18 Folder 1-2	Handwritten and typescript drafts
Folder 3-4	Typescripts, complete collection with copy
Folder *	Galleys [*removed to galley files]
Folder	Andalusian Poems (1993), CM translator, in collaboration with Leticia Garza-Falcón
Folder 5-6	Handwritten and typescript drafts
Folder 7	Editorial material
Folder 8	Photocopies of related articles and translations
Sox 19 Folder 1	Paginated typescript B
Folder 2	Paginated typescript, photocopy
Folder 3-4	Corrected proofs, with spiral bound version
Folder 5	Translations published in periodicals
Folder 6	"Robert Walser, A Painter's Life," in <i>Robert Walser and the Visual Arts</i> , ed. by Tamara Evans (1996); handwritten notebook
g Folder	Gustafsson, Lars. <i>Elegies and Other Poems</i> (2000), CM editor and contributin translator

Handwritten and typescript translations of all twenty-one new poems	Folder 7
Editorial materials	Folder 8
Paginated typescripts, complete Box	20 Folder 1
Incomplete typescripts, culled pages	Folder 2-3
Other translations	Folder
German, 1950s-1980s	
Handwritten and typescript translations from eighteen poets	Folder 4
Translations from eight poets and one prose writer, 1960s-1980s	Folder 5-6
Translations including the L.A. Festival of 1980	Folder 7
Original and translation of Ernst Jandl's radio play "The Giant"	Folder 8
French poets Albert Glatigny, Mallarmé, Rimbaud, Laforgue, Péret; most used Faint Harps and Silver Voices: Selected Translations (2000); translations from other languages; and editorial work	
Subseries C. Essays and Reviews	Folder
The Pursuit of the Kingfisher (1983)	
Typescripts	Folder 4-5
Galleys	Folder 6
"On the Mental Image," in <i>Jackdaw Jiving</i> (1997), handwritten and typescript drafts, 1990-1996	Folder 7
Introduction to <i>Jackdaw Jiving</i> ; essay "Mallarmé, Rilke, and the Orphic Voice," 1998; and review article on Millan's <i>Life of Stéphane Mallarmé</i>	Folder 8
Various essays and reviews	Folder 9

Series II. Correspondence, 1962-2001

Subseries A. Alphabetical Files

A	Box 22 Folder 1
Alishan, Leonardo	Folder 2
Ba-Bi	Folder 3
Bl-Bu	Folder 4
C	Folder 5
D	Folder 6
Deguy, Michel	Folder 7
E	Folder 8
F	Folder 9
Finlay, Ian Hamilton	Folder 10
G	Folder 11
На-Ні	Folder 12
Hall, Donald	Box 23 Folder 1-2
Hamburger, Michael	Folder 3-4
Harlow, Michael	Folder 5
Но-Ни	Folder 6
I-J	Folder 7
Jandl, Ernst	Folder 8
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K	Folder 2
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Marteau, Robert	Folder 8
Mayröcker, Friederike	Folder 9
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R	Box 25 Folder 1
Richter, Hans	Folder 2
Rokeah, David	Folder 3
Royet-Journoud, Claude	Folder 4
S	Folder 5
Segovia, Thomás	Folder 6
Shattuck, Roger	Folder 7
Simons, Edison	Folder 8
T	Folder 9
Tarn, Nathaniel	Folder 10
Tsepeneag, Dumitru	Folder 11
V-W	Folder 12
Waldrop, Rosmarie and Keith	Folder 13
Weissman, Donald	Folder 14
Wevill, David	Folder 15
Whalen, Tom	Folder 16
Willett, John	Folder 17
Williams, Jonathan	Box 26 Folder 1-2

Y-Z	Folder 3
Subseries B. Chronological Files	Folder
Publishers	
1962, Torse 3: Poems 1949-1961, with reviews	Folder 4-5
1965, Nonsequences: Self Poems, with reviews	Folder 6-7
1965-1966, miscellaneous clippings; radio script by Barry Sullivan (BBC); letters from "Jyl"	and Folder 8
1969, Our Flowers & Nice Bones, with reviews and clippings	Folder 9
1970s-2000, small and other presses	Box 27 Folder
1975, The Lonely Suppers of W. V. Balloon	Folder 2
1975-1984, Graziano, Frank; Grilled Flowers Press and Logbridge-Rhodes publishers	Folder 3
1975-2000, Carcanet Press	Folder 4-7
1975-2000, Carcanet Press, cont'd	Box 28 Folder 1-4
1976-1999, Whalen, Tom (writer, teacher, and translator of Robert Walser)	Folder 5
1978, Pataxanadu, & Other Prose and Carminalenia, reviews	Folder 6
1979-1982, Longville, Tom; Grosseteste Press	Folder 7
1981-1983, Meckel, The Figure on the Boundary Line	Folder 8
1981-2000, Frazer, Tony; Shearsman Press	Folder 9

1983-1986, 1989, reviews of various works	Folder 10
1988-1994, Andalusian Poems, with reviews	Folder 11
1988-1994, Andalusian Poems, cont'd	Box 29 Folder 1
1992-2002, reviews	Folder 2
1997, Jackdaw Jiving: Selected Essays on Poetry & Translation	Folder 3
2000, Faint Harps and Silver Voices: Selected Translations	Folder 4
Periodicals	Folder
1962, 1973-1978	Folder 5
1979-1981	Folder 6
1982-1983	Folder 7
1984-1995	Box 30 Folder 1-2
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1962, Modern German Poetry; Secker and Warburg, Günter Grass	Folder 5
1964-1967, German Writing Today, reviews and textual material	Folder 6
1966-1969	Box 31 Folder
Selected Letters of Friedrich Nietzsche, with reviews and reprint of letters by Hackett (1996)	Nietzsche Folder 1-3
Walser, Robert. Jakob von Gunten, with reviews	Folder 4-5
1967, Georg Trakl, Selected Poems	Folder 6

1969-1974, Willett, John and Ralph Manheim, eds., <i>Bertolt Brecht</i> , with translations	Folder 7
1970, Wolf, Christa. The Quest for Christa T., reviews only	Folder 8
1979-1984, Jayyusi, Salma, with translations for Modern Arabic Poetry	Folder 9-10
1980-1983	Box 32 Folder
Robert Walser, Selected Stories, with reviews and translations	Folder 1-2
Selected Poems of Goethe, with reviews	Folder 3-5
1985-2001, Gustafsson, Lars. The Stillness of the World Before Bach and It and Other Poems, with reviews	Elegies Folder 6

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Series III. Periodical Publications

Agenda **Box** 33 Vol. 32, no. 2, Summer 1994 Vol. 35, no. 3, Autumn 1997 The Agni Review, vol. 22, 1985 Aileron, vol. 6, no. 1, 1985 Antaeus, no. 60, Spring 1988 **Bookways** No. 6, January 1993 No. 11, April 1994 Chicago Review **Box** 34 Vol. 46, no. 2, 2000 Vol. 48, no. 2-3, Summer 2002 Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art, no. 26, 1996 Frames 6, 1987 **Grand Street**

50, vol. 13, no. 2, Fall 1994

53, vol. 14, no. 1, Summer 1995

62, vol. 16, no. 2, Fall 1997

The Haiku Quarterly, no. 17, 1996

Hang Together, nos. 50-51, 1987

The Lace Neck Review, no. 1, 1991

Lingo: A Journal of the Arts, no. 5, 1996

Literary Imagination

Vol. 2, no. 2, Spring 2000

Vol. 3, no. 1, Winter 2001

Vol. 4, no. 1, Winter 2002

The New Yorker

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December 6, 1993

April 5, 1993

June 20, 1994

Ninth Decade

No. 2, 1983

No. 4, 1984

No. 9, 1987

Numbers

Two, Vol. 2, no. 1, Spring 1987

Five, Vol. 4, no. 1, Spring 1989

Oasis

No. 57, January 1993

No. 100, June 2000

The Oxford Quarterly, vol. 1, no. 4/vol. 2, no. 1, Spring/Summer 1977

Box 37

The Paris Review, vol. 37, no. 135, Summer 1995

Partisan Review

Vol. 65, no. 1-2, 1998

PN Review Box 38

47, vol. 12, no. 3, 1985

52, vol. 13, no. 2, 1986

55, vol. 13, no. 5, 1987

67, vol. 15, no. 5, 1989

68, vol. 15, no. 6, 1989

70, vol. 16, no. 2, 1989

73, vol. 16, no. 5, 1989

78, vol. 17, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1991

84, vol. 18, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1992

85, vol. 18, no. 5, May-June 1992

87, vol. 19, no. 1, Sept.-Oct. 1992

90, vol. 19, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1993

91, vol. 19, no. 5, May-June 1993

92, vol. 19, no. 6, July-Aug. 1993

94, vol. 20, no. 2, Nov.-Dec. 1993

97, vol. 20, no. 5, May-June 1994

99, vol. 21, no. 1, Sept.-Oct. 1994

100, vol. 21, no. 2, Nov.-Dec. 1994

102, vol. 21, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1995

105, vol. 21, no. 7, Sept.-Oct. 1995

108, vol. 22, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1996

109, vol. 22, no. 5, May-June 1996

110, vol. 22, no. 6, July-Aug. 1996

111, vol. 23, no. 1, Sept.-Oct. 1996

115, vol. 23, no. 5, May-June 1997

121, vol. 24, no. 5, May-June 1998

125, vol. 25, no. 3, Jan.-Feb. 1999

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126, vol. 25, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 1999

128, vol. 25, no. 6, July-Aug. 1999

132, vol. 26, no. 4, Mar.-Apr. 2000

Poetry, vol. 139, no. 2

Poetry Australia, no. 102, 1985

RiverSedge, vol. 12, no. 2, Spring 1998

Southern Humanities Review

Vol. 20, no. 2, Spring 1986

Vol. 21, no. 1, Winter 1987

Sulfur

Vol. 15-17, 1986

Vol. 38, Spring 1996

The Threepenny Review

51, vol. 13, no. 3, Fall 1992

52, vol. 13, no. 4, Winter 1993

54, vol. 14, no. 2, Summer 1993

55, vol. 14, no. 3, Fall 1993

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Index of Works

Bolded locations indicate that the relevant material is included in a notebook containing multiple works.

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- Balzac's Horse and Other Stories--17.3-9
- Carminalenia--2.5-3.2; 9.2; 9.4; 9.6
- Crypto-Topographia: Stories of Secret Places--8.2-5; 10.9
- Faint Harps and Silver Voices: Selected Translations--21.1-3
- German Writing Today--10.12-11.2
- Gustafsson, Lars. *Elegies and Other Poems--*19.7-20.3
- Gustafsson, Lars. The Stillness of the World before Bach: New Selected Poems--17.10-18.4
- Hofmann, Gert. Our Conquest--15.3-16.3
- Hofmann, Gert. The Parable of the Blind--16.4-17.2
- Hofmann, Gert. The Spectacle at the Tower--14.7-15.2
- In the Mirror of the Eighth King--4.4; 5.5; 6.3; 6.7-7.3; 10.3
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- Meckel, Christoph. The Figure on the Boundary Line: Selected Prose--14.5-6
- Modern German Poetry, 1910-1960--10.10-11
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- Pataxanadu, & Other Prose--1.2; 2.1-4
- "Poems about People"--3.3
- The Pursuit of the Kingfisher--9.4; 9.7; 21.4-6
- Richter, Hans. "Begegnungen von Dada bis Heute"--12.7-13.1
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- Rudolf Kassner, Selected Essays--11.7-12.3
- Selected Letters of Friedrich Nietzsche--11.3-5
- Selected Poems of Friedrich Hölderlin and Eduard Mörike--12.5-6
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- Selected Writings--5.2-3
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- Twenty Tropes for Doctor Dark--7.4-7
- Two Horse Wagon Going By--4.3-5.1; 9.4; 9.6; 9.7
- Walser, Robert. Jakob von Gunten--11.6
- Walser, Robert. Selected Stories--13.2-5; see also 14.1
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