Philip Callow:

An Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Callow, Philip, 1924-2007

Title: Philip Callow Papers

Dates: 1949-2006

Extent: 22 document boxes, 1 oversize box (9.24 linear feet), 1 galley folder

(gf)

Abstract: The Philip Callow Papers, 1949-2006, consist mainly of manuscripts

for novels, poetry, short stories, biographies, two autobiographical works, and a radio play representing the bulk of Callow's published writings, plus a small amount of correspondence with friends, other

writers, agents, editors, and publishers.

Call Number: Manuscript Collection MS-00664

Language: English

Access: Open for research. Researchers must create an online Research

Account and agree to the Materials Use Policy before using archival materials. Part or all of this collection is housed off-site and may require up to three business days' notice for access in the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Please contact the Center

before requesting this material: reference@hrc.utexas.edu

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchases, 1964-2009 (R1613, R2088, R4085, R5971, R7293,

R12352, R12427, R13037, R14340, R14473, R14499,

2009-04-02-P)

Processed by: Joan M. Sibley, 2010

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

Biographical Sketch

Philip Kenneth Callow was born 26 October 1924 in Birmingham, England. He grew up in Coventry and left Coventry Technical College when he was apprenticed to be a toolmaker at the age of 15. This occupation exempted him from military service, and he lived in Leamington Spa during World War II and in Nottingham and Plymouth in later years. After the war, he took a variety of civil service and clerical jobs and began writing in his spare time.

Many of Callow's novels draw from his own experiences growing up in a working-class home in the Midlands and touch upon his education, employment, and the hardships experienced in wartime and postwar England. His first novel, *The Hosanna Man* (1956), was very well reviewed, but the threat of a lawsuit by an individual who claimed to recognize himself in the book led publisher Jonathan Cape to withdraw and pulp all unsold copies rather than fight a libel case. The book still managed to win several awards and Callow received an Arts Council grant that enabled him to write full-time.

Among his 16 novels, the trilogy formed by *Going to the Moon* (1968), *The Bliss Body* (1969), and *Flesh of Morning* (1971) was perhaps his best-received and appreciated fictional work. Callow also published several volumes of poetry (his first collection, *Turning Point*, appeared in 1964) as well as short stories, plays, and also essays and book reviews contributed to *New Statesman*, *Spectator*, *Tribune*, *Listen*, and *Vogue*.

At the suggestion of his agent, Callow also wrote biographies of the figures he most admired, beginning with fellow-Midlander and stylistic influence D. H. Lawrence (*Son and Lover*, 1975). Callow's talents as both poet and lifelong amateur painter contributed to his ability to render a series of sensitive biographical portraits of several other writers and artists, including Anton Chekhov, Paul Cezanne, Robert Louis Stevenson, Vincent Van Gogh, and Walt Whitman. He also published two autobiographical works, *In My Own Land* (1965) and *Passage from Home* (2002).

Callow was married to Irene Christian Vallance (1952-1973), Penelope Jane Newman (1974-1987), and Anne Jennifer Golby (1987-2007). He died on 22 September 2007, survived by his wife Anne and a daughter from his first marriage, Fleur Alyse Harvey.

Sources:

Belbin, David. "Philip Callow." *The Independent*, 27 September 2007, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/obituaries/philip-callow-403638.html (accessed 13 October 2010).

"Philip Callow." *Times Online Obituary*, 25 September 2007, http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/obituaries/article2531271.ece (accessed 13 October 2010).

"Philip Kenneth Callow." *Contemporary Authors Online*, http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/GLD/ (accessed 13 October 2010).

Scope and Contents

The Philip Callow Papers, 1949-2006, consist mainly of manuscripts for novels, poetry, short stories, biographies, two autobiographical works, and a radio play representing the bulk of Callow's published writings, plus a small amount of correspondence with friends, other writers, agents, editors, and publishers. The papers are arranged into two series: I. Works, 1949-2004, and II. Correspondence, 1952-2006. Part of this collection was previously accessible through a card catalog but has been recataloged as part of a retrospective conversion project.

Series I. Works makes up the great majority of the collection and consists of drafts and proofs for Callow's works. Arranged alphabetically by title, these include manuscripts for nearly all of Callow's published output plus an early unpublished novel (A Hood for the Brightness, 1949), an untitled work (My friend..., 1952) in the form of a letter, Time for Johnnie (a juvenile version of *Some Love*, 1991), and a collaborative epistolary work (Open Cage, 1961) written with Ronald Hall. In addition to manuscripts for most of his published collections of poetry, there are also several other proposed collections that include poems eventually published in other volumes. Manuscripts for all of the autobiographical and biographical works are present, often accompanied by research materials, outlines, notes, illustrations, blurbs, dust jacket designs, and reviews. All manuscript titles appear in the folder list in this finding aid.

Correspondence in Series II. makes up only a single box of the papers and has been subdivided into outgoing and incoming letters, and subsequently arranged alphabetically by the name of the recipient or the author. Much of the correspondence concerns the publication of his works, such as letters with agents, editors, and publishers. Best represented correspondents include Graham Ackroyd, Bodley Head (Firm), Peter Day (Allison & Busby), Ivan R. Dee (Ivan R. Dee, Inc., Publisher), Elizabeth Fairbairn (John Johnson Author's Agent Limited), Ray Gosling, John Killick (Littlewood Press), John Lucas (Shoestring Press), Carol O'Brien (Constable Publishers), and David Tipton. There are also letters from fellow authors, including Elizabeth Berridge, Norman Mailer, Stanley Middleton, John Cowper Powys, and J. B. Priestley. An index of all correspondent names is included in this finding aid.

Related Material

Additional letters written by Philip Callow are present in the Ransom Center's manuscript collections for Francis Henry King, John Lehmann, and J. B. Priestley.

Separated Material

The Literary File in the Photography Collection contains a portrait of Philip Callow by Nicholas Elder. There is a single folder for Callow in the Center's Vertical File Collection containing two newspaper clippings of articles by or about Callow and a series of 14 printed postcards with poems by Callow and graphics by Geoff Clarke.

Series I. Works, 1949-2004

Another Flesh (omnibus of three-novel trilogy, 1989) see Going to the Moon, The Body, and Flesh of Morning	he Bliss
Bare Wires (poetry, 1972), signed typescript with editor's markings, undated	Container 1.1
Black Rainbow (novel, 1999)	
First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions and notes, undated (titled Wild Spring)	Container 1.2
Complete typescript, bound photocopy, undated (title The Silence of Stars crossed out)	Container 1.3
The Bliss Body (novel, second in trilogy, 1969)	
First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions and handwritten and typed not undated	es, Container 1.4
Final draft, typescript with printer's markings, undated	Container 1.5
Final draft, carbon copy typescript, undated	Container 1.6
Proof copy, 1969	Container 1.7
Body of Truth: D. H. Lawrence, the Nomadic Years (biography, 2003)	
Draft, typescript with corrections, undated Co	ontainer 1.8-9
	Container

Final draft, typescript with editor's corrections and printer's markings, 2003

Container
2.1-2

Author's first proof, with handwritten corrections, 2003

Container
2.3-4

Cave Light (poetry, 1981), typescript, undated Container 2.5

Chekhov, the Hidden Ground (biography, 1998)

First draft, typescript with corrections, undated Container 2.6-7

Final version, typescript with corrections and printer's markings, 1998

Container
3.1-3

Final version, photocopied typescript, undated Container 3.4-7

Clipped Wings (novel, 1964)

First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions and handwritten and typed notes, **Container** undated (titled The Birds)

4.1

Carbon copy typescript, undated (titled The Naturals)

Container 4.2

Typescript with handwritten revisions, undated (titles The Naturals and The Birds Container deleted)

4.3

Typescript, undated

Container 4.4

Carbon copy typescript, undated

Container 4.5

Additional pages incorporated into final version, handwritten and typed pages with handwritten revisions, undated

Container 4.6

Galley proofs with handwritten corrections, 1964

Container gf 1

Signed proof copy, 1964

Container 4.7

Common People (novel, 1958)

Handwritten manuscript / incomplete with revisions, in notebook, undated

Container

5.1

Typescript / first draft with handwritten emendations and typed insert, undated (titled Raw Laughter)

Container 5.2

Typescript / second draft, undated (titled Raw Laughter)

Container 5.3

Typescript / third draft with handwritten revisions, undated (titled Death of an Old Man)

Container 5.4

Critical extracts from five critics, typescript / copy, undated

Container 5.5

Facing South: Poems 1950-1962, typescript, undated (unpublished, some poems used later in *Turning Point*)

Container 5.6

Fires in October (poetry, 1994)

Typescript, undated

Container 5.7

Typescript with typesetting marks, 1993

Container 5.8

Page proofs with corrections, 1994

Container 5.9

Flesh of Morning (novel, third in trilogy, 1971)

First draft, typescript with handwritten notes and revisions, undated	Container 5.10
Final, carbon copy typescript, undated	ontainer 6.1
Final, typescript with handwritten corrections and printer's markings, 1971; dust jacket	Container 6.2
From Noon to Starry Night: A Life of Walt Whitman (biography, 1992)	
Research materials, notes, proposal, undated	ontainer 6.3
First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions and inserts, undated	Container 6.4-5
Final draft, typescript with corrections, undated	Container 6.6-7.1
Final draft, photocopy with corrections, undated Con	tainer 7.2-3
Setting copy, with printer's markings, 1992 Con	tainer 7.4-5
Galley proofs, with corrections, 1992	ntainer 23.1
Page proofs, uncorrected, 1992	niner 7.6-8.1
Page proofs, with corrections, 1992	tainer 8.2-3
Jacket copy, blurbs, reviews, 1991-1993	ontainer 8.4
Going to the Moon (novel, first in trilogy, 1968)	
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Proof copy, with corrections, 1968	ontainer 9.2
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Handwritten manuscript / incomplete with revisions, in notebook, undated	Container 9.4
Typescript / incomplete with handwritten revisions, undated	Container 9.5
<i>Icons</i> (poetry, 1987), drafts of poems, mainly typescript but also handwritten manuscripts, all with revisions; typescript draft with table of contents and corrections; both undated; proof copy, 1987	Container 9.6
In My Own Land (autobiography, 1965)	
First draft of diary section "Progress of a Dream," handwritten manuscript with revisions and notes, undated	Container 9.7
First draft, typed and carbon copy manuscript with handwritten revisions, undated	d Container 9.8
Carbon copy typescript, 1965	ontainer 9.9
Final draft, typescript printer's copy with printer's notes, 1965	Container 9.10
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Janine (novel, 1977)	
First draft, typescript with handwritten changes, handwritten notes, undated	Container 10.4
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Lost Earth: A Life of Cezanne (biography, 1995)	
Research material, undated Co	ntainer 10.6
First draft, typescript with handwritten corrections, undated	Container 10.7-8
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First page proofs, corrected pages only, 1995	Container 11.5
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Louis: A Life of Robert Louis Stevenson (biography, 2001)	
Typescript, complete with illustrations and captions, no index, undated	Container 12.2-3
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First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions, undated	Container 12.6
Second draft, typescript with handwritten revisions, undated	Container 12.7
Third draft, typescript, few changes, undated	Container 13.1
Final draft, typescript setting copy with printer's markings, 1994	Container 13.2
Page proofs, some corrections, 1994	Container 13.3
My friend (untitled work in the form of a letter, 1952), signed handwritte manuscript with revisions, in notebook, dated 23 March 1952	n Container 13.4
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First draft, typescript with handwritten revisions, undated	Container 13.5
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Typescript with few handwritten revisions, undated (titled Splinters)	Container 13.7
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4 3,	
Typescript, undated	Container 13.10
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On the Earth: First Poems (poetry), typescript, undated	Container 13.13
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Passage from Home: A Memoir (autobiography, 2002), typescript with correction undated	ons, Container 15.3
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Draft / incomplete, handwritten manuscript with revisions and handwritten a typed inserts, in notebook, undated; also includes handwritten manuscript / d of autobiography; notes for <i>A Pledge for the Earth</i> ; and journal entries in unidentified hand	

Early draft / incomplete, typescript with handwritten revisions and typed inserts, undated Container

Early draft / incomplete, typescript with handwritten revisions, undated (titled A Container New Life)

16.2

Carbon copy typescript, undated

Container 16.3-4

Setting copy, typescript with printer's markings, 1960

Container 16.5-6

Poems, handwritten drafts, undated:

At the Eve of Something (on sheet with Wonder Beast)

Container

17.1

Even Now (on sheet with Waiting Here for It to Come)

God (on sheet with Though Blood Loves Always)

How Beautiful Is God

Man in His Deepest Nature

There Is No Name

These Golden Trophies of the Sun

This Convention of Anarchy (on sheet with Though Blood Loves Always)

Though Blood Loves Always

Waiting Here for It to Come

Wonder Beast

The Real Life: New Poems (poetry, 1964)

Rough draft, handwritten and typescript / work sheets with handwritten revisions, **Container** undated (duplicates of some poems; some poems not in published version) 17.2

Typescript draft with handwritten and typed front matter with printer's markings, Container undated 17.3

Galley proofs, two sets, both with handwritten corrections, one with handwritten Container and printed notes, 1964 gf 1

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