

James McNeill Whistler:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Whistler, James McNeill, 1834-1903
Title:	James McNeill Whistler Collection
Dates:	1867-1903, undated
Extent:	1 box (.21 linear feet)
Abstract:	Contains works and letters by the American artist, James McNeill Whistler, some of which relate to other artists, such as Mortimer Menpes and Harper Pennington. Includes a proof photograph of Oscar Wilde by Napoleon Sarony.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-04481
Language:	English, French
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Apryl Voskamp, 2013 Note: This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

Eden versus Whistler; the baronet and the butterfly; a valentine with a verdict, handwritten manuscript / draft fragments with revisions and butterfly signatures, 8 leaves, December 1897 (Paris). Included with this: ALS from Whistler to Sydney S. Pawling about this work, winter 1898. From Hanley II. **Container** 1.1

Letters:

ANS to unidentified recipient Susie, undated.

Container 1.2

2 AL, signed with the butterfly, to unidentified recipients, both undated. Included with this: typed transcription of one letter written in Paris to an editor.

2 AL / drafts / photocopies to unidentified recipients, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library.

ALS / photocopy to Allingham, Theodore, 5 September 1878. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS / photocopy to Angus, William Craibe, 22 March 1882. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS to Angus, Craibe, 4 August 1882. From the Stark Collection.

ALS to Clark, undated.

ALS / photocopy to Grapel, undated. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS to Harris, Frank, undated.

AL / photocopy to Henley, William Ernest, undated. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS to Howell, Charles Augustus, 1 February no year.

6 ALS / photocopy, 3 AL / photocopy to Howell, Charles Augustus, 1868-1879, undated. Included with one AL: AN / cover letter Whistler to Rosa Corder. Originals in Glasgow University Library.

**Container
1.3**

ALS to Ionides, Lucas, 14 October 1868. Removed from ND 237 W6 A3 1890 copy 3.

**Container
1.2**

3 AL / drafts / photocopies to Menpes, Mortimer, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library.

34 ANS to Menpes, Mortimer, undated; ANS to Carr re Mortimer Menpes, 25 December 1888. From Hanley II.

**Container
1.4**

AL / draft / photocopy to Morley, 12 February 1889. In hand of Charles Hanson. Original in Glasgow University Library.

**Container
1.2**

ALS to Moulton, Louise (Chandler), undated.

AL / draft / photocopy to the press, undated. In hand of Charles Hanson. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS / photocopy to Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 20 April 1867. Original in Glasgow University Library.

ALS / photocopy to Symons, W. Christian, undated. Included with this: AL / draft / photocopy in Whistler's hand as from Symons to probably Justin McCarthy. Originals in Glasgow University Library.

2 AL / photocopies to Wilde, Oscar, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library.

Letters I:

ALS, TLS APCI, pencil drawing, proof for a photograph of Oscar Wilde by Sarony, reproduction of a portrait of Whistler, all bound together in leather binding, 1873-1903. Ex libris of Alfred Nathan:

Pennington, Harper. Portrait of a boy, pencil drawing, signed with 3 small pen and ink sketches drawn on the same sheet, 1 leaf, undated. Written at the bottom of the drawing is a quotation in Latin from Virgil's Aeneid written out by Oscar Wilde, with his signature, 23 April 1886 (Godalming). **Container** 1.5

Pennington, Harper. TLS to Wallace, Donald B., 13 July 1903.

Whistler, James McNeill. ALS to Hardy, 7 July 1873. Written in French.

Wilde, Oscar. APCI to Smithers, Leonard Charles, December 1898.

Recipient:

- Henley, William Ernest, 1849-1903. 2 ALS / photocopy, 7 ALI / photocopy, telegram / photocopy to Whistler, 1891-1892, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library. **Container**
1.6
- Howell, Charles Augustus. 2 ALS / photocopy, AN / photocopy to Whistler, 26 August 1874, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library.
- Huish, Marcus Bourne, 1845-1921. 2 ALS / photocopies to Whistler, 17 December 1895. Originals in Glasgow University Library. **Container**
1.7
- Menpes, Mortimer. 2 ALS / photocopies to Whistler, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library. **Container**
1.6
- Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 1828-1882. ALS / photocopy to Whistler, 24 April 1867. Original in Glasgow University Library.
- Symons, W. Christian. ALS / photocopy to Whistler, 18 April 1889. Original in Glasgow University Library.
- Wilde, Oscar, 1854-1900. 5 ALS / photocopies to Whistler, 20 April 1886, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library. **Container**
1.8

Miscellaneous:

- Haden, Francis Seymour, Sir, 1818-1910. ALS / photocopy to Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 16 June 1867. Original in Glasgow University Library. **Container** 1.9
- McCarthy, Justin, 1830-1912. 2 TLS / photocopies to Symons, W. Christian, 28 April and 30 April 1889. Originals in Glasgow University Library.
- Menpes, Mortimer. 4 ALS / photocopies to Cowan, J. J., 25 July 1903, undated. Originals in Glasgow University Library. **Container** 1.10
- Menpes, Mortimer. ALS / photocopy to Symons, W. Christian, 18 April 1889. Original in Glasgow University Library. **Container** 1.9
- Philip, Birnie, Miss. 2 ALS / drafts/ photocopies to Menpes, Mortimer, 2 August 1903. Originals in Glasgow University Library.
- Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 1828-1882. AL / photocopy to Wornum, R. N., 14 June 1867. Original in Glasgow University Library.
- Wornum, Ralph Nicholson, 1812-1877. ALS / photocopy to Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 14 June 1867. Original in Glasgow University Library.

Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date