

Aidan Higgins:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

- Creator:** Higgins, Aidan, 1927-2015
- Title:** Aidan Higgins Papers
- Dates:** 1960s-2010s
- Extent:** 43 boxes (17.86 linear feet)
- Abstract:** The Aidan Higgins Papers contains drafts, notebooks, diaries, correspondence, reviews, clippings, family-related items, career-related items, and other materials related to the career of Irish writer Aidan Higgins, primarily dated from the 1970s to the 2010s.
- Call Number:** Manuscript Collection MS-05345
- 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**
- Use Policies:** Ransom Center collections may contain material with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations. Researchers are advised that the disclosure of certain information pertaining to identifiable living individuals represented in the collections without the consent of those individuals may have legal ramifications (e.g., a cause of action under common law for invasion of privacy may arise if facts concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the Ransom Center and The University of Texas at Austin assume no responsibility.
- Restrictions on Use:** Authorization for publication is given on behalf of the University of Texas as the owner of the collection and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder which must be obtained by the researcher. For more information please see the Ransom Centers' Open Access and Use Policies.

Administrative Information

- Preferred Citation** Aidan Higgins Papers (Manuscript Collection MS-05345). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin.
- Acquisition:** Purchase, 2014 (14-06-015-P)
- Processed by:** Christine Bethke, Stephen Cooper, 2019 **Note:** This brief collection description is a preliminary inventory. The collection is not fully processed or cataloged and only generally describes the contents of each box; no descriptions of series or indexes are available.
- Repository:** [Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin](#)
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Scope and Contents

The Aidan Higgins Papers contains drafts, notebooks, diaries, correspondence, reviews, clippings, family-related items, career-related items, and other materials related to the career of Irish writer Aidan Higgins, primarily dated from the 1970s to the 2010s. The drafts of works and notebooks/diaries make up the bulk of the collection, with the drafts varying from very early handwritten versions to the final proofs for some works. The boxes containing correspondence are very generally described and may contain items in addition to letters, such as drafts of works, research material, and clippings.

Related Material

The Harry Ransom Center also holds Aidan Higgins materials in the Samuel Beckett Collection, the Elizabeth Hardwick Papers, the Alfred A. Knopf Records, and the Wallace Literary Agency Records.

Aidan Higgins materials are also held at the University of Victoria McPherson Library

Separated Material

Bound volumes and audio-visual materials received with the Higgins papers are listed below. They are housed and described separately at the Ransom Center:

Bound Volumes

Works by Higgins

- Balcony of Europe, *The Penguin Book of Irish Fiction*, 1999
- The Baron from the Balticum, *Quito/Dublin Revue Bilingue* No. 16
- A Bestiary, 2004
- The Bird I Fancied, *Modern Irish Stories*, 1985
- Bornholm Night-Ferry, 2006
- Boyhood, *The Ireland Anthology*, 1997
- Colossal Gongorr and the Turkes of Mars, 1979
- Dog Days: A Sequel to *Donkey's Years*, 1998, 1999
- *Donkey's Years: Memories of a Life as Story Told to Aidan Higgins*, 1995 (2 copies), 2008
- Flotsam and Jetsam, 1997

- Helsingor Station and Other Departures, 1989
- The Hidden Narrator, The Review of Contemporary Fiction, Fall 2011
- Killachter Meadow, Modern Irish Short Stories, 1993
- Langrishe, Go Down, 2000, 2004, 2007
- Lebensraum, The Penguin Book of Irish Short Stories, 1981
- Lions of the Grunewald, 1993, 1995
- Musing, The Review of Contemporary Fiction, Fall 2008
- On the Rack, Princeton University Library Chronicle, Autumn 2010
- Reunions, The Flight Path, 1996
- Ronda Gorge and Other Precipices, 1989
- Scenes from a Receding Past, 2005
- Sodden Fields, Kinsale Anthology, 2005
- The Whole Hog: A Sequel to Donkey's Years and Dog Days, 2000
- Windy Arbours: Collected Criticism, 2005 (2 copies)

Works about Higgins

- The Modern Irish Novel, Aidan Higgins, 2002
- Murphy, Neil. Aidan Higgins, The Review of Contemporary Fiction, 2003
- The Oxford Book of Ireland, 1998

Works by others

- Anders, Jill. McDaid's Wife: A Novel, 1988 (Higgins' first wife)
- Murphy, Neil, ed. The Fragility of Form, Aidan Higgins, 2010

Moving Image

- Aidan Higgins, English Literature Society, 3-15-1985, VHS

Sound Recordings

- Boomtown, CD
- Discords of Good Humor, CD
- Styel Lay Sleeping, Read by Pat Laffan, Stories for the Ear, CD
- The Tomb of Dreams, CD
- Zoo Station, CD

Works

Assassinations, Blind Man's Bluff, Boomtown	Container 1
Boomtown, Dog Days, Discords of Good Humour	Container 2
Dog Days	Container 3
Dog Days, Donkey's Years	Container 4
Donkey's Years	Container 5
The Faceless Creator, Flotsam and Jetsam	Container 6
Flotsam and Jetsam, Helsingor Station, Lions of the Grunewald	Container 7
Lions of the Grunewald, Killachter Meadow, March Hares	Container 8
March Hares	Container 9
Mnemonic, Photomontage of Samuel Beckett, Ronda Gorge and Other Precipices, Sodden Fields	Container 10
Earplay, The Tomb of Dreams, Vanishing Heroes	Container 11
When There Was Nobody About, The Whole Hog	Container 12
The Whole Hog	Container 13-15
Windy Arbours, Zoo Station	Container 16
Windy Arbours, various titles	Container 17
Various titles	Container 18-19
Various titles/radio scripts	Container 20
Diaries 1966, 1967, 1971	Container 21
Diaries 1972, 1973, 1975, 1978, 1979	Container 22
Bound Diaries 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983	Container 23
Bound Diaries 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988	Container 24
Bound Diaries 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992	Container 25
Bound Diaries 1995, 1996, 1997	Container 26

Bound Diaries 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001	Container 27
Small Notebooks: 1971, Dog Days 1, Untitled 2, London 1974, Donkey's Years 4, 5, Untitled 6, Windy Arbors 8, April 1982, London 83, June 83, Exercise Books: London 1984, Austin 1984, August 1984	Container 28
Large Notebooks: January 1985, March 1985, March 1986, 4 Notebooks: Blind Man's Bluff, 3 Green Notebooks: Kavanagh, Whole Hog, Darkening Days	Container 29
Notebooks: Shadows, BMB, Zoo Station, Only You, Galway 1977, November 1967, Murphy's Button, Lions of the Grunewald, February 1992, BMB early drafts, Bornholm Night Ferry	Container 30
Notebooks: 1990s, 1990, 1994 New York/Toronto, 2- 1990 Dog Days, 1990, 2000	Container 31
Notebooks: 2002, 2002-3, 2002-3?, undated	Container 32
Notebooks: undated	Container 33

Correspondence

Correspondence, drafts, clippings

Container 34-37

Career-related

Reviews, articles, other published items	Container 38
Reviews, articles, other published items, miscellaneous	Container 39
Reviews, articles, other published items, correspondence, miscellaneous	Container 40-41

Family Materials

Photographs, drawings, sketches, family artwork

Container 42

Works by others, miscellaneous

Container 43

Barcode Index

- 1--059188000170791
- 2--059188000170804
- 3--059188000170812
- 4--059188000170821
- 5--059188000170839
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