

Alexander B. Miller:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Collection of Henry Miller in the Manuscript Collection at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Descriptive Summary

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| Creator: | Miller, Alexander B. |
| Title: | Alexander B. Miller Collection of Henry Miller |
| Dates: | 1936-2007 |
| Extent: | 2 boxes (.84 linear feet) |
| Abstract: | Mainly correspondence from Henry Miller to Renate Gerhardt, including handwritten and typed letters, postcards, and telegrams; the materials also include a small amount of correspondence to Conte Antonini, as well as some related autograph material and photographs. |
| Language: | English |
| Access: | Open for research |

Administrative Information

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| Acquisition: | Gift, 2007 (G 12558) |
| Processed by: | Stephen Cooper, 2007 |
| Repository: | The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center |

Scope and Contents

This collection of Henry Miller materials was given to the Ransom Center by Alexander B. Miller, a private collector unrelated to Henry Miller, who purchased most of the materials in 1998. The bulk of the collection is made up of correspondence from Miller to Renate Gerhardt, a German publisher with whom he had a romantic relationship during the 1960s, as well as a few letters to Gerhardt from Gerald Robitaille, Miller's secretary. This correspondence has not been publicly available since its creation. Also present in the collection are twenty letters to and from Count Antonini and others, one carbon copy of a letter from Gerhardt to Henry Miller, one letter from Gerhardt to Alexander Miller, and a small amount of business and personal materials related to Henry Miller.

The papers are arranged in two series: I. Correspondence, 1936-2000; and II. Miller-Related and Other Materials, 1949-2007. Upon arrival, all of the correspondence was in rough chronological order organized by author, and a small amount of further organization was done to complete this arrangement.

The correspondence in Series I. includes handwritten and typed letters, postcards, telegrams, and a large number of envelopes that were separated from their corresponding letters before arrival at the Ransom Center. The correspondence to Gerhardt reveals a wide variety of subject matter, from romantic conversation to discussions about their children, financial matters, health difficulties, literary issues, contemporary writers and other notable persons, and travel plans.

The materials in Series II., Miller-Related and Other Materials, include a photograph of Miller with Brenda Venus, a book catalog of "Titles Available and Unavailable" for works available directly from Miller in Big Sur, two pamphlets and a press release put out by Miller, promotional materials related to Miller's watercolor paintings, a Henry Miller Literary Society newsletter from 1960, publishing promotional materials, an essay by Karl Orend titled "Miller-Gerhardt Collection, An Introduction," and a thesis titled "The Temple Of the Living God."

Related Material

Seventeen books by or about the author were part of the gift and were transferred to the Ransom Center Library.

Series I. Correspondence, 1936-2000

**Adobe ColdFusion Developer/Trial Edition
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Series II. Miller-Related and Other Materials, 1949-2007

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