

Prudencio De Pereda:

An Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	De Pereda, Prudencio, 1912-1973
Title	Prudencio De Pereda Papers
Dates:	1935-1973
Extent:	5 boxes (2.5 linear feet)
Abstract:	Manuscripts of short stories, novels, and other writings, correspondence, clippings of reviews, and miscellany trace the writing career of the author. The collection depicts the Pereda's early career in New York, his interactions with editors and publishers, and with other writers of the period.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-01107
Language:	English
Access	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition	Purchase and gift from De Pereda, 1973-1979
Processed by	Marsha W. Harper, 1983; Stephen Mielke, John Hawthorne, 1991-1992
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

Prudencio De Pereda was born in Brooklyn, New York's Spanish colony on February 18, 1912, to Spanish immigrant parents. He was first encouraged to be a writer after reading Ernest Hemingway as an undergraduate Spanish major at City College of New York (1929-1933). He published his first story in 1936, and during the Spanish Civil War, met Hemingway. The two collaborated on the commentary for the films *Spain in Flames* and *The Spanish Earth*, espousing the Loyalist Republican viewpoint. During this seminal period of De Pereda's writing, his activities brought him into contact with a number of other young New York literati who were similarly affected by the war in Spain and other "radical" causes.

During the 1930s and early 1940s, De Pereda wrote short stories that were published in several small circulation magazines, as well as in better-known periodicals such as *Commentary*, *New Republic*, *Story*, and *Nation*. De Pereda's stories have been anthologized often, and appeared in the *O. Henry Memorial Prize Volume* (1937) and *O'Brien's Best Short Stories* (1938, 1940).

From 1941-1944, De Pereda served in the U.S. Army as a Spanish language censor of letters for the U.S. Bureau of Censorship. After World War II he worked as an advertising copywriter and later as a librarian. During this time De Pereda began combining and expanding his stories, producing three novels: *All the Girls We Loved* (1948), *Fiesta* (1953), and *Windmills in Brooklyn* (1960). *Fiesta* became his best known work, having been published in Canada, England, France, Finland, and the German Democratic Republic. Robert Hanell set it to music as an opera, and it has been adapted as a radio play. De Pereda also translated from the Spanish, Alberto Gerchunoff's *Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas* in 1953.

De Pereda retired to Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Contents

Manuscripts of short stories, novels, and other writings, correspondence, clippings of reviews, and miscellany trace the writing career of Prudencio De Pereda, 1935-1973. The collection depicts the author's early career in New York, his interactions with editors and publishers, and with other writers of the period. De Pereda's work reflects the influence of Ernest Hemingway, especially during the Spanish Civil War, when they met and worked together on the commentary for the films *Spain in Flames* and *The Spanish Earth*. De Pereda's later literary output is represented by manuscripts of his three novels (*All the Girls We Loved*, *Fiesta*, and *Windmills in Brooklyn*) and his translation of *Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas*.

The collection is arranged in four series: I. Correspondence, 1935-1973; II. Works, 1935-1960, III. Publicity Material and Reviews, 1947-1961, and IV. Miscellaneous, 1940-1964.

The correspondence is divided into two subseries. Acceptance letters (1935-1951, bulk 1936-1940) from editors and publishers were kept in chronological order by De Pereda. Personal letters received (1935-1973) are arranged alphabetically by author. Correspondents include Carlos Baker, Alvah Cecil Bessie, Paul Bowles, Whit Burnett, Richard Burton, Padraic Colum, Victor Gollancz, Ernest Hemingway (photocopies), James Laughlin, William March, An is Nin, Edward O'Brien, Philip Rahv, and Richard Wright. Only one item of outgoing correspondence, from De Pereda to Carlos Baker, survives in this collection. An index of all correspondents is included at the end of this inventory.

The bulk of the materials in Series II., Works (1935-1960), consists of literary manuscripts. Drafts and final versions, typed and handwritten, many with corrections, these manuscripts are arranged in three subseries: Short Stories, Novels, and Other Works. Included are manuscripts of thirty-one short stories and three novels, as well as his English translation of *Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas*. Also present are manuscripts of commentaries for the film *The Spanish Earth*, edited and expanded by Ernest Hemingway. One photocopy draft bears Hemingway's editorial marks.

Manuscripts of two of the novels have been arranged in order of final publication. For *All the Girls We Loved*, working titles of the chapters are included in the folder list in parentheses. The arrangement of *Fiesta* (original title *The Unshared Man*) follows categories set up by the author. Within each category, pages are for the most part unnumbered or not numbered consecutively.

Series III., Publicity Material and Reviews (1947-1961), concerns only De Pereda's three novels. Series IV., Miscellaneous (1940-1964), includes other clippings and miscellaneous information, as well as a typescript by author William March, which was posthumously published as *99 Fables* in 1960.

Related Material

For other Prudencio De Pereda materials in Ransom Center collections, see the John Lehmann Collection.

Separated Material

A number of books from De Pereda's personal library were also acquired by the Ransom Center. These were transferred to the Center's Library and listed in the University of Texas library catalog.

Index Terms

Correspondents

Baker, Carlos, 1909-1987.
Bessie, Alvah Cecil, 1904-1985.
Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999.
Burnett, Whit, 1899-1973.
Burton, Richard, 1925-1984.
Colum, Padraic, 1881-1972.
Gollancz, Victor, 1893-1967.
Hemingway, Ernest, 1899-1961.
Laughlin, James, 1914-1997.
March, William, 1893-1954.
Nin, Anais, 1903-1977.
O'Brien, Edward Joseph Harrington, 1890-1941.
Rahv, Philip, 1908-1960.

Subjects

Authors, Spanish American.
Spain--History--Civil War, 1936-1939--Literature and the war.
Spain--History--Civil War, 1936-1939--Motion pictures and the war.

Document Types

First drafts.

Series I. Correspondence, 1935-1973

Acceptance Letters, 1935-1951

8/14/35 - 11/21/38

box 1 folder 1

1/18/39 - 4/23/51

folder 2

Personal Letters, 1935-1973

Algren, Nelson, 1/8/63

folder 3

Baker, Carlos, 9/10/64 - 5/18/73

folder 4

Berriault, Arline, 10/9/63 - 12/19/67

folder 5

Bessie, Alvah, 7/17/63 - 6/5/73, nd

folder 6

Bowles, Paul F., 8/28/36 - [9/30/41]

folder 7

Burton, Richard, 4/16/56

folder 8

Coates, Robert M., 8/6/49

Colum, Padraic, 9/19/54, 11/2/54

Erlich, Leonard, 4/8/63 - 9/24/63

folder 9

Field, Ben, 9/1/36

folder 10

Funaroff, Sol, nd, 11/29/38 - 11/19/40

Gardner, Leonard, 7/31/66, 8/26/69

Gibson, Bill [William], 4/26/60

Gollancz, Victor, 1/16/62

folder 11

Goolman, Paul, 8/14/50, 1/14/51

Hansen, Harry, 5/29/40

Haydn, Hiram, 1/11/62

Hemingway, Ernest, 11/20/35 - 10/30/47, nd (photocopies)

**folder
12**

Kirchwey, Freda, 1/5/54

folder 13

Laughlin, James, nd

Mangione, Jerre, 9/26/40, 3/7/42

March, William, 12/27/38 - 12/22/46

folder 14

Nin, Anäis, 11/9/53

folder 15

O'Brien, Edward, 7/6/37

Reid, Arnold, 8/31/36

Rosten, Norman, 12/9/36 - 4/25/54, nd

folder 16

Still, Jim, 1/27/40 - 2/24/40

folder 17

Watts, Richard Jr., 1/25/57

Wright, Richard, 10/14/38

Zinberg, Len, 4/20/37 - 9/4/42

folder 18

Series II. Works 1935-1960

Short Stories, 1935-1951

“And Home is Hunted from the Hunt,” 10/10/38 (3 drafts)	folder 19
“The Assassin,” [ca. 1936]	folder 20
“Blow Them All to Glory,” 6/29/38, nd (2 drafts)	folder 21
“The Deal,” [ca. 1951]	folder 22
“Death in the Night,” [ca. 1937] (2 drafts)	folder 23
“The Denunciation,” [ca. 1938] (2 drafts)	folder 24
“He Would Be First,” 6/10/38 (4 drafts)	folder 25
“I Loved a Woman,” [ca. 1940] (2 drafts)	folder 26
“Lament of a Facist General,” [ca. 1939] (2 copies)	folder 27
“A Letter from Spain,” [ca. 1940] (2 drafts)	box 2 folder 1
“A Little Child,” 9/21/38	folder 2
“Love a Live Body,” [ca. 1936]	folder 3
“Love is Just a Game,” [ca. 1944] (2 drafts)	folder 4
“The Man Who Wouldn't Play Christ,” nd	folder 5
“My Big Brother Goes Back to the Front,” 3/29/38 (2 drafts)	folder 6
“My Grandmother's Nose,” 1948 (2 drafts)	folder 7
“My Soul to Take,” 11/1/38	folder 8
“No Hour for Slumber,” [ca. 1936]	folder 9
“The Picture of a Woman,” nd	folder 10
“A Pioneer,” [ca. 1936]	folder 11
“Rain,” [ca. 1940]	folder 12

“The Resurrection,” 3/29/39 (2 drafts)	folder 13
“Al Salir el Sol” [in Spanish], nd	folder 14
“Sinfonia Fantastica en Verde,” [ca. 1936-1938]	folder 15
“Somebody Bet on the Colored Guy,” [ca. 1940] (2 drafts)	folder 16
“The Spaniard,” [ca. 1937]	folder 17
“A Tale of Thunder,” [ca. 1935-1938]	folder 18
“These Rats Reveal Themselves for You,” nd	folder 19
“Two Americans Look to the Next War,” [ca. 1937]	folder 20
“The Way Death Comes,” 1/13/39 (2 drafts)	folder 21
“A Woman's Way,” nd (2 drafts)	folder 22

Novels, 1948-1960

All the Girls We Loved, 1948

Al Figueire I (“The Major”)	folder 23
A Joe (“The Goat”)	
Al Figueire II (“The Woman Thou Gavest Me”)	
A Joe (“The Time Has Come, the Sergeant Said”)	folder 24
Al Figueire III (“The Iland”)	
A Joe (“The Lost Lover”) (2 drafts)	folder 25
A Joe (“The Spanish Shawl”)	folder 26
Al Figueire V (“Nobody Ever Dies”)	
A Joe (“Death of a Sergeant”)	
Al Figueire VI (“Fear”)	
Notes from editor	folder 27

Fiesta, 1953

New outline	folder 28
Original draft	folder 29
First and second drafts	box 3 folder 1-6
Original and working drafts, divided roughly into chapters	folder 7-10
Editor's memo (Arthur M. Wang) and revised pages	folder 11-13
Working draft with editor	folder 14
Working draft with editor (continued)	box 4 folder 1-3
Final ms. complete; includes copy for dust jacket	folder 4-7

Windmills in Brooklyn, 1960

Part I: Agapito (a combination of two separately titled works)

“Conquistador” (2 drafts)	box 5 folder 1
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“If It Should Ever Come to Pass”	folder 2
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Part II: “The Good Pair” (2 drafts)	folder 3
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Changes and revisions, duplicate early drafts, single page revisions	folder 4
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Final draft with printer's notations and other corrections	folder 5-6
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Notes from editor, initialled HZ	folder 7
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Other Works, 1937-1953

Book reviews, nd	folder 8
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Commentary, <i>The Spanish Earth</i> (1937) Abstract:: Several versions, some in Spanish. One photocopy includes Ernest Hemingway's holograph corrections.	folder 9
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English translation, <i>Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas</i> by Alberto Genchunoff (1953)	folder 10
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Series III. Publicity Materials and Reviews, 1947-1961

All the Girls We Loved, 1947-1948

folder 11

Fiesta, 1954-1957

folder 12

Windmills in Brooklyn, 1960-1961

folder 13

Series IV. Miscellaneous, 1940-1964

Clippings, publication information, and miscellaneous, 1940-1964

folder
14

[99 Fables] by William March, [ca. 1960]

folder 15

Prudencio De Pereda Papers--Index of Correspondents

- Ader, Paul Fassett (Ed. FASSETT'S)--1.2
- Algren, Nelson--1.3
- Alpert, Hollis (MATRIX)--1.2
- Baker, Carlos, 1909-1987--1.4
- Bemmish, Rae (Ed. CHAMELEON)--1.1
- Bernstein, David E. (THE NEW TALENT)--1.1
- Berriault, Arline--1.5
- Bessie, Alvah Cecil, 1904- --1.6
- Bowles, Paul, 1910- --1.7
- Burnett, Whit, 1899- (STORY)--1.1-1.2
- Burton, Richard, 1925- --1.8
- Caliver, Alan (INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS CO.)--1.1
- Coates, Robert M.--1.8
- Colum, Padraic, 1881-1972--1.8
- Conroy, Jack (THE NEW ANVIL)--1.2
- Crews, Judson--1.1
- Erlich, Leonard--1.9
- Field, Ben--1.10
- Finsterwald, Maxine (NEW WRITERS)--1.1
- Funaroff, Sol--1.10
- Gardner, Leonard--1.10
- Garfinkel, Sid (Ed. FORGE)--1.1
- Gibson, Bill--1.10
- Gollancz, Victor, 1893-1967--1.11
- Goolman, Paul--1.11
- Hansen, Harry (NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM)--1.1, 1.11
- Haydn, Hiram Collins--1.11
- Hemingway, Ernest, 1899-1961--1.12
- Herring, Robert (LIFE AND LETTERS TO-DAY)--1.2
- Hudson, Charlotte (NEW MASSES)--1.2
- Kent, Ira Rice (HOUGHTON MIFFLIN)--1.1
- Kievits, Jules L. (BLACK & WHITE)--1.2
- Kingman, Gordon (Ed. KOSMOS)--1.1
- Kirchwey, Freda (THE NATION)--1.13
- Laughlin, James, 1914- (NEW DIRECTIONS)--1.13
- LeSeur, Meredith (MIDWEST)--1.1
- Ligocki, Michael (CREATIVE)--1.1
- Lukes, Lee (DECADE)--1.1-1.2
- Mangione, Jerre Gerlando--1.13
- March, William, 1893-1954--1.14
- Moore, Herbert (SHE)--1.2
- Neff, Barbara (THE NATION)--1.2
- Nin, Anäis, 1903-1977--1.15
- Norman, Dorothy (TWICE A YEAR)--1.2
- O'Brien, Edward Joseph Harrington, 1890-1941 (THE BEST SHORT STORIES)-- 1.1-1.2, 1.15
- Rahv, Philip, 1908-1973 (PARTISAN REVIEW)--1.1
- Reid, Arnold (NEW MASSES)--1.1
- Rosten, Norman--1.16

- Schwarz, B. H. (TOLERANCE)--1.2
- Still, James--1.17
- Villa, J. (WAKE)--1.2
- Watts, Richard --1.17
- Wheeler, Ed (TOLERANCE)--1.2
- Wright, Richard, 1908-1960--1.17
- Wynn, Dudley (THE NEW MEXICO QUARTERLY)--1.2
- Zinberg, Len (Ed. LACY)--1.18