

# Steven Moore:

## A Preliminary Inventory of His Collection of Alexander Theroux at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Moore, Steven, 1951-
<b>Title:</b>	Steven Moore Collection of Alexander Theroux
<b>Dates:</b>	1964-1995
<b>Extent:</b>	6 boxes, 1 oversize flat file (2.52 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	The collection, which documents the life and works of Alexander Theroux, includes bound galleys and typescripts of Theroux's books, as well as articles, essays, and book reviews by the author. Articles, critical essays, and reviews about Theroux are present in the collection. Also included are typescripts of Moore's works on Theroux, as well as correspondence from Theroux to Moore.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-02904
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition:</b>	Reg. no. 13558
<b>Processed by:</b>	Liz Murray, 1996
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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## Scope and Contents

This collection of Alexander Theroux material comes from the archive of Steven Moore, senior editor of the *Review of Contemporary Fiction* and Dalkey Archive Press. Moore's interest in Theroux emerged in the early 1980s with the publication of *Darconville's Cat*. Subsequently, Moore began corresponding with Theroux and assembling Theroux's published and unpublished work, providing a wealth of bio/bibliographic material for this collection. Included are bound galleys and typescripts of Theroux's books, as well as articles, essays, and book reviews. Also present are numerous articles, critical essays, and reviews about Theroux, typescripts of Moore's works on Theroux, as well as correspondence from Theroux to Moore from the early 1980s to 1995. The collection is divided into four series: Works by Theroux, Steven Moore on Theroux, Correspondence (Steven Moore), and Theroux, Personal.

The first series contains bound proofs, galleys, and typescripts of Theroux's works: *An Adultery*, *Darconville's Cat* (with a stage play adaptation), *The Lollipop Trollups and Other Poems*, *The Primary Colors: Three Essays*, *The Waif Trilogy*, and other short fiction works, essays, poetry, plays, and book reviews. The second series, Steven Moore on Theroux, contains Moore's unpublished annotations to *Three Wogs* and *Darconville's Cat*, and his introduction to the special 1991 Theroux issue in the *Review of Contemporary Fiction*.

Steven Moore's correspondence appears in the third series. Several grouping of letters are included in the collection, in their original order by topic, although date sequences overlap. For example, Moore kept a separate file of letters pertaining to the Theroux issue in the *Review*. Overall, the majority of letters and postcards are from Theroux to Moore, 1981-1995. Since Theroux used Moore as "his archivist," Theroux enclosed typescripts of his book reviews, poems, and essays with his correspondence. These works remain with the correspondence. Biographical and bibliographical material is contained in the fourth series, Theroux, Personal, along with a folder dealing with recent charges of plagiarism.

A large collection of books, magazines, and newspapers received with this collection was transferred to the HRC book collection. Included are various published versions and limited editions of Theroux's works, his dissertation, and magazine articles and book reviews by and about Theroux, from 1966-1995.

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## I. Works by Theroux

### *An Adultery*

**Box 1**

Advance uncorrected reader's proof, Simon and Schuster, 1987, signed by AT with cover note to SM, promotional material (various editions)

Reviews and SM holograph notes

### *Darconville's Cat*

Final galley, Doubleday, 1981

Stage play adaptation for 1992 Memphis State University production, final draft and reviews [oversize poster and review removed to Oversize Flat File]

### *The Lollipop Trollups and Other Poems*

Photocopy typescript, uncorrected

Advance uncorrected galley (2 copies), Dalkey Archive Press, 1992 [oversize poster, signed by Theroux and Edward Gorey, removed to Oversize Flat File]

[\*Oversize poster for *Maud Blessingbourne's Temptations & Other Poems*, with AT inscription to SM, also signed by Edward Gorey, removed to Oversize Flat File]

**Box  
1\***

*The Primary Colors: Three Essays*, photocopy typescript, uncorrected, with publicity material for 1994 Henry Holt edition

**Box  
2**

*Three Wogs*, press release, May 5, 1975

*The Waif Trilogy*, photocopy with revised art, Fall 1993-Winter 1994

Fiction, essays, poetry, and reviews written for *The Canticle*, St. Francis College, Biddeford, Maine, 1964

"Five Poets," poems taken from a reading, University of Virginia, March 16, 1966

Three plays published in the *Rapier: The University of Virginia Magazine of Satire and Discussion*, 1967

"The Master's Oral," typed playscript, inscribed to SM, Sept. 30, 1985

Typescripts of essays: "Bitterns Cheeped," "The Grammar of Rock," "M.I.T.: And The Nerd World," and "Hate Mail," 1986

"Artists Who Kill and Other Essays," photocopy typescript, Summer 1991

"Collected Essays," as of Summer 1991

Miscellaneous articles, essays, reviews, and bibliographic notes, compiled by Moore

**Box**  
3

## II. Steven Moore on Theroux

Typescript and holograph annotations to *Three Wogs* and *Darconville's Cat*, mostly done in the mid-1980s, unpublished **Box**  
3

Typescript drafts and uncorrected proofs for "Alexander Theroux: An Introduction" for 1991 special issue on Theroux in *Review of Contemporary Fiction*

### III. Correspondence (Steven Moore)

- 1981-1987, [from a 3-ring binder] includes AT essays and short works in holograph, typescript, and printed formats; photographs of AT in Cambridge, August 23, 1985; resume ca. 1983 **Box 3**
- 1983-1990, [folder "Theroux--letters"] includes photocopies of AT articles, typescript of "Captain Birdseye's Expedition," and reviews **Box 3-4**
- 1988-1991, [folder "Theroux--special issue"] letters related to Theroux issue in *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, Spring 1991 **Box 4**
- 1991-1992, includes AT poetry
- 1993, includes AT book review typescripts, photocopy of AT's introduction to *The March of Literature*, and poetry **Box 5**
- 1993-1994, [folder "Theroux--adult fables"] correspondence between AT, SM, and Stan Washburn
- 1994, [folder "Theroux--Girl with Blue Hair"]
- 1994, includes AT book review typescripts and reviews of *Primary Colors*
- 1995, includes articles and book reviews by AT **Box 6**
- 1989-1995, Theroux-related correspondence, SM and others, includes folder "Theroux--misc"

#### **IV. Theroux, Personal**

Resume, ca. 1992

**Box 6**

Bibliography

Plagiarism problems with *Primary Colors*, 1995