

Paterson Society:

An Inventory of Its Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Paterson Society, circa 1960-1962
Title:	Paterson Society Collection
Dates:	1959-1967, undated
Extent:	3 boxes (1.26 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes correspondence and business papers of the Paterson Society, operated by Elsa Dorfman, a former Grove Press employee who arranged poetry readings for Beat generation poets. Dorfman's correspondents include the colleges and universities that sponsored readings and the numerous poets in Dorfman's circle of acquaintance: William S. Burroughs, Gregory Corso, Robert Creeley, Diane Di Prima, Robert Duncan, Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Denise Levertov, Gary Snyder, Gilbert Sorrentino, Louis Zukofsky, and others.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-3187
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 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

Letters:

TccL to Burroughs, William S., 9 October 1960.

Container 1.1

TccL to California. State College, Fresno, 1 August 1961.

TccL to California. State College, Sacramento, 1 August 1961.

TccL to California. University. University at Los Angeles 14 September 1961.

TccL to Chaminade College of Honolulu, 19 January 1961.

TccL to Church College of Hawaii, 19 January 1961.

TccL to Hawaii Episcopal Academy, 25 January 1961.

TccL to Holden, Russell, Mrs., 30 November 1960.

TccL to Honolulu Christian College, 19 January 1961.

TccL to Honolulu. Mid-Pacific Institute, 8 February 1961.

TccL to Kamehameha Schools, Honolulu, 25 January 1961.

TccL to Maunaolu College, 19 January 1961.

TccL to Minnesota. University, 14 September 1961.

TL / copy, 2 TccL to Rosenthal, Irving, 1960.

TccL to Saint Francis College, 5 July 1961.

Recipient:

Alderson-Broadus College (Philippi, West Virginia). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 27 February and 21 March 1962. **Container**
1.2

Arts Council, Philadelphia. 7 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961.

Augustana College. 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962.

Baldwin-Wallace College (Berea, Ohio). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962.
Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Baldwin-Wallace College.

Beaver College (Jenkintown, Pennsylvania). TLS to Paterson Society, 8 June 1962.

Bellarmino College. TLS to Paterson Society, 3 April 1962.

Brigham Young University (Provo, Utah). TLS to Paterson Society, 7 July 1961.

Bucknell University (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania). TLS to Paterson Society, 10 July 1961.

Bucknell University (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Caldwell, Idaho. College of Idaho. TLS to Paterson Society, 7 July 1961.

California. California Western University. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 17 July and 13 August 1961.

California. Humboldt State College (Arcata). TLS to Paterson Society, 11 July 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Humboldt State College.

California. State College, San Francisco Poetry Center. 4 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: 2 TccL Paterson Society to Poetry Center, San Francisco State College.

California. University. ALS, 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: 2 TccL Paterson Society to University of California at Berkeley.

California. University, Davis. TLS to Paterson Society, 17 August 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to University of California at Davis.

Carroll College. TLS to Paterson Society, 2 November 1961.

Clark University (Worcester, Massachusetts). TLS to Paterson Society, 8 September 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Clark University.

Colby College (Waterville, Maine). 4 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Colby College.

College of St. Thomas. 4 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: 2 TccL Paterson Society to College of St. Thomas.

Connecticut. University. 8 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: 2 TccL Paterson Society to University of Connecticut.

Cornell College (Mt. Vernon, Iowa). TLS to Paterson Society, 15 February 1962.

Cornell University. 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Danville, Kentucky. Centre College. TLS to Paterson Society, 2 September 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Centre College.

Container
1.3

Defiance College (Defiance, Ohio). TLS to Paterson Society, 27 February 1962.

Drexel Institute of Technology (Philadelphia). TLS to Paterson Society, 17 September 1963.

Evansville College (Evansville, Indiana). TLS to Paterson Society, 19 July 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Evansville College.

Fenn College (Cleveland). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962, undated. Included with these: FLS Fenn College to Edward Dorn.

Goddard College (Plainfield, Vermont). TLS to Paterson Society, 7 March 1962.

Goodman, Mitchell. 3 ALS, TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: accounting for Denise Levertov.

Goucher College (Baltimore). TLS to Paterson Society, 11 January 1961.

Hanahauoli School. TLS to Paterson Society, 10 February 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Hanahauoli School.

Hartford, Connecticut. University. APCS to Paterson Society, 15 March 1962.

Hawaii. Department of Education. TLS to Paterson Society, 23 February 1961.

Hawaii. University (Honolulu). TLS to Paterson Society, 1 February 1961.

Illinois. University. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 29 January and 11 April 1962.

Indiana. State College (Terre Haute). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 1 October and 9 October 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Indiana State College.

Iolani School. TLS to Paterson Society, 15 February 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Iolani School.

Iowa. State College (Cedar Falls). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 10 October and 19 October 1961.

Iowa. University. 4 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: 4 TccL Paterson Society to Iowa State University.

Jackson College (Honolulu, Hawaii). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: 3 TccL Paterson Society to Jackson College.

Kansas City, Missouri. University. TLS to Paterson Society, 26 April 1962.

Lake Erie College (Painesville, Ohio). 5 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: 4 TccL Paterson Society to Lake Erie College. **Container**
1.4

Lake Tarleton Club. ALS, 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Lake Tarleton Club.

Levertov, Denise, 1923- . 8 ALS, 7 APCS to Paterson Society, 1916-1962, undated. Included with these: promotional letter by Levertov for Paterson Society; announcement of Levertov reading tour by Paterson Society; announcement by Western Reserve University of Levertov reading; Levertov itinerary; 2 TccL Paterson Society to Levertov. **Container**
1.5

Lincoln College (Lincoln, Illinois). TLS to Paterson Society, 20 September 1961. **Container**
1.4

Los Angeles. Occidental College. TLS to Paterson Society, 31 October 1961.

Los Angeles. University of Southern California. 3 ALS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to University of Southern California.

Malanga, Gerard (Wagner College, Staten Island, New York). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 5 September and 15 September 1962.

Marygrove College (Detroit). TLS to Paterson Society, 4 October 1961.

Michigan. Central Michigan University (Mount Pleasant). TLS to Paterson Society, 5 October 1961.

Michigan. State University (East Lansing). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 5 October and 12 October 1961.

Michigan. University. 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962.

Mills College (California). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 16 August and 4 October 1961. Included with these: 4 TccL Paterson Society to Mills College.

Morningside College (Sioux City, Iowa). 7 TLS, telegram to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Morningside College.

New Directions. 3 TLS, TPCS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to New Directions; New Directions press release.

New Mexico. State University of Agriculture, Engineering, and Science, University Park. TLS to Paterson Society, 7 December 1961.

The New School. TLS to Paterson Society, 6 October 1961.

New York. International House. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 14 February and 18 April 1962.

New York State University, Buffalo. Lockwood Memorial Library. 2 ALS, 5 TLS, 3 APCS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962, undated. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to University of Buffalo Lockwood Memorial Library.

New York State University, Buffalo. Lockwood Memorial Library. ALS to Paterson Society, 12 April no year.

Northland College. TLS to Paterson Society, 16 May 1962.

Northwestern University (Evanston, Illinois). ALS, TLS Paterson Society, 26 September 1961, 19 February 1962.

Notre Dame, Indiana. University. TLS to Paterson Society, 1 February 1962

Ohio. State University, Bowling Green. TLS to Paterson Society, 12 February 1962. **Container**
1.6

Ohio. State University, Athens. TLS to Paterson Society, 3 October 1962.

Olson, Charles, 1910-1970. 2 ALS to Paterson Society, undated.

Oppenheimer, Joel. TLS, TL, 2 APCS, 2 APCI to Paterson Society, undated. Included with these: promotional letter by Oppenheimer for Paterson Society.

Oregon. Eastern Oregon College of Education (La Grande). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Park College (Parkville, Missouri). TLS to Paterson Society, 5 February 1962.

Pittsburgh. University. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 23 March and 25 April 1962. Included with this: TLS University of Pittsburgh to Allen Ginsberg.

The Poetry Center. 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Poetry Center.

Pomona College (Claremont, California). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 25 September and 18 October 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Pomona College.

Saint John's University (Collegeville, Minnesota). TLS to Paterson Society, 3 March 1962.

St. Joseph, Minnesota. College of St. Benedict. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 12 October and 26 October 1961.

St. Joseph, Minnesota. College of St. Benedict. TLS to Paterson Society, 6 March 1962.

St. Lawrence University (Canton, New York). Student Union Association. 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, Indiana). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Saint Mary's College.

Simmons College (Boston). 4 ALS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Simmons College.

Sorrentino, Gilbert. 2 ALS, APCS, 2 TPCS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962, undated. Included with these: promotional letter by Sorrentino for Paterson Society; photograph of Sorrentino with Joel Oppenheimer, circa 1959.

Stanford University. TLS to Paterson Society, 4 August 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Stanford University.

Texas. University of Texas at El Paso. 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 30 June and 22 August 1963.

Container
1.7

Texas. Woman's University (Denton). 3 TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Thiel College (Greenville, Pennsylvania). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 12 February and 3 April 1962.

Turnbull, Gael Ludin, 1928- . ALS, APCS to Paterson Society, 13 March and 29 March 1962. Included with these: Publicity release on Turnbull by San Francisco State College Poetry Center.

U. S. Military Academy (West Point). TLS to Paterson Society, 13 February 1962.

Wartburg College. 4 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962.

Western Reserve University (Cleveland). ALS, 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: 2 TccL Patterson Society to Western Reserve University; Western Reserve University press release.

Westmar College. TLS to Paterson Society, 8 August 1961. Included with this: TccL Paterson Society to Westmar College.

Wieners, John. 2 ALS, 2 TLS, APCS to Paterson Society, 1960-1962. Included with these: copies of 2 poems by Wieners; letter and list related to Wieners' commitment.

Williams, Jonathan, 1929- . 2 TLS, telegram to Paterson Society, 1961-1962. Included with these: promotional letter by Williams for Paterson Society.

Wilmington College. TLS to Paterson Society, 13 March 1962.

Winona, Minnesota. College of Saint Teresa. 2 ALS, TLS to Paterson Society, 1962.

Wisconsin. State College (La Crosse). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 11 September and 20 September 1961. Included with these: TccL Paterson Society to Wisconsin State College.

Wisconsin. State College (Stevens Point). 2 TLS to Paterson Society, 30 June 1961, 26 February 1962.

Wittenberg University (Springfield, Ohio). TLS to Paterson Society, undated.

Miscellaneous:

- The Atlantic Monthly. TLS / photocopy to Dorfman, Elsa, 31 July 1967. **Container**
1.8
- Auerhahn Press (San Francisco). 2 ALS, 15 TLS, TL, TL / photocopy to Dorfman, Elsa, 1959-1961. Included with these: 2 TL / photocopies, 91 TccL, 1 T / photocopy and TccL Dorfman to Auerhahn Press. **Container**
1.9
- Baker, William A. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 25 May 1960. **Container** 1.8
- Blackburn, Paul, 1926- . 3 TLS, 2 APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1961-1967. Included with these: promotional letter by Blackburn for Paterson Society.
- Blackburn, Sara. ALI, 11 TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1963-1967, undated. Included with these: 2 TccL Dorfman to Blackburn.
- Bulatović, Miodrag. Christmas card to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960.
- Burroughs, William S., 1914- . The exterminator by William Burroughs and Brion Gysin, carbon typescript / printer's copy, 38 pages; page proofs, 42 pages; 1960. **Container**
1.10
- Callahan, Harry. ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, 9 June 1964. **Container** 1.11
- Carroll, Paul, 1927- . TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 17 September 1960. Included with this: 2 TccL Dorfman to Carroll.
- Corso, Gregory, 1930- . ALS, TLS, APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 14 February 1962, undated. Included with these: promotional letter by Corso for Paterson Society.
- Creeley, Robert, 1922- . 21 TLS, TL, 2 APCS, 7 TPCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1963. Included with these: promotional letter by Creeley for Paterson Society; 11 TccL Dorfman to Creeley. **Container**
2.1
- Dawson, Fielding. APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 3 January 1962. **Container**
1.11
- Di Prima, Diane, 1933- . 2 TLS, 2 APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1964. Included with these: TccL Dorfman to Di Prima; ALS Remy Charlip to Dorfman.
- Dorfman, Elsa. ALS to Engel, M., 6 August 1962. ANI / reply by Engel written at end.
- Dorn, Edward. 8 ALS, AL, 6 TLS, 4 APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1961-1962, undated. Included with these: ALS Helene Dorn to Dorfman; promotional letter by Dorn for Paterson Society; 3 promotional letters by Paterson Society for Dorn. **Container**
2.2

- Duncan, Robert Edward, 1919- . 5 TLS, TLI to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1961. Included with these: 6 TccL Dorfman to Duncan; Duncan itinerary; 3 TLS Dartmouth College to Dorfman; 2 ALS Bard College to Dorfman; TccL Dorfman to Bard College. **Container** 1.11
- Ferguson, William. APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 15 March 1962.
- Ferrini, Vincent, 1913- . ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, 6 March 1966.
- Field, Edward:
- Ode to Fidel Castro, 1 carbon typescript, 4 pages; 2 typescripts / duplicated, 4 pages each, undated. **Container** 2.3
- Stand up, friend, with me, typescript / photocopy, 61 pages, undated. **Container** 2.4
- 3 ALS, 22 TLS, 2 APCS, TPCS, TPC to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1967, undated. Included with these: TccLS, 5 TccL Dorfman to Field; promotional letter by Field for Paterson Society. **Container** 2.5
- Ginsberg, Allen, 1926- . 2 TLS, 4 APCS, TPCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1962, undated. Included with these: 5 miscellaneous items. **Container** 1.11
- Ginsberg, Louis, 1896- . 7 ALS, 33 TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1959-1967, undated. Included with these: handwritten and typed copies of poems and a recipe. **Container** 2.6
- Grenier, Robert. 4 ALS, TLS, 3 TL, APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1962-1966, undated. **Container** 2.7
- Grove Press, Inc. ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, 25 August 1960. Included with this: TccL Grove Press to Heyman Zimel. **Container** 1.11
- Holmes, John. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 16 April 1959. **Container** 2.8
- Insley, Loudell. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 25 October 1965.
- Jones, LeRoi, 1934- . Promotional letter for Paterson Society, 27 February 1961.
- Kelly, Robert. ANS to Dorfman, Elsa, undated. Included with this: ALS Kelly to unidentified recipient Gordon.
- Kerouac, Jack, 1922-1969. ANS, 2 APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 16 May 1960, undated.
- Krim, Seymour, 1922- . TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 23 May 1960.
- Lamantia, Philip. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 16 November no year.

Laughlin, James, 1914- . TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 12 October 1965.

Lebel, Jean-Jacques. 2 ALS, TLS to Grove Press, 1960, undated. Included with these: 2 TccL Grove Press to Lebel.

Levin, Harry, 1912- . TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 13 August 1962.

Loewinsohn, Ron. 3 ALS, 3 TLS, 2 APCS, TPCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1963-1967, undated.

McClure, Michael. 12 ALS, 2 AL, AL / incomplete, 3 TLS, TLI, 3 APCS, APCI, undated. Included with these: telegram / 2 copies McClure to editor, Life magazine; promotional letter by McClure for Paterson Society. **Container**
2.9

Marshall, Edward. 3 ALS, TLS, APCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 1960-1961. Included with these: TccL Dorfman to Marshall. **Container**
2.8

Missouri. Northwest Missouri State College (Maryville). Circular letter to members of the faculty, 12 June 1962.

Mount St. Mary's. Answers to Grove Press - Evergreen Review poetry questionnaire, undated.

Myers, Charles R. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 3 May 1960.

O'Grady. TLS to Dorfman, Elsa, 27 September 1965.

Paterson Society (Cambridge, Massachusetts):

Financial papers, 1961-1962. **Container** 3.1

Mailing lists, undated. **Container** 3.2

Michael McClure travel materials, bills, itinerary, promotional materials, etc., 1961. **Container**
2.10

Miscellaneous, 3 items, undated.

Miscellaneous notes, 5 items, undated.

Promotional materials, 4 examples with duplicates, undated.

Snyder, Gary, 1930- . ALS, 4 APCS, APCI to Dorfman, Elsa, 1961-1962, undated. Included with these: promotional letter by Snyder for Paterson Society; list of names and addresses for India. **Container**
3.3

Sweeney, John L. 2 ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, 20 August 1962, 19 April 1966.

Tate, James, 1943- . TPCS to Dorfman, Elsa, 2 February 1967.

Weaver, Michael L. H. L. 2 ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, undated. Signed Mike Weaver.

Whalen, Philip, 1923- . 38 ALS, 17 TLS, TLI, ANI, 8 APCS, APCI, 2 TPCS, 1959-1967, undated. Included with these: check; promotional letter by Paterson Society; promotional letter by Whalen for Paterson Society.

Container
3.4-5

Zukofsky, Louis, 1904-1978. ALS to Dorfman, Elsa, 8 March 1966. Included with this: ALS Celia Zukofsky to Dorfman.

Container
3.3

Miscellaneous envelopes and blank stationery.

Container 3.6

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