

John Boland:

Collection of Spalding Gray at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Boland, John
Title:	John Boland Collection of Spalding Gray
Dates:	1968-2008
Extent:	1 document box, 2 serial boxes, 1 oversize box, 1 oversize folder (2.18 linear feet), and 21 electronic files (382 MB)
Abstract:	The John Boland Collection of Spalding Gray contains materials covering much of Gray's career, consisting primarily of published works, interviews, reviews, videos, and sound recordings.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-05277
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research. Researchers must create an online Research Account and agree to the Materials Use Policy before using archival materials. To request access to electronic files, please email Reference .
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.
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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation John Boland Collection of Spalding Gray (Manuscript Collection MS-05277). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Acquisition: Gift, 2010 (10-12-009-G)

Processed by: Stephen Cooper, 2018 Born digital materials processed, arranged, and described by Brenna Edwards, 2021-2022.

Repository: [Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin](#)

Scope and Contents

The John Boland Collection of Spalding Gray contains materials covering much of the actor/writer/performer's career, from a 1968 photograph of Gray in an off-Broadway production of *Tom Paine* to a *GQ* interview in late 2003 titled "Man Overboard." Additional items in the collection include short published works, playbills, advertisements and publicity photographs, interviews, reviews, videos, sound recordings, and books. The collection was created by and donated to the Harry Ransom Center by John Boland/ spaldinggray.com.

Related Material

Additional Spalding Gray materials at the Ransom Center are located in the Spalding Gray Papers and the Spalding Gray Collection.

Separated Material

35 bound volumes, 13 VHS tapes, 10 commercial DVDs, 9 compact discs, 8 cassette tapes, 1 laser disc, and 1 LP record were transferred to the Ransom Center Library and will be cataloged online in The University of Texas Library Catalog. 3 noncommercial compact discs and 1 cassette tape were transferred to the Ransom Center Sound Recordings Collection and will be cataloged online in The University of Texas Library Catalog. Moving image material including 9 DVDs and 3 VHS tapes were transferred to the Ransom Center Moving Image Collection. Two gray Spalding headbands were transferred to the Ransom Center's Personal Effects Collection. See the index below for a complete list of transferred materials.

Series I. Works, 1979-2002

- About Three Places in Rhode Island (The Drama Review, March 1979) **Container 2**
- Billy's State of Mind (Show People, Fall 2002)
- The Dorm: From Fear of Fear, a novel in Progress (Benzene, Spring/Summer 1982, Nos. 5/6) **Container 4**
- Gray's Anatomy (The New York Times Magazine, May 17, 1992) **Container 2**
- Inside Out: The Dalai Lama Interviewed by Spalding Gray (Tricycle, The Buddhist Review, Fall 1991)
- Monster in a Box, advance proof (Vintage Books, January 1992) **Container 1.1**
- Radio Daze (GQ, April 1988) **Container 2**
- Seven Scenes from a Family Album, pamphlet (Benzene Editions, 1981) **Container 1.1**
- Striking it Poor in Hollywood (TV Guide, 1987) **Container 2**
- Swimming to Cambodia (High Times, May 1986)
- Swimming to Philadelphia, from Swimming to Cambodia (Harper's, July 1986)

Series II. Career Related, 1968-2000

Farmer's Daughters movie poster, undated	Container osf 1
Gary's Anatomy movie posters (3), 1997	
Heavy Petting movie poster, undated	
Kate and Leopold movie poster, 2001	
King of the Hill movie poster, 1993	
Love-in '72 movie poster, undated	
Monster in a Box movie posters (2), 1992	
Morning, Noon, and Night recording. 4 electronic files: MP3, 2005	Disk-ID-No. 1012009G_001
Playbills	Container
Gore Vidal's The Best Man, Virginia Theatre, Sept. 2000. Signed by cast.	Container 1.3
Gray's Anatomy, Lincoln Center Theater, Nov. 1993; Jan. 1994	Container 1.2
Monster in a Box, Lincoln Center Theater, Dec. 1990; Jan. 1991; May 1991	Container 1.3
Morning, Noon, and Night, Lincoln Center, Dec. 1999	
Our Town, Lyceum Theatre, Nov. 1998	Container 1.2
Stories Left to Tell, March 2007	Container 1.3
Swimming to Cambodia, Lincoln Center Theater, June 1986	Container 1.2
Publicity photos of Gray for various productions	Container 1.4
Photograph of Gray in Tom Paine (Playboy, November 1968)	Container 3
Photographs. 8 electronic files: JPG, 2005	Disk-ID-No. 1012009G_001
Assorted flyers, promo shots, and playbills for various productions	Container 1.5

Various Gray-related items

Container 1.6

Series III. Interviews and Reviews, 1985-2008

- Dancing with the Audience: A conversation with Spalding Gray, actor, writer, monologist, and connoisseur of neuroses (Dramatics, November 1991) **Container** 3
- Exercising Demons, Spalding Gray mines his past for your amusement (Theater Week, December 3, 1990)
- Gray's Anatomy (Theater Week, December 20, 1993)
- Gray Matters (The Village Voice). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005 **Disk-ID-No.** 1012009G_001
- The guy came off the TV and he's talking to me: Bill Irwin, Spalding Gray, and Eric Bogosian at The Studies Project (High Performance, Issue 34 1986) **Container** 3
- Inside Out: The Dali Lama Interviewed by Spalding Gray (Tricycle: The Buddhist Review, Fall 1991). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005 **Disk-ID-No.** 1012009G_001
- Life, Interrupted (Salon.com, 2004). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005
- Man interrupted: tracing Spalding Gray's black spot (Sunday Independent, August 1, 2010) **Container** 4
- Man Overboard (GQ, October 2003) **Container** 3
- Man Overboard. 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005 **Disk-ID-No.** 1012009G_001
- Memory Man: But enough about you, Spalding Gray has himself to spiel about (The Face, March 1987) **Container** 3
- Monologues in the Making: A report on the extraordinary Spalding Gray (February 1986)
- The Mystery of Doubt (Tricycle, The Buddhist Review, Winter 1996)
- Nuts in Bali (Frieze, International Art Magazine, March/April 1993)
- Shades of Gray (The Observer Magazine, December 26, 2004)
- Shades of Gray (The Observer, December 26, 2004). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005 **Disk-ID-No.** 1012009G_001
- Spalding Gray 1941-2004: Remembering an artist who relied mostly on his own story (The Village Voice). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005

Spalding Gray (Alive, The New Performance Magazine, Nov./Dec. 1982)	Container 3
Spalding Gray confirmed dead (The Globe and Mail, March 9, 2004)	Container 4
Spalding Gray is ‘in the bricks and our bones’: Actors and writers flock to pay tribute to the U. S. monologist (The Globe and Mail, April 15, 2004)	
Spalding Gray Interview, Writers And Company (CBC, June 29, 1993). 1 electronic file: MP3, 2005	Disk-ID-No. 1012009G_001
Spalding Gray’s Last Interview (PAJ, A Journal of Performance and Art, Jan. 2008)	Container 3
Spalding Gray tells all! Monologist talks of recent triumphs, pain (Harvard Gazette Archives). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005	Disk-ID-No. 1012009G_001
Spalding Gray: Traveling Through New England, Swimming to Cambodia (High Performance, Issue 29 1985)	Container 3
Spalding Gray’s words—and neuroses—come alive again (The Globe and Mail, March 12, 2007)	Container 4
Vanishing Act (New York, February 2, 2004)	Container 3
Vanishing Act (New York Magazine, February 2, 2004). 1 electronic file: Microsoft Word, 2005	Disk-ID-No. 1012009G_001

Transferred Materials

- Books

- Bonney, Jo, editor. *Extreme Exposure: An Anthology of Solo Performance Texts from the Twentieth Century* (2000)
- Demastes, William W., editor. *Spalding Gray's America* (2008)
- Dyja, Thomas. *Life-Changing Stories of Coming of Age* (2001)
- Gray, Spalding. *Gray's Anatomy* (1994)
- Gray, Spalding. *Impossible Vacation* (1992), 3 copies
- Gray, Spalding. *Impossible Vacation* (1993)
- Gray, Spalding. *In Search of Monkey Girl* (1982), 3 copies
- Gray, Spalding. *It's a Slippery Slope* (1997), 2 copies
- Gray, Spalding. *It's a Slippery Slope* (1997), uncorrected proof
- Gray, Spalding. *Life Interrupted, The Unfinished Monologue* (2005)
- Gray, Spalding. *Life Interrupted, The Unfinished Monologue* (2005), uncorrected proof
- Gray, Spalding. *Morning, Noon, and Night* (1999, 2000), 2 copies
- Gray, Spalding. *Sex and Death to the Age 14* (1986), 2 copies, 1 signed by author
- Gray, Spalding. *Swimming to Cambodia* (2005)
- Gray, Spalding. *Swimming to Cambodia* (1987), first British edition
- Gray, Spalding. *Swimming to Cambodia* (1985), 2 copies signed by author
- Greene, Jessica. *The Grit Cookbook* (2003)
- Harmon, James, editor. *Take My Advice: Letters to the Next Generation from People Who Know a Thing or Two* (2002)
- Lecesne, James. *My First Car* (1993)
- Marowski, Daniel G. and Sean R. Pollock, editors. *Contemporary Literary Criticism, CLC 49* (1988)
- Morgan, Tom, editor. *A Simple Monk: Writings on His Holiness the Dalai Lama* (2001)
- Orchards, Seven *Stories by Anton Chekov and Seven Plays They Have Inspired* (1986)
- Savran, David. *Breaking the Rules: The Wooster Group* (1986), 2 copies
- Shengold, Nina and Eric Lane, editors. *Moving Parts: Monologues from Contemporary Plays* (1992)
- Shewey, Don. *Caught in the Act* (1986)
- Smith, Jimmy Neil, editor. *Homespun: Tales from America's Favorite Storytellers* (1988)
- Moving Image
 - *Bad Company*, DVD (Touchstone Home Entertainment undated) 2 copies
 - *Beyond Rangoon*, VHS (Castle Rock Entertainment 1995)
 - *Bliss*, DVD (Columbia Tristar 2003)
 - *Bliss*, VHS (Triumph Films 1997)
 - *Brother's Keeper*, DVD (Docurama 2003)
 - *Coming Soon*, DVD (Image Entertainment 2000)
 - *The Farmer's Daughters XXX*, copied VHS, undated
 - *Glory Daze*, DVD (Columbia Tristar 2003)
 - *Gray's Anatomy*, VHS (Fox Lorber 1997)
 - *Gray's Anatomy*, DVD (Wellspring 2002)
 - *Hard Choices*, VHS (Karl Lorimar 1984)
 - *Heavy Petting*, VHS (Academy Entertainment undated)
 - *How High*, DVD (Universal 2002)
 - *Ilsa, Harem Keeper of the Oil Sheiks*, DVD (Mount Everest Enterprises 2000)
 - *Julie Johnson*, DVD (Genius Entertainment 2006)
 - *The Killing Fields*, VHS (Warner Home Video 1986)

- King of the Hill, VHS (Universal City Studios 1993) 2 copies
- Love-In '72, copied DVD
- Monster in a Box, VHS (New Line Home Video 1992)
- The Nanny, seasons 4 and 5, 6 copied DVD-Rs
- Revolution #9, DVD (Wellspring Media 2003)
- Spalding Gray/ Kelvin Christopher, VHS (Visual Education Centre undated)
- Spenser: For Hire, I Confess episode, 1987, copied DVD-R
- Stars and Bars, VHS (Columbia Pictures 1988)
- Swimming to Cambodia, laser disc, 1995
- Swimming to Cambodia, VHS (Lorimar Home Video 1987)
- Terrors of Pleasure and other titles, copied DVD-R, 1987-1999
- Thorton Wilder's Our Town 1989, VHS (MasterVision 1989)
- Twenty Bucks, VHS (Columbia Tristar Home Video 1993)
- Unlabeled VHS tape, undated
- Variety, VHS (Media Home Entertainment 1987)

- Sound Recordings
 - Blue Man Group, CD-R (Lava Records 2003)
 - Bob Egan, The Glorious Decline, CD-R (Universal Music Canada 2006)
 - Emily Arin, Patch of Land, CD-R (2011) 2 copies
 - First Words, CD-R (Gang of Seven 1992)
 - It's a Slippery Slope, cassette (Mercury Records, undated) for promotional use only
 - It's a Slippery Slope, cassette (Mercury Records 1998)
 - It's a Slippery Slope, CD-R (Mercury Records 1998)
 - It's a Slippery Slope, copied CD-R, undated
 - Life Interrupted, CD-R (Audio Renaissance 2006) 2 copies
 - Monster in a Box, CD-R two disc set (Gang of Seven 1992) 2 copies
 - Monster in a Box, 2 cassette set (Gang of Seven 1992)
 - Morning, Noon, and Night, 2 cassette set (Dove Audio 1999) 2 sets
 - Sex and Death to the Age of 14, CD-R, 2 disc set, undated
 - State of the Union, LP (Zoar Records 1982)
 - State of the Union, CD-R (MuWorks Records 1983)
 - Tellus #18, Experimental Theater, cassette, 1987
 - Terrors of Pleasure, cassette (Gang of Seven 1992)
 - Terrors of Pleasure, cassette (Audio Literature Live 1996), 2 copies
 - Terrors of Pleasure, CD-R (Gang of Seven 1992)

- Personal Effects
 - 2 grey Spalding sweatbands