

Reginald Gibbons:

A Preliminary Inventory of his Collection of William Goyen (1915-1983) and Thomas McGrath (1916-1990) in the Manuscript Collection at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Gibbons, Reginald, 1947-
Title:	Reginald Gibbons Collection of William Goyen and Thomas McGrath
Dates:	1945-2004
Extent:	12 boxes (5.04 linear feet)
Abstract:	This collection reflects Gibbons' advocacy for the publication of the works of William Goyen and Thomas McGrath, especially during his years as editor of Northwestern University's <i>TriQuarterly</i> literary magazine and TriQuarterly Books. The collection primarily consists of typescripts of works, interviews, reviews, and correspondence.
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research, except for restricted correspondence and versions of "Leander"

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift, 2005 (G12425)
Processed by:	Liz Murray, 2006
Repository:	The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Scope and Contents

Poet, writer, literary critic, and academic, Reginald Gibbons enjoyed a long-standing personal and professional relationship with William Goyen and Thomas McGrath. This collection reflects Gibbons' advocacy for the publication of both writers' works, especially during his years as editor of Northwestern University's *TriQuarterly* literary magazine and TriQuarterly Books. The material, primarily typescripts of works, interviews, reviews, and correspondence, is organized in three Series: I. William Goyen; II. Gibbons Correspondence re Goyen, 1981-2004; and III. Thomas McGrath.

The William Goyen Series is subdivided into three Subseries: A. Works; B. Goyen Correspondence, 1945-1983; and C. About Goyen.

The Works in Subseries A. contain short stories and novels already present in the Ransom Center's Goyen Papers. Titles include *Arcadio* (1983), *Had I a Hundred Mouths: New and Selected Stories, 1947-1983* (1985), *Half a Look of Cain: A Fantastical Narrative* (1994), *House of Breath* (1999), *New Work and Work in Progress* (1983) preface by Joyce Carol Oates, *Precious Door* (1982), and *Wonderful Plant* (1980). Also present are individual short stories and Study Master notes by Goyen for works by Willa Cather and Ralph Ellison.

Subseries B. Goyen Correspondence, 1945-1983, includes original and photocopied letters to and from writers Eve Caram and Katherine Anne Porter, theater director-producer Margo Jones, editor and publisher Carol Southern, and Reginald Gibbons.

Material about Goyen in Subseries C. includes articles, obits, reviews, biographical entries, a 1982 interview for *Masques*, inventories of Goyen's literary papers, and a 1992 issue of *Mid-American Review* on Goyen.

The Gibbons correspondence regarding Goyen in Series II. has much to do with his active role as Goyen's literary executor and the publication of Goyen's works. Correspondents include Eve Caram; Clark Davis; Gary Haber; Robert Phillips; Patrice Repousseau, Goyen's wife, actress Doris Roberts; Stephen Spender; Eudora Welty; and others.

The Thomas McGrath papers in Series III. are arranged in two Subseries: A. "Thomas McGrath: Life and the Poem," in *TriQuarterly* 70, 1987, and B. Correspondence re *TriQuarterly* issue and McGrath-Related Material.

Subseries A. contains drafts, corrections, and proofs of an interview conducted between January 30 and February 1, 1987 by Gibbons and Terrence Des Pres. The interview titled "Thomas McGrath: Life and the Poem" was subsequently published as a special issue of *TriQuarterly* and in an expanded version by the University of Illinois Press in 1992.

Much of Subseries B. regarding the *TriQuarterly* interview includes Gibbons' correspondence with Philip Levine, Frederick Stern, British historian E. P. Thompson, and Josh Weiner. Of special interest are numerous letters from McGrath to Gibbons from 1987-1988. Also present is a typescript of an oral interview of Alice McGrath conducted by Michael Balter in 1987.

Separated Material

An audio cassette commemorating a celebration of Tom McGrath on March 15, 1991, in Chicago was transferred to the Ransom Center's Sound Recordings Collection.

Series I. William Goyen

Subseries A. Works

"Another Man's Son," short story, corrected typescripts	Box 1 Folder 1
<i>Arcadio</i> (1983), novel	
Corrected typescripts	
October 9, 1979	Folder 2
September 8, 1981	Folder 3
Uncorrected proof with marginal notes by Gibbons	Folder 4
Drafts of Gibbons's review for <i>The New York Times</i> , November 6, 1983	Folder 5
Reviews and publicity	Folder 6
<i>The Faces of Blood Kindred: A Novella and Ten Stories</i> (French translation, 1996), reviews	Folder 7
"The Fallen Aerialist: Marvello's Story," published version in <i>The Southern Review</i> , Spring 1991	Folder 8
<i>Had I a Hundred Mouths: New and Selected Stories, 1947-1983</i> (1985)	
Edited typescript and print versions of title story	Folder 9
Edited draft of collected stories	Folder 10
Edited draft, cont'd	Box 2 Folder 1
Preface by Joyce Carol Oates, typescripts and correspondence	Folder 2
Proof, corrected pages	Folder 3
Reviews and correspondence	Folder 4

Half a Look of Cain: A Fantastical Narrative (1994), novel

Typescript, incomplete photocopy	Folder 5
"Related papers," typescripts, 1993	Folder 6
Edited typescript, selected galley pages, and afterword, Spring 1994	Folder 7
Excerpt in <i>Gulf Coast</i> , Summer 1994	Box 3 Folder 1

House of Breath (1999), novel

Afterword drafts by Gibbons	Folder 2
Book proposal by Gibbons and Hahn; reviews	Folder 3
"Jesus in My Body, Jesus in My Flesh," uncorrected carbon typescript	Folder 4

New Work and Work in Progress (1983), short works and interview

Interview, typescripts and fragments	Folder 5-7
<i>TriQuarterly</i> 56, Winter 1983 issue	Folder 8
<i>TriQuarterly</i> and Palaemon Press, camera-ready copy and photocopy of published version, with correspondence	Folder 9-10

Precious Door (1982), short stories

Partial uncorrected typescript	Folder 1
Final versions, November 1980 and 1982	Folder 2-3
Typescript copy from Goyen, inscribed to Gibbons, April 29, 1981	Folder 4

"Recovering," typescript, and print version in <i>TriQuarterly</i> 58, Fall 1983	Folder 5
Short stories, various typescripts and print versions, photocopies	Folder 6
Study Master notes (text by Goyen) for Willa Cather's <i>My Antonia</i> and Ralph Ellison's <i>Invisible Man</i>	Folder 7-8
<i>Wonderful Plant</i> (1980), novel, photocopy of Palaemon Press edition	Folder 9
Subseries B. Goyen Correspondence, 1945-1983	
Caram, Eve, copies of Goyen's letters, with Robert Phillips' correspondence, 1980-1982	Box 5 Folder 1
Gibbons, Reginald, 1979-1983	Folder 2
Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, 1974-1983, and related material	Folder 3
Jones, Margo, photocopies, 1945-1955	Folder 4-5
Porter, Katherine Anne, photocopies, 1947-1951	Folder 6
Rice University, 1969-1979	Folder 7
Southern, Carol, photocopies, 1982-1983	Folder 8
Subseries C. About Goyen	
Articles, obits, reviews, etc.	Box 5 Folder 9
<i>Dictionary of Literary Biography</i> , re Goyen entry	Folder 10
<i>The Handbook of Texas</i> , 1984-1985, with typescripts of Goyen article	Folder 11

Interview for *Masques* , Summer 1982, full and edited typescripts

Folder
12

Inventories

1983, Gibbons

Folder 13

1984, Nancy Escher

Folder 14

Mid-American Review , vol. 13, no. 1, 1992, issue on Goyen

Box 6
Folder 1

Series II. Gibbons Correspondence re Goyen, 1981-2004

re Goyen's script "Aimee," 1990	Box 6 Folder 2
Caram, Eve, 1984-1987	Folder 3
Davis, Clark, and others re Goyen book projects, 1993-2004	Folder 4
Haber, Gary, 1984-1985	Folder 5
Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center	
1983-1988, Decherd Turner	Folder 6
1990-1999	Folder 7-8
Hoffman, Mary-Pat, 1987-1995	Folder 9
Horvath, Brooke, and others re <i>A Goyen Companion</i> (1997)	Folder 10
ICM (Jed Mattes, Roberta Pryor), 1981-1988	Folder 11
<i>Mid-American Review</i> , 1990-1993	Box 7 Folder 1
Miller, Steve (Red Ozier Press), 1983-1985	Folder 2
Permissions, 1989-1994	Folder 3-4
Phillips, Robert, 1983-2004	Folder 5
Repusseau, Patrice, 1982-2004	Folder 6-7
Rice University, Fondren Library, 1984-1985	Folder 8
Roberts, Doris, 1984-1996	Box 8 Folder 1
Serpent's Tail Press, 1987	Folder 2
Spender, Stephen, 1993, with typescript introduction to <i>Selected Letters from a Writer's Life</i>	Folder 3

Gibbons, Reginald, 1947-

The Texas Humanist , 1983-1986

Folder
4-5

University of Chicago Press, 1985

Folder 6

University of Texas Press, 1984-1994

Folder
7-8

Vaughn, Sam (Doubleday), 1984-1985

Folder
9

Welty, Eudora, 1984

Folder 10

Various correspondents, 1982-1999

Folder
11-12

Series III. Thomas McGrath

Subseries A. "Thomas McGrath: Life and the Poem," in *TriQuarterly* 70, 1987

Typescripts, corrections, and proofs	Box 9 Folder
Unedited top copy	Folder 1-2
Full interview with corrections and marks for first cuts	Folder 3-4
First revision	Folder 5
Second revision	Folder 6-7
Edited version sent to McGrath, January 1987	Folder 8
Des Pres corrections	Box 10 Folder 1
McGrath corrections	Folder 2
Page proofs	Folder 3-4

Subseries B. Correspondence re *TriQuarterly* issue and McGrath-Related Material

ACM interview, "Thomas McGrath: A Conversation"	Box 10 Folder 5
Gibbons, Reginald, especially letters from McGrath, 1987-1988	Folder 6-8
Gibbons, Reginald, cont'd	Box 11 Folder 1
Levine, Philip	Folder 2
McGrath, Alice. "The Education of Alice McGrath," oral history interview by Michael Balter, 1987	Folder 3
Stern, Frederick C.	Folder 4
Thompson, E. P.	Folder 5
University of Illinois, re "Life and the Poem"	Box 12 Folder

Gibbons, Reginald, 1947-

General

Folder 1-2

Permissions

Folder 3

Royalties

Folder 4

TriQuarterly issue annotated for publication (1992)

Folder 5

Weiner, Josh

Folder 6