

# William Goyen:

## An Inventory of His Literary File Photography Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

---

### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Goyen, William, 1915-1983
<b>Title:</b>	William Goyen Literary File Photography Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1947-1955
<b>Extent:</b>	5 document boxes, 1 album (2.85 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	The William Goyen Literary File consists of 992 photographs, many of which are portraits of Goyen, both alone and with others, including his wife, Doris Roberts. Of particular note among the various people represented in the file are Dorothy Brett, Spud Johnson, Frieda Lawrence, Mabel Dodge Luhan, and Katherine Anne Porter. Also included are a number of views of Venice, Italy, and stills from productions of <i>House of Breath</i> and <i>Aimee</i> .
<b>Call Number:</b>	Photography Collection PH-02671
<b>Language:</b>	No linguistic material present
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research. Please note: Transparencies may be accessed but require 24 hours advance notice. Negatives cannot be accessed without curatorial approval. Light sensitive materials must be viewed under low-level lighting. Some materials may be restricted from viewing. To make an appointment or to reserve photography materials, please contact the Center's staff at <a href="mailto:photography@hrc.utexas.edu">photography@hrc.utexas.edu</a> .

---

### Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition:</b>	Internal transfer
<b>Processed by:</b>	HRC Staff
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

---

## Scope and Contents

The William Goyen Literary File consists of 992 photographs (911 loose prints, 54 negatives, 3 slides, and 24 prints in an album), many of which are portraits of Goyen, both alone and with others, including his wife, Doris Roberts. Of particular note among the various people represented in the file are Dorothy Brett, Spud Johnson, Frieda Lawrence, Mabel Dodge Luhan, and Katherine Anne Porter. Also included are a number of views of Venice, Italy, and stills from productions of *House of Breath* and *Aimee*. Most items lack accession numbers. An index at the end of this guide lists photographers whose work is featured in this literary file.

---

## Related Material

The Ransom Center also has material from Goyen's archives in its Art Collection, Manuscripts Collection, and Library.

---

## Index Terms

### People

Brett, Dorothy, 1883-1977.  
Goyen, William.  
Johnson, Walter Willard, 1897-1968.  
Lawrence, Frieda, 1879-1956.  
Luhan, Mabel Dodge, 1879-1962.  
Porter, Katherine Anne, 1890-1980.  
Roberts, Doris, 1925-2016.

### Subjects

Authors, American--20th century.  
Dramatists, American--20th century.  
Film adaptations.

### Places

Venice (Italy).

### Document Types

Chromogenic color prints.

Dye destruction prints.

Film negatives.

Gelatin silver prints.

---

**Accession Number: 957:0069:0001-0020** Snapshots of William Goyen, Dorothy Brett, Frieda Lawrence, and/or others, after World War II, in New Mexico; snapshots of various (mostly unidentified) family members; Goyen's U.S. Navy identification card. 20 prints. **Location**  
Box 1

**Accession Number: 957:0069:0021** Portrait of Katherine Anne Porter; signed presentation to "Bill." 1 print.

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned Photographic prints and negatives, mostly of Goyen (publicity photos, formal portraits, and snapshots); also a few views of Venice, Italy, and of a ranch house and surrounding landscape. 156 unnumbered prints; 11 unnumbered negatives.

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned Photographic prints and negatives of Goyen and friends (Navy buddies) as well as views of places where they were stationed (some taken during war time). 168 unnumbered prints; 21 unnumbered negatives. **Location**  
Box 2

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned Three color slides depicting D.H. Lawrence's tomb, the door of Hon. Dorothy [Brett]'s house, and Taos, New Mexico, 1948; photographic prints and negatives of Goyen, Dorothy Brett, Katherine Anne Porter, Millicent Rogers, Frieda Lawrence (some taken on her 70th birthday), Spud Johnson, Mabel Dodge Luhan, and others, in New Mexico (including a work party building an adobe structure, in El Prado?); photographic print of Goyen and his wife, Doris Roberts, in a restaurant. 3 unnumbered color slides; 215 unnumbered prints; 13 unnumbered negatives. **Location**  
Box 3

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned Snapshots (proof prints?) of Venice, Italy; portraits of Goyen by Elizabeth Ziebarth and Manuel Litran; candid images from a party; stills from productions of House of Breath; portraits of Goyen by Thomas Victor, one of which includes Doris Roberts, with contact sheets; miscellaneous snapshots (some color), including numerous images of Goyen and/or Doris Roberts and one of the Goyen headstone. 198 unnumbered prints; 8 unnumbered negatives. **Location**  
Box 4

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned SPortraits of Goyen; stills from a production of Aimee by the Trinity Square Repertory Company; photographic reproduction of a drawing by Don Bachardy of Goyen; photographs of Rice University's 1977 commencement, at which Goyen received their Distinguished Alumnus Award; miscellaneous snapshots (some color). 147 unnumbered prints; 1 unnumbered negative. **Location**  
Box 5

**Accession Number: 997:0079:0028** Photographic reproduction of a jacket design for Goyen's Arcadio, published by Clarkson N. Potter, Inc. 1 print

**Accession Number: 997:0079:0085-0088** Portraits of Goyen, three of which are inscribed on verso by Katherine Anne Porter to Goyen. 4 prints

**Accession Number: 2002:0003:0001** Photographic reproduction of a drawing by Alfonso Ossorio of Frieda Lawrence; inscribed and initialed on verso by Goyen: "Frieda Lawrence - / photograph of a drawing / by Alfonso Ossorio, given / to me in 1952. / W.G." 1 print

**Accession Number:** unaccessioned Small brown album (with detached front cover) containing 24 photographic prints of family members in Houston, Texas, 1924-1926. 24 unnumbered prints

**Location**  
Album 1

## **Index of Photographers**

- Apeda Studio (New York, N.Y.)--Box 5
- Aronovsky, James--Box 4
- Candid Photo Studios--Box 5
- Cannata, Michael Robert--Box 5
- Daniell, George, 1913-2002--Box 3
- de Morgou, Nick--Box 5
- Evergreen Studios--Box 1
- Grizzaffi, Frank--Box 5
- Halma, Harold--Box 1, Box 5
- J. Bess Studios--Box 5
- Jacoby, Max--Box 1
- Litran, Manuel--Box 4
- Long, Arthur--Box 3, Box 5
- Lynes, George Platt, 1907-1955--Box 1, Box 3
- Namuth, Hans--Box 5
- Spender, Stephen, 1909-1995--Box 1, Box 4
- Victor, Thomas--Box 4
- Whitney, Peter--Box 2
- Ziebarth, Ursula--Box 1, Box 4
- Zimmermann, Regula--Box 4