



The New York Public Library  
Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**Laura Riding collection of papers**

1927-1989

Berg Coll MSS Riding

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Riding, Laura, 1901-1991

**Title:** Laura Riding collection of papers

**Date:** 1927-1989

**Size:** 339 items

**Source:** This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

**Abstract:** This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, correspondence, and portrait photographs of the author.

**Access:** Restricted access.

**Conditions Governing Use:** For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

**Preferred citation:** [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

## Creator History

Laura Riding was an American poet, essayist, literary critic, and novelist.

## Custodial History

Previous owners include Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Julian Symons, and Lola Szladits.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, correspondence, and portrait

photographs of the author. The manuscripts and typescripts consist of poems, essays, short stories, and statements by the author, as well as articles, and poems about the author by Robert Haas, Hugh Gordon Porteous, and Keidrych Rhys. The correspondence consists of letters from the author, dating from 1927 to 1989, to John Aldridge, Alfred Kazin, Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Michael Roberts, Siegfried Sassoon, Julian Symons, Lola Szladits, and others. There are also letters relating to the author, dating from 1928 to 1978, between various correspondents including Robert Graves, Alan Hodge, Julian Symons, and others. There are letters to Riding from Lola Szladits, dating from 1975 to 1989.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence

### **Names**

Riding, Laura, 1901-1991

Aldridge, John

Graves, Robert, 1895-1985

Haas, Robert K., 1890-1964

Hodge, Alan, 1915-1979

Kazin, Alfred, 1915-1998

Marsh, Edward Howard, Sir, 1872-1953

Porteous, Hugh Gordon

Rhys, Keidrych

Roberts, Michael, 1902-1948

Sassoon, Siegfried, 1886-1967

Symons, Julian, 1912-1994

Szladits, Lola L.

## Container List

### Manuscripts and Typescripts

#### Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Riding

- Manuscript box. In her: 24 ALS, 3 TLS, 2 postcards to Michael Roberts, [1935]-1936. Folder 1  
Manuscript box
- [Collected poems] Typescripts of three poems, one with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (4 p) (4 p)  
Two signed. Published, New York: Random House, 1938
- Comments and corrections for Michael Roberts' introduction to The Faber book of modern verse, 1936. Holograph. In several section, paginated [1]-11, 1-8, 1-3, 1-[2]. At head of first section, "Introduction" n.d. (24 p) (24 p)  
Signed
- Manuscript box
- Description of life. Two typescripts (original and carbon) of short story n.d. (56 p.; 56 p) (56 p.; 56 p)
- Manuscript box
- Entrada, The. Two typescripts (original and carbon) of unfinished story. First page of ribbon copy wanting, supplied by photocopy n.d. (31 p.; 31 p) (31 p.; 31 p)
- Manuscript box
- [First awakenings] Typescript poems (original and carbon). Some poems with Laura Riding Gottschalk typed at top of first page n.d. (49 folders) (49 folders)  
Published as First awakenings: the early poems of Laura Riding. New York: Persea Books, 1992
- Manuscript box.  
In: Riding, Laura.  
51 ALS, 8 ANS,  
40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2  
postcards to Lola  
Szladits. Dec. 10,  
1974-Oct. 27,  
1989  
Oversize (+)
- Interest. Typescript (carbon) essay 1982 Apr. 15 (19 p) (19 p)  
Signed
- Manuscript box
- Is there a world for literature? Holograph draft of essay n.d. (40 p) (40 p)
- Manuscript box
- Music. Typescript (incomplete) of essay with the author's ms. corrections. Pages 2-4 only n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box
- Music. Typescript (carbon) of essay with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (5 p) (5 p)
- Manuscript box.  
In: Riding, Laura.  
51 ALS, 8 ANS,  
40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2  
postcards to Lola  
Szladits, Dec. 10,  
1974-Oct. 27,  
1989. Folder 15  
Manuscript box
- Only possible ending, The. Typescript story n.d. (4 p) (4 p)  
Inscribed to Lola Szladits
- Manuscript box
- Personal letter with a request for a reply. Mimeographed letter on the international situation 1937 Jan. (4 p) (4 p)  
Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh

Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)

Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Riding (cont.)

Manuscript box.  
In: Riding, Laura.  
51 ALS, 8 ANS,  
40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2  
postcards to Lola  
Szladits, Dec. 10,  
1974-Oct. 17[?],  
1989. Folder 13

Preface. To make sure. Typescript (carbon) n.d. (2 p) (2 p)  
Signed

Manuscript box.  
In: Riding, Laura.  
51 ALS, 8 ANS,  
40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2  
postcards to Lola  
Szladits, Dec. 10,  
1974-Oct. 27,  
1989. Folder 10

Statement by Laura (Riding) Jackson for the Manhattan theatre club  
Monday evening March 28, 1983. Typescript (photocopy) n.d. (11 p) (11 p)

Manuscript box

Will he be grateful? Typescript (carbon) of short story with the author's ms.  
corrections n.d. (5 p) (5 p)

Manuscript box

Women as people. Two typescripts (original and carbon) of short story with  
the author's ms. corrections. Page 15 of each copy wanting n.d. (36 p.; 36 p)  
(36 p.; 36 p)

Manuscript box

The word "woman". Typescript with the author's ms. corrections. Page 87  
mutilated n.d. (120 p) (120 p)

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Riding

Manuscript box  
(Gotham). In:  
Gotham book  
mart, New York.  
We moderns.  
Folder 31

Haas, Robert. [Laura Riding] Typescript of contribution to *We moderns* n.d.  
(1 p) (1 p)

Signed. Published in *Gotham Book Mart catalog no. 42*, New York, 1940

Manuscript box

Porteous, Hugh Gordon. Reading and Riding. Holograph article. Relates to  
Laura Riding's *Collected poems*. n.d. (6 p) (6 p)

Signed. With covering letter. 1 p.; Published in *Twentieth Century Verse*, no. 14, Dec. 1938, p.  
130-133. Came with Julian Symons' correspondence

Manuscript box

Rhys, Keidrych. Letter to Laura Riding. Holograph poem n.d. (2 p) (2 p)

Signed. Came with Julian Symons' correspondence

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Manuscript box

Aldridge, John. 18 ALS, 1 AL, 5 TLS to [1929?] - 1940 (24 letters in 4 folders) (24  
letters in 4 folders)

Manuscript box

Armstrong, Terence Ian Fytton. ALS to. Relates to Robert Graves' ALS to  
Armstrong 1929 Oct. 12 (2 p) (2 p)

Manuscript box

Barker, Arthur. ALS to. Concerns the publication of *14 A*, her roman *Á clef*  
n.d. (5 p) (5 p)

With photograph of Laura Riding by Ward Hutchinson (ca. 1934)

Manuscript box

Kazin, Alfred. ANS, 3 TLS to 1966 July 21 - 1977 June 22 (4 letters) (4 letters)

Manuscript box

Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. 5 ALS, 3 TLS to 1933 Mar. 20 - 1937 Mar. 6 (8 letters  
in 2 folders) (8 letters in 2 folders)

Manuscript box

Pinker and son, James B. LS, ALS, etc. to 1927, [n.d (2 letters) (2 letters)  
B.

Correspondence (cont.)  
Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box New York review of books. TL (carbon) to the editor. Relates to Paul Auster's review of her Selected poems: in five sets and The telling in the Aug. 7, 1975 issue of the New York review of books 1975 Aug. 4 (3 p) (3 p)  
With her manuscript corrections
- Manuscript box Roberts, Michael. 24 ALS, 3 TLS, 2 postcards to. Relates to The Faber book of modern verse, 1936 [1935] Mar. 28 - 1936 Apr. 2 (29 letters in 6 folders) (29 letters in 6 folders)  
In folder 1 her: [Collected poems] Typescripts [n.d.]. In folder 1: Graves, Robert. Advice to story-tellers. Typescript [n.d.]
- Manuscript box St. Louis Post-Dispatch. TLS to the book review editor. Relates to Anne Fremantle's review of T. S. Matthews' Jacks or better 1977? (2 p) (2 p)
- Manuscript box. In: Graves, Robert. 128 ALS, 1 AL, 3 postcards to Siegfried Sassoon [Feb. 1916?]-May 5, 1962. Folder 23  
Sassoon, Siegfried. 2 ALS to. Relates to Robert Graves [1927] Nov. 2, [n.d] (1 leaf each) (1 leaf each)
- Manuscript box (Gotham) Steloff, Frances. ALS to. Mentions Seizin press ca. 1929 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
With TL (carbon) reply
- Manuscript box Sunday Times. TL (carbon) to the editor n.d. (3 p) (3 p)  
Came with her correspondence with Lola Szladits
- Manuscript box Symons, Julian. 10 ALS, 1 TLS to [1937] Oct. 25 - [1939] Mar. 9 (11 letters in 2 folders) (11 letters in 2 folders)  
With one TL (carbon) reply
- Manuscript box Szladits, Lola. 51 ALS, 8 ANS, 40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2 postcards to 1974 Dec. 10 - 1989 Oct. 27 (102 letters in 15 folders) (102 letters in 15 folders)  
Accompanied by: Szladits, Lola. 1 AN, 27 TL, 7 TN to Laura Riding, Jan. 10, 1975-July 24, 1989; Her: A statement by Laura (Riding) Jackson for the Manhattan theatre club...Typescript. Folder 10; also typescripts and photograph in folders 13 and 15

Incoming Correspondence

- Manuscript box Szladits, Lola. 1 AN (photocopy), 27 TL (carbon), 7 TN (carbon) to Riding 1975 Jan. 10 - 1989 July 24 (35 letters) (35 letters)  
Accompanies: Riding, Laura. 51 ALS, 8 ANS, 40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2 postcards to Lola Szladits. Dec. 10, 1974-Oct. 27, 1989. 15 folders. Also various typescripts listed individually

Related Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Graves) Barker, Arthur, ltd. TLS to Michael Robert. Relates to the inclusion of Laura Riding and Robert Graves in The Faber book of modern verse, 1936 1935 Oct. 8 (1 p) (1 p)
- Mansucrit box (Wolfe, H.) Gollancz, Victor, ltd., London. 18 TL, 17 TN, 1 TL (copy) to Humbert Wolfe 1928 Apr. 13 - 1939 Dec. 20 (36 letters in 7 folders) (36 letters in 7 folders)  
Signed Victor Gollancz, Norman Collins, and others. Letter of April 13, 1928 encloses: Keedick, Lee. TLS to John Farrar, Feb. 4, 1928. 1 p.; with TL (carbon) reply, Feb. 8, 1928. 1 p.; also Keedick, L. TLS to George Doran with reply; Agreement between H. Wolfe and L. Keedick and copy; and TL (carbons)
- Manuscript box Graves, Robert. ALS to Terence Ian Fytton Armstrong. Relates to Laura Riding 1929 Dec. 22 (2 p) (2 p)

Correspondence (cont.)

Related Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box Graves (?), Robert. TL (carbon) to [--?] Mutilated. Relates to W. H. Auden and Laura Riding n.d. (2 p) (2 p)  
Came with The Faber book of modern verse papers
- Manuscript box (Riding, L.) Hodge, Alan. 2 ALS to Julian Symons. Relates to Laura Riding n.d.], 1938 May 17 (1 leaf; 1 p) (1 leaf; 1 p)
- Manuscript box (Riding, L.) McGuinness, Norah. TL (photocopy) to Mr. Matthews. Relates to Laura Riding 1978 Mar. 6 (5 p) (5 p)
- Manuscript box (Riding, L.) Pritchard, Beryl. TLS to Julian Symons. Relates to Laura Riding 1939 Mar. 10 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Rickword, Edgell. TLS to James B. Pinker. Relates to Laura Riding and Robert Graves n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Portraits

- Manuscript box. Hutchinson, Ward. Photograph of Laura Riding. 4 x 5 cm. ca. 1934 (1 item) (1 item)  
In: Riding, Laura.  
ALS to Arthur Barker. 5 p.
- Manuscript box. Tiers, Lowber. Photograph of Laura Riding. 9 x 13 cm. n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
In: Riding, Laura.  
51 ALS, 8 ANS,  
40 TLS, 1 TNS, 2  
postcards to Lola Szladits, Dec. 10,  
1974-Oct. 27,  
1989. Folder 5