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American Literature

Guide to the

**Dante Gabriel Rossetti collection of papers**

1855]-1941 [bulk 1863-1882]

Berg Coll MSS Rossetti [Text]

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 1828-1882

**Title:** Dante Gabriel Rossetti collection of papers

**Date:** 1855]-1941 [bulk 1863-1882]

**Size:** 177 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, correspondence, legal documents, and portraits.

**Physical Location:** \*Z-10350 [Microfilm]

**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

Dante Gabriel Rossetti was a British painter and poet of Italian descent. Born on May 12, 1828 he left the Royal Academy of Art to become an apprentice to Ford Madox Brown. In 1845 he translated works by Dante and his predecessors which was published in 1861 as "The Early Italian Poets." He started writing poems in 1847 but relied on his painting to earn his living throughout his life. In 1848 Rossetti joined with six other artists to form the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.

## **Custodial History**

The bulk of the materials was previously owned by W. T. H. Howe. The photograph portrait of Rossetti is inscribed by him for George Price Boyce. Rossetti's "John Keats Sixty Years Dead" came with Sir Hall Caine's archive; and the holograph essay entitled "The Late D. G. Rossetti," by Leonard R. Valpy, came with Theodore Watts-Dunton's correspondence.

## **Scope and Content Note**

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence, legal documents, and portraits. The collection includes a portrait photograph of Rossetti and a photostat of a drawing of Mrs. Ford Madox Brown. Among the manuscripts is a holograph poem entitled "John Keats Sixty Years Dead" and another holograph poem entitled "Aphorisms." The collection also includes manuscripts by: Max Beerbohm for the introduction of "Rossetti and his circle"; Sir Hall Caine for his poem "Recollections of Dante Gabriel Rossetti," as well as notes for the poem; and a holograph poem by William Bell Scott, "On the birth of Thomas Carlyle's great-nephew." Also present is a manuscript essay in the form of a letter to the editor, entitled, "The late D. G. Rossetti," by Leonard R. Valpy. The correspondence includes letters from Rossetti to George Price Boyce; to Ford Madox Brown mentioning Ford Madox Ford as a baby; to Clarence E. Fry; Charles Augustus Howell; Francis Hueffer; Macmillan and Co.; Charles Eliot Norton; James Anderson Rose; and others. Also included are letters from Gordon Bottomley to Edith Sitwell; from Charles Davis to Humbert Wolfe; from Harry Treffry Dunn to Theodore Watts-Dunton; from William Sharp to H. Buxton Forman; from Frederic J. Shields to Theodore Watts-Dunton; and from Watts-Dunton to various correspondents relating to Rossetti's house in 16 Cheyne walk. There are letters to Rossetti from James Anderson Rose, John Ruskin, Algernon Charles Swinburne, Sir Henry Taylor, Leonard Valpy, and Theodore Watts-Dunton, dating from [1855?] to 1882.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence

### **Names**

Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 1828-1882  
Beerbohm, Max, Sir, 1872-1956  
Bottomley, Gordon, 1874-1948  
Boyce, George Price, 1826-1897  
Boyce, George Price, 1826-1897  
Brown, Ford Madox, 1821-1893  
Brown, Ford Madox, Mrs  
Caine, Hall, Sir, 1853-1931  
Caine, Hall, Sir, 1853-1931  
Carlyle, Thomas, 1795-1881  
Dunn, Harry Treffry  
Ford, Ford Madox, 1873-1939  
Forman, H. Buxton (Harry Buxton), 1842-1917  
Fry, Clarence E  
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)  
Howell, Charles Augustus

Hueffer, Francis, 1845-1889  
Keats, John, 1795-1821  
Norton, Charles Eliot, 1827-1908  
Rose, James Anderson, 1819-1890  
Ruskin, John, 1819-1900  
Scott, William Bell, 1811-1890  
Shields, Frederic, 1833-1911  
Sitwell, Edith, 1887-1964  
Swinburne, Algernon Charles, 1837-1909  
Taylor, Henry, Sir, 1800-1886  
Valpy, Leonard R  
Watts-Dunton, Theodore, 1832-1914  
Watts-Dunton, Theodore, 1832-1914  
Wolfe, Humbert, 1885-1940  
Macmillan & Co.

## Container List

### Manuscripts

#### Manuscripts written by Rossetti

- Manuscript box Aphorisms. Holograph n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box John Keats sixty years dead. Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed. Published in The collected works. London, Ellis and Elvey, 1897. Came with Sir Hall Caine's archive

#### Manuscripts relating to Rossetti

- Manuscript box Beerbohm, Max. [Rossetti and his circle]. Holograph introduction 1922 (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed. With original pencil drawing of the caricature of Dante Gabriel and Christina Rossetti and two pencil drafts for draperies on verso of p. 3
- Manuscript box Caine, Sir Hall. Author's note [to his Recollections of Dante Gabriel Rossetti]. Holograph 1928 (3 p) (3 p)  
Signed
- Manuscript box Caine, Sir Hall. To Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed. Published as one of his Three sonnets on three poets [n.p.][n.d.] broadside
- Oversize (+) Rose, J. A. 3 ms. accounts rendered to Dante Gabriel Rossetti: March 21-Oct. 25, 1862; May 6, 1862-March, 1863; May 6, 1862-Feb. 1, 1868 1862 - 1868 (17 p) (17 p)  
With: Rossetti, D. G. 65 ALS to J[ames] Anderson Rose. Mostly from Chelsea, 61 dated Sept. 30, 1863-June 23, 1869; 5 undated
- Manuscript box Scott, William Bell. On the birth of Thomas Carlyle's great-nephew: 2nd June, 1880. Holograph poem. Title and signature in the hand of Rossetti (?). Marginal notes in the hand of Sir Hall Caine n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing Correspondence

- Manuscript box Allen, Mr. ALS to n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Boyce, George Price. 3 ALS to. One undated, one dated 1855 Apr. 27], [1867? (3 letters) (3 letters)
- Manuscript box Brown, Ford Madox. ALS to. Mentions Ford Madox Ford, born Dec. 17, 1873, as a baby 1874? (1 letter) (1 letter)  
With envelope inscribed by Violet Hunt
- Manuscript box Deacon, A. W. ALS to 1872 May 17 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box Dodgson, Charles Lutwidge. ALS to 1864 Aug. 25 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box Fry, Clarence E. 6 ALS, 1 letter (copies) to 1876 Mar. 15 - 1876 Apr. 10 (7 letters in 2 folders) (7 letters in 2 folders)
- Manuscript box Gambart, [--?]. ALS to 1865 Nov. 2 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Horne, R. H. ALS to 1871 Dec. 11 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Manuscript box Howell, Charles Augustus. 2 ALS (copies) to 1876 Mar. 22, 1876 Mar. 23 (2 letters) (2 letters)
- Manuscript box Hueffer, Francis. ALS to 1873 June 22 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box Macmillan and Co. 20 ALS to 1858 June - [1863 Mar (20 letters in 4 folders) (20 letters in 4 folders)

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Oversize (+) Macmillan, A. ALS to 1865 Feb. 17 (1 p) (1 p)  
With: Rossetti, D. G. 65 ALS to J[ames] Anderson Rose. Mostly from Chelsea, 61 dated Sept. 30, 1863-June 23, 1869; 5 undated
- Manuscript box Norton, [Charles Eliot]. ALS to 1869 Mar. 10 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Oversize (+) Rose, J[ames] Anderson. 65 ALS to. Mostly from Chelsea, 60 dated Sept. 30, 1863-June 23, 1869; 5 undated. James Anderson Rose is a member of the firm Rose and Thomas, solicitors. 1863 Sept. 30 - 1869 June 23 (65 letters in 1 v) (65 letters in 1 v)  
In the same volume are certificates, legal documents, etc.; B.
- Manuscript box Schott, Fanny. 2 ALS to. Drafts (?). Relates to George Frederick Watts or Theodore Watts-Dunton and J[--?] S[--?] B[--?] (?) Haydon n.d. (2 letters) (2 letters)
- Manuscript box Watts-Dunton, Theodore. Postcard to. Mentions Charles Wells 1878 Sept. 7 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS to n.d. (1 letter) (1 letter)

Incoming Correspondence

- Oversize (+) Rose, James Anderson. ALS to Rossetti 1866 Jan. 4 (2 p) (2 p)  
With: Rossett, D. G. 65 ALS to J[ames] Anderson Rose. Mostly from Chelsea, 60 dated Sept. 30, 1863-June 23, 1869. 5 undated
- Manuscript box Ruskin, John. ALS to Rossetti 1855? May (1 p) (1 p)  
R. B. Adam; Young
- Manuscript box Swinburne, Algernon Charles. ALS to Rossetti Jan. 7 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Swinburne, Algernon Charles. ALS to Rossetti Mar. 2 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Taylor, Sir Henry. ALS to Rossetti 1882 Jan. 1 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)  
Came with Sir Hall Caine's archive
- Manuscript box (Rossetti, D. G.) Valpy, Leonard R. ALS to Rossetti 1877 July 12 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)  
With: Dunn, H. T. ALS to Theodore Watts-Dunton. Oct. 8, 1877
- Manuscript box Watts-Dunton, Theodore. 9 ALS to Rossetti 1874 July 16 - 1876 Nov. 16 (9 letters in 2 folders) (9 letters in 2 folders)
- Manuscript box Watts-Dunton, Theodore. ALS to Rossetti n.d. (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
Came with Sir Hall Caine's archive

Related Correspondence

- Manuscript box Bottomley, Gordon. ALS to Edith Sitwell. Mentions Dante Gabriel Rossetti 1941 Oct. 5 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box (Wolfe, H.) Davis, Charles. ALS to Humbert Wolfe. Mutilated. Relates to publishing a selection of Dante Gabriel Rossetti's poems. 1927 Feb. 19 (2 p) (2 p)  
Accompanied by his: ALS (mutilated) to Messrs. Ernest Benn Ltd. University College of North Wales, Bangor [Wales] Jan. 31, 1927, 2 p.
- Manuscript box (Rossetti, D. G.) Dunn, Harry Treffry. 18 ALS to Theodore Watts-Dunton. Relates to Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Letters wrapped in galley proof with Thomas James Wise's ms. inscription 1876 Jan. 17 - 1882 July 17 (18 letters in 5 folders) (18 letters in 5 folders)  
With ALS to his sister Edith Hume, March 16, 1893 and letter from her to Watts. Original pen-and-ink sketch enclosed in July 28, 1882
- Manuscript box (Rossetti, D. G.) Dunn, Harry Treffry. ALS to Theodore Watts-Dunton. Relates to Dante Gabriel Rossetti. 1877 Oct. 8 (1 letter) (1 letter)  
Encloses: Valpy, Leonard R. 2 ALS to Harry Treffry Dunn. Keswick [Eng.] Aug. 17, 1877, 2 l.; 19 Lincoln's Inn fields [London] Aug. 24, 1877, 3 p.; Valpy, Leonard R. ALS to D. G. Rossetti. London, July 12, 1877, 2 l.

Correspondence (cont.)

Related Correspondence (cont.)

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Manuscript box                      | Forman, H. B. Draft of ALS to [William Sharp] 1883? Jan. (3 p) (3 p)<br>H.   |
| Manuscript box<br>(Ford, F. M.)     | Hueffer, Catherine (Brown). ALS to Theodore Watts-Dunton. Relates to D. G. Rossetti and his wife. C. Hueffer is the daughter of Ford Madox Brown, the wife of Francis Hueffer, and the mother of Ford Madox Ford 1906 Oct. 19 (1 letter) (1 letter)                      |
| Manuscript box                      | Sharp, William. ALS to H. Buxton Forman 1883? Jan. (3 p) (3 p)<br>Encloses a printed slip from the catalogue of the Burlington Fine Arts Club's Rossetti exhibition held in 1883. H.   |
| Manuscript box                      | Sharp, William. ALS to H. Buxton Forman 1883? Jan. (3 p) (3 p)<br>H.   |
| Manuscript box<br>(Rossetti, D. G.) | Shields, Frederic J. ALS to Sir Hall Caine. Relates to D. G. Rossetti [1881] Oct. 20 (1 p) (1 p)   |
| Manuscript box<br>(Rossetti, D. G.) | Shields, Frederic J. 6 ALS to Theodore Watts-Dunton. Relates to D. G. Rossetti 1877 Sept. 2 - 1882 June 19 (6 letters) (6 letters)   |
| Manuscript box<br>(Rossetti, D. G.) | Smetham, James. ALS to Ford Madox Brown. Mentions Dante Gabriel's method of painting 1871 June 29 (1 letter) (1 letter)<br>In envelope postmarked Nov. 18, 1875, addressed to Catherine Brown Hueffer by her sister Lucy Madox Rossetti. Both daughters of correspondent |
| Manuscript box<br>(Rossetti, D. G.) | Valpy, Leonard R. The late D. G. Rossetti. Holograph essay. Letter to the editor n.d. (8 p) (8 p)<br>Signed. Came with Theodore Watts-Dunton's correspondence  |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. 2 ALS to [--?] Hunt. Relates to D. G. Rossetti's house in 16 Cheyne walk. 1875 Aug. 1, 1877 Apr. 21 (2 letters) (2 letters)  |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. ALS to Messrs. Lee and Pemberton. Relates to D. G. Rossetti's house in 16 Cheyne walk. 1876 Apr. 5 (1 letter) (1 letter)   |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. ALS to William Michael Rossetti. Relates to D. G. Rossetti's house in 16 Cheyne walk. 1882 July 20 (3 p) (3 p)   |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. 2 ALS to St[--?] E[--?] Sullivan. Relates to D. G. Rossetti 1874 July 16 (2 letters) (2 letters)   |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. ALS to [--?]. Relates to D. G. Rossetti's house in 16 Cheyne walk. 1876 May 4 (1 p) (1 p)  |
| Manuscript box                      | Watts-Dunton, Theodore. ALS to [--?]. Relates to D. G. Rossetti 1877 Oct. 6 (3 p) (3 p)  |

Portraits

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Manuscript box | Portrait photograph 1863 Mar. 13 (1 item) (1 item)<br>With another, unidentified picture of one of the Rossetti brothers(?), inscribed on verso by Violet Hunt. Inscribed by the sitter for George Price Boyce on verso |
| Manuscript box | Photostat of drawing of Mrs. Ford Madox Brown, identified by Violet Hunt on verso n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  |

Legal Documents

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Manuscript box | Bond (fragment) for security of a picture lent to Mr. [Ford Madox] Brown n.d. (1 item) (1 item)<br>Signed by Ford Madox Brown, William Morris and Dante Gabriel Rossetti |
|----------------|--|