



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

Guide to the

**Conrad Aiken collection of papers**

1913-1963

Berg Coll MSS Aiken

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Aiken, Conrad, 1889-1973

**Title:** Conrad Aiken collection of papers

**Date:** 1913-1963

**Size:** 63 linear feet (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, typescripts, correspondence by and about the author, and notebooks for 1913 through 1927.

**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

Conrad Aiken was an American novelist, short-story writer, and poet.

## Custodial History

Previous owners include Maurice Firuski.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence by and about the author, and notebooks for 1913 through 1927. The manuscripts and typescripts consists of novels, poems, outlines of stories, notes for works, and essays, as well as essays and reviews about the author by Randall Jarrell and Alfred Kreymborg. The correspondence consists of letters from the author, dating from 1935 to 1963, to Muriel Rukeyser, May Sarton, Frances Steloff, Julian Symons, Louis Untermeyer, and others, as well as letters relating to the author, dating from 1920 to [1963], between various correspondents including Maurice Firuski, Kathleen Raine, Frances Steloff, and others.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence

Notebooks

### **Names**

Aiken, Conrad, 1889-1973

Firuski, Maurice, 1894-1978

Firuski, Maurice, 1894-1978

Jarrell, Randall, 1914-1965

Kreymborg, Alfred, 1883-1966

Raine, Kathleen, 1908-2003

Rukeyser, Muriel, 1913-1980

Sarton, May, 1912-1995

Steloff, Frances, 1887-1989

Symons, Julian, 1912-1994

Untermeyer, Louis, 1885-1977

## Container List

### Manuscripts & Typescripts

- Blue voyage. Holograph n.d. (2 v) (2 v)  
On p. [171-172] of v. 1 his: The Man who was Greater than God. Holograph outline, undated.  
On p. [52-56] of v. 2 his: Mr. Arcularis. Holograph story, undated Published, New York: Scribner's, 1927 Inscribed to Maurice Firuski, "1926"
- Manuscript box Changing mind, I-IV. Holograph poem n.d. (16 p) (16 p)  
Published in his Collected Poems, New York: Oxford University Press, 1953 Sent to Maurice Firuski
- Manuscript box The circuit, I-XI. Typescript of poem, with ms. corrections in an unidentified hand n.d. (18 p) (18 p)  
Sent to Maurice Firuski
- Manuscript box Ekiomachia (?) Holograph poem n.d. (5 p) (5 p)  
Sent to Maurice Firuski
- Manuscript box Holograph notes n.d. (3 p) (3 p)  
With pencil sketch. 1 p.
- In his: Blue voyage. Holograph Man who was greater than God. Holograph outline n.d. (2 p) (2 p)
- In his: Blue voyage. Holograph Mr. Arcularis. Holograph story n.d. (5 p) (5 p)  
Published in his Collected short stories, New York: World Publishing Co., 1960
- [Poems] Holograph notebooks 1913 - 1927 (4 v) (4 v)  
Vol. 3 signed and dated 1920 Detailed list of contents laid in each volume; t.p. of his Turns and movies, 1916, laid in v. 1; holograph notes laid in v. 2. 3 p. Published in his Collected Poems, New York: Oxford University Press, 1953 Vol. 3 inscribed to Maurice Firuski "Christmas 1925"
- Manuscript box [Story] "Came in looking haggard and strange." Typescript n.d. (2 p) (2 p)  
Sent to Maurice Firuski
- Jarrell, Randall. [The Rhetoricians] Holograph draft of book review. Review of Conrad Aiken's And in the Human Heart. Mutilated (some pages completely torn out) n.d. (1 v) (1 v)  
Several pages have original pen-and-ink sketches. In same vol. his: [Poems] Holograph drafts, incomplete, of 5 poems, undated. 5 p.; The reactionary intellectual. Holograph notes for essay, undated. 3 p.; Holograph list of phonograph records, undated. 6 p. Published in New Republic, Feb. 17, 1941, p. 221-222
- Manuscript box (Gotham) In: Kreymborg, Alfred. [Conrad Aiken] Typescript of contribution to We moderns n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Gotham Book Mart, New York. Published in Gotham Book Mart catalog, no. 42, New York, 1940  
We moderns. Folder 38
- Manuscript box (Gotham) In: Stevens, Wallace. Typescript of contribution to We moderns n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Gotham Book Mart, New York. His TLS to Frances Steloff, Oct. 29, 1939 on verso Published in Gotham Book Mart catalog, no. 42, New York, 1940  
We moderns. Folder 1

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing

- Manuscript box Edgett, Edwin Francis. ALS n.d. (2 p) (2 p)
- Manuscript box Firuski, Maurice. TLS and postcard. One undated 1945 Jan. 4 (2 items) (2 items)  
With clipping from the Lakeville journal, Salisbury, Mass., Feb. 16, 1978 relating to M. Firuski
- Manuscript box Grigson, Geoffrey. Postcard 1962 Apr. 24 (1 item) (1 item)

Correspondence (cont.)  
Outgoing (cont.)

- Manuscript box Roberts, Michael. TLS. Relates to The Faber book of modern verse, 1936  
1935 Mar. 26 (1 p) (1 p)  
With envelope
- Manuscript box Rukeyser, Muriel. TLS 1956 June 9 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Sarton, May. ALS and 15 TLS 1936 May 16 - 1940 Oct. 1 (16 items in 3 folders) (16  
items in 3 folders)  
ALS on verso of water color sketch by Mary Aiken
- Manuscript box Sarton, May. 3 TLS 1938 May 2 - 1950 July 4 (3 items) (3 items)
- Manuscript box Steloff, Frances. TLS 1939 Oct. 29 (1 p) (1 p)  
(Gotham) In: His: Wallace Stevens, contribution to Gotham book mart's We moderns catalog, on verso  
Gotham Book  
Mart, New York.  
We moderns.  
Folder 1
- Manuscript box Steloff, Frances. 2 TLS, 1 postcard 1963 Jan. 29 - 1963 Apr. 6 (3 items) (3 items)  
(Gotham) With 2 TL (carbon) replies
- Manuscript box Symons, Julian. 6 TLS [1936] Oct. 11 - 1938 Aug. 10 (6 items) (6 items)  
Includes three typewritten carbon replies
- Manuscript box Untermeyer, Louis. 2 TLS 1962 Oct. 11 - 1962 Oct. 17 (2 items) (2 items)  
Also, 4 TL (carbons) from L. Untermeyer to C. Aiken, July 5, 1961-Oct. 15, 1962. 1 p. each;  
TL (carbon) of related correspondence

Incoming

- Manuscript box Firuski, Maurice [?] TL (carbon) to Conrad Aiken n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
(Aiken, C.) Came with Aiken's Blue Voyage. Holograph. Possibly by M. Firuski
- Manuscript box Firuski, Maurice (?) TL (carbon) to Aiken n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
(Aiken, C.) Came with Aiken's Blue Voyage. Holograph. Possibly by Maurice Firuski
- Manuscript box Untermeyer, Louis. 4 TL (carbons) to Aiken 1961 July 5 - 1962 Oct. 15 (4 items) (4  
items)  
With TL (carbon) of related correspondence and 2 TLS from Aiken to Untermeyer. Oct. 11  
and 17, 1962. 1 p. each.

Related

- Manuscript box Aiken, Jessie (McDonald). ALS, TLS to Maurice Firuski 1920 June 17; [n.y.]  
(Aiken, C.) May 12 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Lowell, Amy. TLS to Mrs. Becker. Mentions Conrad Aiken, Hervey Allen,  
Edna St. Vincent Millay, Louis Untermeyer, Elinor Wylie and others 1923 July  
7 (7 p) (7 p)
- Manuscript box Raine, Kathleen. TL (copy) to Frances Steloff. Relates to Conrad Aiken  
(Gotham) [1963] Jan. 22 (1 p) (1 p)  
With: Aiken, Mary. 2 ALS, 1 ANS, 1 postcard to Frances Steloff, 1963-1964