Finding Aid for the Peter H. Lee Collection of Books and Letters from Wallace Stevens, 1940-1963

Processed by Laurel McPhee as part of the CFPRT project, Spring 2005; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé and edited by Laurel McPhee and Amy Shung-Gee Wong.

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Manuscripts Division
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Peter H. Lee Collection of Books and Letters from Wallace Stevens,

Date (inclusive): 1940-1963

Collection number: 146

Creator: Lee, Peter H., 1929-

Extent: 1 half box (.25 linear ft.)

Abstract: Collection consists of letters from Wallace Stevens to Peter H. Lee, and books from Lee's collection by Wallace Stevens, T.S. Eliot, Robert Frost, and Robert Lowell.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction

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Provenance/Source of Acquisition


Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Peter H. Lee Collection of Books and Letters from Wallace Stevens (Collection 146). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

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Biography

Peter H. Lee (1929-) was born in Seoul, Korea. He received his B.A. from the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and his M.A. from Yale in 1953. Lee went on to study various languages and comparative literatures at universities in Switzerland, Italy, England and Munich, Germany, where he earned his Ph.D. from Ludwig-Maximilian University in 1958. After holding positions at Columbia, Hawaii, and UC Berkeley, Lee came to UCLA in 1987 to begin his distinguished teaching career in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures as a professor of Korean and comparative literature. Professor Lee is an academic pioneer, credited with single-handedly developing the field of Korean literature, especially in a comparative context, in the West. He is the author of 16 books and numerous articles.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of letters from Wallace Stevens to Peter H. Lee. In early 1951, while Lee was studying at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, he sent Stevens some poems. A friendship developed between the poet and the young Korean scholar, resulting in a rich body of correspondence that developed over a period of several years (see George S. Lensing, Wallace Stevens: A Poet’s Growth, pp.239-240). The 19 letters in this collection contain Stevens’ insightful reflections on poetry and scholarship in general, and document his friendship with Lee. The collection also contains 12 books from Lee's personal collection: seven by Wallace Stevens (two of which are inscribed to Lee by the author), three by T.S. Eliot, and one each by both Robert Frost and Robert Lowell. The finding aid includes complete citations for the books; in addition, full catalog records for these books can be found in the UCLA Library online catalog by performing a keyword search on the phrase "Peter H. Lee collection of books.”

Organization and Arrangement

Arranged in the following series:


Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Subjects
Lee, Peter H., 1929--Archives.
College teachers--United States--Archival resources.
Literature teachers--United States--Archival resources.
Lee, Peter H., 1929--Correspondence.
Stevens, Wallace, 1879-1955--Correspondence.


Physical Description: (12 items).
Scope and Content Note
All 12 books in this collection have been individually cataloged and shelved. To page an item, locate its catalog record in the UCLA Library online catalog by performing a keyword search on the phrase “Peter H. Lee collection of books.”


Physical Description: (1 half box).
Scope and Content Note
Letters are arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 1

**Letters from Wallace Stevens to Peter H. Lee. 1951 March 21-1955 April 1.**
Physical Description: (19 items).
Scope and Content Note
Assorted letters from Wallace Stevens to Peter H. Lee, on various subjects.