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## **Finding Aid for the W. Graham Robertson Papers, 1866-1953**

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## Finding Aid for the W. Graham Robertson Papers, 1866-1953

### Collection number: 2085

UCLA Library Special Collections  
UCLA Library Special Collections staff

Los Angeles, CA

Processed by:

Hilda Bohem, May 1979

Encoded by:

Caroline Cubé

Online finding aid edited by:

Josh Fiala, March 2004

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** W. Graham Robertson Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1866-1953

**Collection number:** 2085

**Creator:** Robertson, W. Graham (Walford Graham), 1866-1948

**Extent:** 3 boxes (1.5 linear ft.) 1 oversize box

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

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

**Abstract:** W. Graham (Walford Graham) Robertson (1866-1948) was a dramatic author, and author/illustrator of several books, including: *Pinkie and the fairies* (1908), *A masque of May morning, Gold, Frankincense and myrrh*, *The slippers of Cinderella*, and *The town of the Ford*. The collection contains scrapbooks of clippings about Robertson's work, and photographs of Robertson and actors and actresses such as George Alexander, Ellen Terry, and Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

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

**Language:** English.

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### Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

### Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Justin G. Schiller, Limited, purchase, 1978.

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], W. Graham Robertson Papers (Collection 2085). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.

### UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [2723124](#)

### Biography

Robertson was born on July 8, 1866; his works as a dramatic author include: *Pinkie and the fairies* (1908), *A masque of May morning* (1919), and a comic opera titled, *The fountain of youth* (1929); also wrote and illustrated several books, including: *A masque of May morning, Gold, Frankincense and myrrh, The babies' day-book, The slippers of Cinderella, Old Chiddingfold*, and *The town of the Ford*; died in 1948.

### Scope and Content

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Collection contains scrapbooks of clippings about Robertson's work as a playwright and artist. Also contains approximately 100 photographs of Robertson from birth through his childhood, many of which show him as a young boy performing in theatricals. Includes photographs of fellow actors and actresses, such as George Alexander, Ellen Terry, and Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

#### **Organization and Arrangement**

Arranged in the following series:

1. Photographs (Box 1).
2. Ephemera and photographs (Box 2).
3. Scrapbooks (Box 3).
4. Portraits of W. Graham Robertson (Box 4).

#### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Robertson, W. Graham (Walford Graham), 1866-1948--Archives.

Dramatists, English--Archival resources.

Photographs.

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### **Photographs**

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|-----------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | <b>Portraits of W. Graham Robertson in costume for amateur (?) theatricals.</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>9 of him alone, 17 of him with other performers.   |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | <b>28 portraits of Robertson.</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>From the time he was a young man through his later years. Several of them are with his dog, Mouton.  |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | <b>15 images.</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>Mostly portraits of Robertson's family and pets, a few views of his home, Sandhills.   |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | <b>14 portraits of actors, actresses, and friends of Robertson.</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>4 of Ellen Terry.<br>1 of Julia Neilson.<br>2 of Mrs. Patrick Campbell.<br>4 of Sir George Alexander.<br>1 of Miss E. Farren and Mr. E.W. Royce.<br>1 of Elise Graven.<br>1 unidentified snapshot. |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | <b>Photograph album.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 21 images.<br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>Beginning with a carte-de-visite of Robertson as an infant in August 1866, showing him at various stages of childhood and adolescence.   |

### **Ephemera and Photographs**

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- Box 2, Folders 1-2      **Scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, 1931.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re W. Graham Robertson's autobiography, *Time Was*
- Box 2, Folders 3-11      **Unmounted newspaper clippings.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re various Robertson publications and activities including his gift of some Blake drawings to the Tate Gallery.
- Box 2, Folder 12      **4 open letters, 1942-1943.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    From Swift Newton (son of A. Edward Newton), written about his service with the American Red Cross during the war, distributed by his family to his friends.
- Box 2, Folders 13-14      **Article about the life of Alberto Martini by Vitorio Pica.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    Typescript and galleys, written in French.  
    Included are 6 photographs of Martini illustrations for works of Edgar Allen Poe.
- Box 2, Folder 15      **Manuscript and article on Lithography by Aloys Senefelder.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    Published in *The Art Chronicle*, December 1913.
- Box 2, Folder 16      ***The Studio*, November 15, 1905.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    Contains an article on Robertson's work by T. Martin Wood.
- Box 2, Folder 17      **Snapshot album.**  
    **Physical Description:** 23 images.  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    Contains a few photographs of Robertson with his dogs, but mostly photographs of small children, possibly used as studies for his drawings.
- Scrapbooks**
- Box 3, Folder 1      **Scrapbook.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re World War I, articles possibly written by Robertson as special news correspondent, published anonymously.
- Box 3, Folder 2      **Scrapbook, 1953.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re 2 posthumous publications, a book on Robertson's Blake Collection and *Letters from Graham Robertson*.
- Box 3, Folder 3      **Scrapbook, 1929-31.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re Robertson's plays for children.
- Box 3, Folder 4      **Scrapbook, 1932-43.**  
    **Scope and Content Note**  
    re Robertson's plays for children.
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Box 3, Folder 5

**"The Studio," June 15, 1908.**

**Scope and Content Note**

Article mentioning and a re-production of "Mdlle. X" by Robertson.

Box 3, Folder 5

**Catalog issued by Grafton Galleries, June 5-July 11, 1914.**

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains works by Robertson.

Pkg. I

**7 portraits of W. Graham Robertson at different ages.**