Descriptive Summary

Title: Colin Wilson papers.


Date (bulk): 1973-1980

Collection Number: MS 190

Creator: O'Shea, June

Extent: 0.83 linear feet (2 boxes)

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.

Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: This collection is comprised of correspondence, galley proofs, manuscripts, press clippings, and other material pertaining to the works of English literary figure Colin Wilson between the years 1965-1998. Includes correspondence between Colin Wilson and June O'Shea, galley proofs and manuscripts of Wilson's works in the science fiction genre, manuscripts and other material regarding Israeli paranormalist Uri Geller, press clippings of book reviews by Wilson, and manuscripts of interviews with Wilson.

Languages: The collection is in English.

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

[identification of item]. Colin Wilson papers, MS 190. University of California, Riverside Libraries, Special Collections & Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Acquisition Information

Information unavailable.

Processing History

Processed by Melissa Huntington, 2010.

Biography

Colin Wilson is a British novelist and writer of science fiction, true crime, and literary criticism. Wilson was born in Leicester, England on June 26, 1931 to Arthur and Anetta Wilson. His mother's love for books served as an early influence on Wilson and a science fiction magazine given to him at a young age by his grandfather sparked his interest in the genre for which he would publish multiple novels.

At the age of sixteen Wilson quit school and began work at various jobs including a coffee house in Paris where he began writing what would become his first published book, *The Outsider*. In 1956 *The Outsider* was published and met with high critical acclaim which instantly catapulted him to literary stardom. He quickly became associated with the "Angry Young Men," a British literary group, because of his depiction of social alienation in *The Outsider*. While Wilson's first literary effort was critically acclaimed, praise eventually turned sour as Wilson's next efforts were met with negative reviews. In 1960-1961, the critics turned back in favor of Wilson with the publication of *Ritual in the Dark* and *Adrift in Soho*.

Colin Wilson has gone on to become a prolific novelist in both fiction (science fiction) and non-fiction (true crime). He is also an accomplished essayist that has contributed to numerous literary journals. In 2004, Wilson's autobiography titled *Dreaming to Some Purpose* was published and typical to Wilson's career was received with a range of praise and negativity from critics.

1951: Married Dorothy Betty Troop and the couple had one son.
1956: *The Outsider* is published and met with high critical acclaim.
1960: *Ritual in the Dark* was published.
1961: Married Pamela "Joy" Stewart after his divorce from Dorothy and the couple went on to have two children.
1961: *Adrift in Soho* was published.
1962-2003: The breadth of Wilson's literary work was published in this time frame.
2004: Published autobiography Dreaming to Some Purpose.

Collection Scope and Contents
This collection is comprised of correspondence, galley proofs, manuscripts, press clippings, and other material pertaining to the works of English literary figure Colin Wilson between the years 1965-1998. Includes correspondence between Colin Wilson and June O'Shea, galley proofs and manuscripts of Wilson's works in the science fiction genre, manuscripts and other material regarding Israeli paranormalist Uri Geller, press clippings of book reviews by Wilson, and manuscripts of interviews with Wilson.

Collection Arrangement
This collection is arranged into four series. The series arrangement is as follows:

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
- Subjects
  Authors.
  Geller, Uri, 1946-
  Science fiction.
  Wilson, Colin.
- Genres and Forms of Materials
  Clippings (information artifacts).
  Correspondence.
  Galley proofs.
  Manuscripts.


Series Scope and Contents
This series is comprised of typed and handwritten correspondence primarily between Colin Wilson and June O'Shea. Also includes correspondence between Colin Wilson and others regarding the development and publication of Wilson's literary works.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 2, Folder 3
Correspondence to June O'Shea from Colin Wilson and other individuals. 1973-1975.

Box 2, Folder 4
Correspondence to June O'Shea from Colin Wilson and other individuals. 1976-1981.

Box 2, Folder 5

Box 2, Folder 6
Correspondence to June O'Shea regarding Wilson's essay on Humanistic Psychology. August 30, 1975.

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6
Correspondence to June O'Shea regarding an interview with Colin Wilson in Oui. undated.

Series Scope and Contents
This series is comprised of printed galley proofs of Colin Wilson's literary works. Includes the galley proof for The Unexplained as well as several other essay's Wilson wrote for various publications.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6


Series Scope and Contents
This series is comprised of typed and hand annotated manuscripts of Colin Wilson's literary works. Included here are manuscripts for chapters in The Unexplained, Lulu, and The Order of Assassins as well as a complete manuscript for the book, The Schoolgirl Murder Case. Manuscripts regarding Israeli paranormalist Uri Geller are also included.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 1, Folder 1
Manuscript of the introduction to The Faces of Evil; 84 pages (typed/hand annotated). February 1976.

Box 1, Folder 3
Manuscript of The Unexplained; chapters 1-5, 68 pages (typed/hand annotated). February 1976.

Box 1, Folder 4
Manuscript of Lulu; chapter 1, 18 pages, page 14 is not included (typed/hand annotated). June 1976.

Box 1, Folder 5
Manuscript of Lulu; chapter 5, pages 93-117 (typed/hand annotated). undated.

Box 1, Folder 6
Manuscript regarding Israeli paranormalist Uri Geller; 17 pages (typed). undated.

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8
Manuscript of the introduction to Mysteries (typed/hand annotated). undated.

Box 1, Folder 9
Manuscript of “Giants and Witches” from Mysteries; chapter 2, pages 78-123 (typed/hand annotated). undated.

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Box 1, Folder 13
Manuscript of The Geller Phenomenon; chapters 2-6 (photocopy). undated.

Box 1, Folder 14
Manuscript of Order of Assassins; pages 1-150 (hand annotated). undated.

Box 1, Folder 15

Box 2, Folder 1
Manuscript of The Schoolgirl Murder Case; approximately 301 pages (typed/hand annotated). 1974.

Box 2, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6
Manuscript of article by Colin Wilson titled "Comments on Boredom" (typed/hand annotated). undated.

Box 2, Folder 6
Manuscript of the interview with Colin Wilson featured in Oui (typed). undated.


Series Scope and Contents
This series is comprised of notes, press clippings, and other material regarding Colin Wilson. Includes film notes, press clippings on psychology and social behaviorism, an autobiographical essay by Bruce Boston, and a dust jacket for the book The Space Vampires.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 1, Folder 12
Notes regarding a film tentatively titled Journey to the End of Night; 20 pages. undated.

Box 1, Folder 13
Notes regarding story outline and film project shooting schedule for the Geller Effect (photocopy). undated.

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 7

Box 2, Folder 7

Box 2, Folder 7

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