Descriptive Summary

Title: John Shirley papers

Date (inclusive): 1975-1989, undated
Collection Number: MS 398
Creator: Shirley, John, 1953-
Extent: 0.42 Linear Feet (1 box)
Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department. Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: The John Shirley papers consist of material related to Shirley's 1989 collection of short stories, Heatseeker, and includes galley proofs and annotated typescripts. Also included is the original introduction to the work written and printed out by author William Gibson.

Languages: The collection is in English.

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[identification of item], [date if possible]. John Shirley papers (MS 398). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Acquisition Information
Gift of John Shirley, 2016.

Processing History
Processed by Carlota Ramirez, 2017.

Processing of the John Shirley collection was completed by undergraduate students from the University of California, Riverside as part of the Special Collections & University Archives Backlog Processing Project started in 2015. This project was funded by the UCR Library and administered by Jessica Geiser, Collections Management Librarian.

Biographical Note
John Shirley is an American writer of novels, short stories, television scripts, screenplays and songs. He is considered to be one of the originators of cyperpunk fiction, a subgenre of science fiction characterized by advanced technological societies in a dystopian future, or "high tech low life." He is also known for writing horror fiction, singing in a number of punk bands, and writing songs for the band Blue Öyster Cult.

Collection Scope and Contents
The John Shirley papers consist of material related to Shirley's 1989 collection of short stories, Heatseeker, originally called "Wild Child" by Shirley after the Lou Reed song. Materials in the collection include galley proofs, annotated typescripts and texts, and Shirley's handwritten title and dedication pages. Also included is the original introduction to the work written and printed out by author William Gibson, and an additional short story called "Screens" that did not appear in the final draft.

Collection Arrangement
The collection is arranged topically, with short stories placed in the order they appear in the final work.

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

Subjects
Cyberpunk fiction.
Gibson, William, 1948-
Literature publishing.
Science fiction.
Science-fiction writers.
Shirley, John, 1953-
Sterling, Bruce

Genres and Forms of Materials
Typescripts.
Galley proofs.

Box 1, Folders 1-2  
  Heatseeker - Galley Proof 1989
Box 1, Folder 3  
  Introduction by William P. Gibson 1988
Box 1, Folder 4  
  Forward by Stephen P. Brown 1988
Box 1, Folder 5  
  Wild Child - Title Page and Dedication undated
Box 1, Folder 6  
  "What Cindy Saw" undated
Box 1, Folder 7  
  "Under the Generator" undated
Box 1, Folder 8  
  "Sleepwalkers" undated
Box 1, Folder 9  
  "Tahiti in Terms of Squares" 1978
Box 1, Folder 10  
  "Silent Crickets" 1975
Box 1, Folder 11  
  "The Almost Empty Rooms" 1977
Box 1, Folder 12  
  "Equilibrium" 1987
Box 1, Folder 13  
  "Uneasy Chrysalids, Our Memories" 1975
Box 1, Folder 14  
  "Recurrent Dreams of Nuclear War Lead B.T. Quizenbaum into Moral Dissolution" undated
Box 1, Folder 15  
  "Six Kinds of Darkness" 1987
Box 1, Folder 16  
  "The Unfolding" - with Bruce Sterling undated
Box 1, Folder 17  
  "The Peculiar Happiness of Professor Cort" undated
Box 1, Folder 18  
  "Ticket to Heaven" Undated
Box 1, Folder 19  
  "Wolves of the Plateau" undated
Box 1, Folder 20  
  "Screens" 1987