Guide to the Hugh Fox Papers

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Guide to the Hugh Fox Papers, ca. 1960s

Collection number: Mss 35

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Hugh Fox Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1960s
Collection Number: Mss 35
Creator: Fox, Hugh, 1932-
Extent: .4 linear feet (1 half-size document box and 1 thin oversize box)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
Physical Location: Del Sur
Language: English.

Access Restrictions
None.

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Acquisition Information

Biography
Hugh Fox was born into an Irish-Catholic family in Chicago in 1932. He became interested in literature and the arts at a young age, and attended Chicago's Jesuit college, Loyola University. After receiving a master's degree in the humanities, he went on to earn a Ph.D. in American Literature from the University of Illinois. In 1958, he began teaching at Loyola University of Los Angeles. Three years later, he served as Visiting Professor of American Studies at the University of Sonora in Mexico, and during 1964 and 1965 he was a visiting professor at several universities in Caracas, Venezuela, including...
Universidad Católica Andrés Bello and the Instituto Pedagogico. Also a specialist in pre-Columbian Amerindian religion, Fox lectured throughout South America under the sponsorship of the United States Information Service. It was at this time that he worked on the manuscript for his novel *The Taffy Hills*, which was never published.

Returning to Los Angeles, Hugh Fox began to concentrate on his poetry, publishing numerous chapbooks through small presses, as well as writing his novel *Countdown on an Empty Streetcar*. He immersed himself in the city's underground poetry scene, and befriended poets such as Richard Morris, Blythe Ayne, A.D. Winans, and Charles Bukowski. He also began to explore his transvestite inclinations, and would occasionally publish under the name of his female alter-ego, Connie. In 1968 he founded *Ghost Dance: The International Quarterly of Experimental Poetry*, which he would edit for 27 years.

Hugh Fox then left Los Angeles for a post at Michigan State University's Department of American Thought and Language, where he is now a Professor Emeritus. In 1969, Fox published the first critical analysis of Bukowski's work in *Charles Bukowski: A Critical and Bibliographical Study*. He was also the first to publish a critical study of the works of poet Lyn Lifshin, and has produced several poetry anthologies. He continues to write in a variety of genres, having recently published *Shaman* (1993), *The Last Summer* (1995), *Stairway to the Sun* (1996), and *Back: Brazil-Peru Poems* (1997).

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The collection contains a mimeographed typescript of Hugh Fox's *Countdown on an Empty Streetcar*, a heavily corrected typescript draft of his novel *The Taffy Hills*, and poetry/artwork from the 1960s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1: 1</td>
<td><em>Countdown on an Empty Streetcar</em> (mimeographed typescript) - published 1969</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1: 2-3</td>
<td><em>The Taffy Hills</em> (typescript with extensive handwritten edits), ca. 1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2: 1</td>
<td><em>Poetry/Artwork (Oversize)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2: 2</td>
<td>Metal plates and printed copies on paper (15 items), n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2: 2</td>
<td>Original paintings and printed work on paper (10 items), n.d.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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