Preliminary Guide to the James J. Guthrie - Pear Tree Press Collection

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Preliminary Guide to the James J. Guthrie - Pear Tree Press Collection, ca. 1901-1952, 1971

Collection number: Printers Mss 11

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Descriptive Summary
Title: James J. Guthrie - Pear Tree Press Collection,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1901-1952, 1971
Collection Number: Printers Mss 11
Extent: .8 linear feet (2 document boxes)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
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Language: English.
Access Restrictions
None.

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Acquisition Information
Bulk of collection purchased in 1968, with subsequent purchases to ca. 1988.

Biography
James J. Guthrie (1874-1952), a Scotsman who moved to London as a child, was the founder of Pear Tree Press, which began in 1899, at a time when Guthrie was living at Pear Tree Cottage in Ingrave, Essex, England. Guthrie moved the press to Shorne in Kent, then Harting in Sussex, before settling at Flansham, near Bognor Regis, Sussex in 1907. An artist, typographer, and printer, Guthrie throughout his life was particularly interested in intaglio printing. Two of his favorite
pursuits were wood engraving and book plate design. The first book issued by his Pear Tree Press was Some Poems of Edgar Allan Poe, with drawing by Guthrie, 1901 and the last, 50 years later, seems to have been his work From a Sussex Village, printed at the Mermaid Press in Flansham in 1951 as a contribution to the Festival of Britain.

Further information on Guthrie and the Pear Tree Press may be found in:

Scope and Content of Collection
The James J. Guthrie - Pear Tree Press Collection was purchased in conjunction with the UCSB Libraries 500,000th volume celebration in 1968. It contains the collection of manuscripts, as well as a number of printed items that have been cataloged individually and may be searched in Pegasus, the UCSB Libraries online catalog. The cataloged items primarily are monographs, but also include a few issues of serials printed by Pear Tree, some prospectuses, announcements, publication lists, and proof sheets.

The manuscripts are arranged in the following series: General, Correspondence, Publications of the Pear Tree Press and James J. Guthrie, and Miscellany.

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Series 1. General

Scope and Content Note
Material about Guthrie and Pear Tree Press, such as an unfinished bibliography by Michael Travers, and writing by Guthrie, namely a typescript copy of his "Transition in Printing." Also, drawings and other material relating to Guthrie family members.

Box 1: 1 - 5
Guthrie Family

Box 1: 1
Guthrie, John F. - Drawing, proofs, and prints, ca. 1920s

Box 1: 2
Guthrie, Robert - Drawings, ca. 1916

Box 1: 3
Guthrie, Robin - Catalog of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and drawing, n.d.

Box 1: 4
Guthrie, Stuart, ca. 1910s-1930s
Abstract: [Includes "Blue Bottle," manuscript, with illustrations, done as a child, ca. WWI era; prospectus for An Anthology: Extracts from Letters written by Miss May Chesshire; and The Piper's Fancy]

Box 1: 5
Obits, 1971
Abstract: [Robin and Alexander Guthrie]

Box 1: 6
Travers, Michael - Bibliography of James J. Guthrie and the Pear Tree Pres, ca. 1946
Abstract: [Unfinished manuscript]

Box 1: 7
University of Kentucky Libraries - offprints of articles and correspondence by Guthrie, 1952

Box 1: 8
Writings about Guthrie and Pear Tree Press

Box 1: 9

Box 1: 9 - 11
Writings by Guthrie

Box 1: 10
"Transition in Printing", n.d.
Abstract: [Typescript, with holographic corrections]

Box 1: 11
Abstract: [Photocopy]
Series 2. Correspondence

Scope and Content Note
Mainly press-related items to and from Guthrie. Correspondents include John Freeman, Reginald Hallward, Reginald H. Leon, and Michael Travers.

Box 1: 12 - 19  
Guthrie, James J.  
Box 1: 12  
To John Freeman - 24 ALS, ca. 1917  
Abstract: [Many undated]

Box 1: 13  
To Reginald Hallward - 14 ALS, ca. 1905 - 1912  
Abstract: [Some undated]

Box 1: 14  
From Reginald H. Leon - 2 TL, 1922  
Abstract: [Carbons]

Box 1: 15  
To Reginald H. Leon - 28 ALS, 1922 - 1924  
Box 1: 16  
To [?] Richards - 1 TLS, 1945  
Box 1: 17  
To Michael Travers - 61 ALS and TLS, ca. 1945 - 1949  
Abstract: [Includes observations on William Blake, William Morris, Kelmscott Press, Golden Cockerel Press, and others]

Box 1: 18  
From [?] v. Rossem - 1 ALS, 1948  
Box 1: 19  
To Unknown - 1 ALS, 1937  
Box 1: 20  
Guthrie, Mrs. Marion  
Box 1: 20  
To Mrs. Michael Travers - 4 ALS, n.d.  
Box 1: 21  
Siberell, Lloyd, 1946 - 1949  
Abstract: [1 TLS to Guthrie, 1946, otherwise mainly correspondence from Lawrence de Coteau, along with article by Coteau on Guthrie, and samples of stationery printed by Guthrie]

Series 3. Publications of the Pear Tree Press and James J. Guthrie

Scope and Content Note
Mainly proofs, prospectuses, and announcements, including a number of items relating to the Pear Tree Press edition of William Blake's *Songs of Innocence*.

Box 1: 22  
"Amid that small sweet avalanche", n.d.  
Abstract: [Proof - poem]

Box 1: 23  
"Announcement of the Hand Press Newly Set Up at the Pear Tree Press", ca. 1923 - 1924  
Abstract: [Notes the acquisition of the hand press upon which William Morris printed the Kelmscott Chaucer]

Box 1: 24  
"An Announcement Regarding Certain Hand-Printed Books", [1930]  
Abstract: [Refers to Frescoes, from Buried Temples and Last Designs for Bookplates; notes Morris press now in America]

Box 1: 25  
"The Bird-Scarer", n.d.  
Abstract: [Proof - poem]

Box 1: 26 - 29  
Blake, William - *Songs of Innocence*  
Box 1: 26  
Prospectus "Announcing the Felpham Edition of Songs of Innocence by William Blake" and 3 variant proofs of the colophon page, 1937  
Box 1: 27  
Proofs, 1939  
Abstract: [2 pulls, including colophon]
Box 1: 28  Plates, n.d.
Box 1: 29  Making of Songs, n.d.
          Abstract: [Photocopies of two leaves, author unknown]

Box 1: 30  Books and the Art of Making Them, ca. 1932
          Abstract: [Monthly bulletin of the Pear Tree Press and the Cock Robin Press, 5 issues]

Box 1: 31  Bottomley, Gordon - Riding to Lithend, [1909]
          Abstract: [Proof]

Box 1: 32  Christmas cards, ca. 1930s-1940s
          Abstract: [Some proofs]

Box 2: 1  Collins, William - Ode to Evening, 1937
          Abstract: [Prospectus, plates, and proofs]

Box 2: 2  The Elf, ca. 1902 - 1903
          Abstract: [Announcement]

Box 2: 3  Green Pastures Series - John Freeman, General Editor, n.d.
          Abstract: [Prospectus]

          Abstract: [Typescript]

Box 2: 4 - 22  Guthrie, James J.
Box 2: 5  Book Plates, Volume 2 of the Series, n.d.
          Abstract: [Proof of t.p. only; published?]

Box 2: 6  Book-Plates, [ca. 1907-1918]
          Abstract: [By James Guthrie and Daniel Phaer, Phaer being a pseudonym of Guthrie; trial
          proof of t.p.]

Box 2: 7  "Bookplates", n.d.
          Abstract: [pp. 77-79 only]

Box 2: 8  Bookplates, n.d.
          Abstract: [Designs for Walter de la Mare and others]

Box 2: 9  A Child's Good Day, [1908]
          Abstract: [Proofs]

Box 2: 10  Frescoes from Buried Temples: A Portfolio of Drawings, with Poems by Gordon
          Bottomley, [1930]
          Abstract: [Prospectus, manuscripts of 6 poems by Bottomley, and 6 proofs of prints]

Box 2: 11  Intaglio Bookplates, 1922
          Abstract: [Prospectus]

Box 2: 12  Last Bookplates, [1929]
          Abstract: [Prospectus]

Box 2: 13  My House in the World: Essays in Quiet, [1918]
| Box 2: 14 | **New Intaglio Bookplates, [1934]**  
Abstract: [Proofs of t.p.] |
| Box 2: 15 | **New Plate-Book, [1929]**  
Abstract: [Proof of t.p.] |
| Box 2: 16 | **Proofs of Prints - 14 items, n.d.**  
| Box 2: 17 | **Proofs of Prints - 5 items, n.d.**  
Abstract: ["Echo," "Castle Wonderful," "Illustrations to Poems by Edgar Allen Poe: No. 1: "To Helen"," "A Landscape," "Rain Clouds"] |
| Box 2: 18 | **Proofs of Prints - 11 items, n.d.**  
Abstract: [Untitled] |
| Box 2: 19 | **The Proportional System of Composition , [1924]**  
Abstract: [Proofs and duplicate copy] |
| Box 2: 20 | **"Those Pinafore Girls", n.d.**  
Abstract: [Broadside poem] |
| Box 2: 21 | **Twenty-One Poems, 1934**  
Abstract: [Proofs] |
| Box 2: 22 | **The Wild Garden: Verses for Children, [1924]**  
Abstract: [Proofs] |
| Box 2: 23 | **The Book-Cratsman: A Review of Fine Printing, Bookplates, Poetry, etc, edited by Stuart Guthrie., 1919**  
Abstract: [Proof] |
| Box 2: 23 - 24 | **Guthrie, Stuart**  
**A Chapbook for Little Chaps, [1920]**  
Abstract: [Prospectus] |
| Box 2: 24 | **"Infant Joy", n.d.**  
Abstract: [Proof - poem] |
| Box 2: 25 | **"The Little Green Tree", n.d.**  
Abstract: [Proof - poem] |
| Box 2: 26 | **Modern Printing in Ancient Chichester (announcement), Cock Robin Printers, n.d.**  
**"Mr. Michael Travers, Consulting Ophthalmic Optician", n.d.**  
Abstract: [Announcement] |
| Box 2: 27 | **"Not the full-throated choir of May", n.d.**  
Abstract: [Proof - poem] |
| Box 2: 28 | **Of Joy, n.d.**  
Abstract: [Proof] |
Series 3. Publications of the Pear Tree Press and James J. Guthrie

Box 2: 31  **Pear Tree Press Publications, ca. 1935 - 1938**
Abstract: [Lists and announcements]

Box 2: 32  **Root and Branch, [1912-1926]**
Abstract: [Proofs and linoleum block]

Box 2: 33  **Some Poems of Edgar Allen Poe, [1901], 1908**
Abstract: [Announcement and proof of t.p.), [1901], 1908]

Box 2: 34  **Strode, William - Four Poems, 1934**
Abstract: [Proofs]

Box 2: 35  **The Friend of the Blackbird, ca. 1938**
Abstract: [Original calligraphic manuscript by Helen Hinckley, proofs, and prospectii]

Box 2: 35 - 36  **Thomas, Edward [Eastaway, Edward]**
**Six Poems, [1916]**
Abstract: [Proof of title only]

Box 2: 37  **"To Mother", n.d.**
Abstract: [Proof - poem]

Box 2: 38  **"To See a World in a Grain of Sand", n.d.**
Abstract: [Proof - poem]

Box 2: 39  **Waller, Pickford - [ Pickford Waller Designs], 1916**
Abstract: [Proofs]

Series 4. Miscellany
Scope and Content Note
Includes a photograph, presumably of Guthrie, at his press around 1903-1904. Also, material on Cock Robin Press and Silver Unicorn Press, as well as a number of unidentified original drawings and proofs.

Box 2: 40  **Cock Robin Press, n.d.**
Abstract: [Prospectus and order form]

Box 2: 41  **Greenleaf Press, n.d.**
Abstract: [Announcement]

Box 2: 42 - 43  **Original drawings, n.d.**
**Pear Tree Press, n.d.**
Abstract: [Miscellaneous printed sheets]

Box 2: 45  **Photograph (print) of [Guthrie?] at his press, [1903-1904]**
Box 2: 46  **Proofs (unidentified), n.d.**
**"Rough Idea for Folio", ca. 1929**
**Rough Inventory of Materials, Pear Tree Press, n.d.**
Abstract: [List]

Box 2: 49  **Silver Unicorn Press, ca. 1930s**
Abstract: [Prospectuses and specimen page]

Box 2: 50  **United Arts Circle of Bognor Regis, 1906**
Abstract: [Flyer]