

Simon Cutts Papers

1966-1969

2013.003

Quantity:	Open to research
Access:	1 legal manuscript box
Acquisition:	See Administrative Note
Processed by:	Abigail Stambach, May 2013

Administrative Note:

Details regarding the acquisition of the Simon Cutts Papers are vague but they were acquired for the Carol Ann Donahue Memorial Collection sometime in 1970. Since its acquisition, processing work has been done several times with the most recent completed in May 2013. At this time, the collection was transferred to the Sage Colleges Archives & Special Collections.

Biographic/Historical Note:

Simon Cutts was a poet, artist and editor. He began his career by writing concrete poetry. In this form of poetry, the typographical arrangement of words is just as important as the content. His later work was shaped by the belief that the poem's ideal manifestation is the book itself and the book form is the physical metaphor of the poem. In addition to writing, Cutts has worked in publishing. In 1965, he began working for the small publishing press, Tarasque Press and developed a close relationship with the founder, Stuart Mills. The two worked together in editing the magazine, *Tarasque*. After leaving Tarasque in the early 1970s, Cutts created his own small publishing press, Coracle Press in 1975. He used the Tarasque model and also opened a gallery space called the Coracle Press Gallery. In addition to overseeing the operations of Coracle, Cutts continued to write, published and exhibit his works. Much of his own work has been published and exhibited by his own press. Since 1997, Cutts has lived and operated Coracle Press from Tipperary, Ireland with his partner, Erica Van Horn.

Scope and Content Note:

The Simon Cutts Papers contain poetry manuscripts and correspondence dating between 1966 and 1969. The poetry manuscripts include eleven mock-ups Cutts submitted to Gallery Number 10 and Tarasque Press for publication. These mock-ups have edits and other annotations. In some instances, there are multiple versions of the same poem. The manuscripts are arranged in chronological order by publisher.

The collection also includes Cutts' correspondence with Roy Fisher and Gael Turnbull, who were also poets from the United Kingdom. This dates between 1967 and 1969. At the time, Fisher and Turnbull were both directors of Migrant Press, a publishing company very similar to Cutts' Coracle. In the correspondence, they mostly discuss one of Cutts' manuscripts, which Fisher and Turnbull were considering publishing. They discussed logistics as well as possible improvements to the manuscript.

Additionally, the correspondence talks about the works of other poets and the publishing world. The correspondence is arranged in chronological order.

Box and Folder Listing:

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Contents
1		Control Folder
1	1	"A New Kind of Ties" n.d.
1	2	"Balcon Programme" 1967, published by Gallery Number 10 (pamphlet mock-up)
1	3	"Line Sails" 1967, published by Gallery Number 10
1	4	"Camouflages" 1968, published by Gallery Number 10
1	5	"Quelques Pianos" 1968, published by Gallery Number 10
1	6	"Thoughts to Music" 1969, published by Gallery Number 10
1	7	"Thirteen Preludes" 1966/67, published by Tarasque Press
1	8	"Claude Monet in his Water Garden" 1967, published by Tarasque Press
1	9	"Three Butterflies" 1968, published by Tarasque Press
1	10	"The Blue Boat Train" 1968, published by Tarasque Press
1	11	"A Package of Balloons" 1968, published by Tarasque Press
1	12	Correspondence with Roy Fisher, 1967 – 1969 (7 items) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeting card from Fisher, [1967] • T.L.S. from Fisher, October 22, 1967 • Letter from Cutts, December 15, 1967 • A.L.S. from Fisher, September 12, 1968 • Letter from Cutts, September 19, 1968 • A.L.S. from Fisher, December 9, 1968 • A.L.S. from Fisher, April 1, 1969
1	13	Correspondence with Gael Turnbull, 1967 – 1969 (14 items) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T.L.S. from Turnbull, December 9, 1967 • Letter from Cutts, December 15, 1967 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, December 25, 1967 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, January 8, 1968 • T.L.S. from Turnbull, February 19, 1968 • Letter from Cutts, February 24, 1968 • T.L.S. from Turnbull, March 3, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, March 11, 1968 • T.L.S. from Turnbull, March 18, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, April 8, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, September 11, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, September 25, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, May 27, 1968 • A.L.S. from Turnbull, n.d.