

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Richard Aaron Collection of Ira Cohen

YCAL MSS 1025



by Beinecke staff

March 2015

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 1025

CREATOR: Aaron, Richard Emmet

TITLE: Richard Aaron collection of Ira Cohen

DATES: 1946-1996

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 8.08 linear feet (10 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Richard Aaron Collection of Ira Cohen contains correspondence, writings, artwork, photographs, production files, and other papers by, to, or relating to Ira Cohen's life and work.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.racohen>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.racohen>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Granary Books, Inc. on the Ezra Pound Archive Fund and the Donald Windham-Sandy Campbell Collection Endowment Fund, 2014.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Richard Aaron Collection of Ira Cohen is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Richard Aaron Collection of Ira Cohen. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Biographical / Historical

Ira Cohen (1935-2011) was an American poet, photographer, publisher, and filmmaker. He was associated with the Living Theatre, as well as various writers associated with the Beat generation. He maintained a longterm friendship with Richard Aaron, proprietor of Am Here Books, where Cohen often sent writings and other materials for safekeeping.

Scope and Contents

The Richard Aaron Collection of Ira Cohen contains correspondence, writings, artwork, photographs, production files, and other papers by, to, or relating to Ira Cohen's life and work.

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence and other papers, 1958-1996. II. Writings and other papers, 1946-1979.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence and other papers, 1958–1996

3.58 linear feet (6 boxes)

Contains correspondence to and from Ira Cohen, along with related writings and ephemera.

Organized alphabetically by correspondent's last name, with unidentified materials located at the end of the series.

b.1	Allnutt, Bruce	1966
b.1	Alsop, Ian	undated
b.1	Andrews, George (2 folders)	undated
b.1	Andrews, George	undated
b.1	Andrews, Maya	undated
b.1	Baron, Laura	undated
b.1	Basara, Robert	1965-1970
b.1	Beck, Julian	1970 July 5
b.1	Beiles, Sinclair	undated
b.1	Belart, Gerard Simon	1965
b.1	Berger, William--Italian tragedy	1970
b.1	Blazek, Doug	1970
b.1	Binnemans, Roger	1965-1965
b.1	Calder, John	1964 January 9
b.1	Callahan, Stan	undated
b.1	Campbell, Mike	1963
b.1	Carroll, Paul	undated
b.1	Caspar, Ursula	1967 March 22
b.1	Chaudhany, Rajkamal	1967 March 31
b.1	Chick, John and Richard Aaron	1975
b.1	City Lights	1968-1969
b.1	Clay, Mel (2 folders)	1967-1970, undated
b.1	Clay, Mel--fragments from a stitch manuscript	undated
b.1	Clay, Mel	undated

b.1	Clay, Mel	undated
b.1	Clay, Mel (2 folders)	undated
b.1	Cohen, Ira letters to Richard Aaron	1975-1996
b.1	Cohen, Ira	1964-1977
b.1	Cohen, Ira	1965, undated
b.1	Cohen, Ira--Cosmic grain elevator	undated
b.1	Cohen, Ira (5 folders)	1975 July 28, undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira--Marrakesh & Export	undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira--"Passin' on" notebook	undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira--"This is for..." manuscript	undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira--columns for ABC magazine	1964
b.2	Cohen, Ira--pocket notebooks	undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira--passport and birth certificate	1961-1965, undated
b.2	Cohen, Ira and Mel Clay--manuscripts for cut up experiments	undated
b.2	Cresciman, Vince	1967
b.8	Daniel	undated
b.2	Davis, William D.	1969
b.2	De Bruijn, Lex	1965
b.2	De Havleville, Olivia	undated
b.2	De Saltes, Aymon De Roussy	1960
b.2	Field, Edward	1966-1968
b.2	Ford, Charles Henri	1969-1971
b.2	Freeman, Deborah	1971
b.2	Friedman, Benno	undated
b.2	Giorno, John	1966
b.2	Girodias Maurice (Olympia Press)	1969
b.2	Girodias, Maurice (Olympia Press)	undated
b.2	Goins, Vernon	undated
b.2	Gordon, Stuart	1965 June 21

b. 2	Gurin, David	1967
b. 2	Hacker, Marilyn	1970
b. 2	Hall, Barry	1967 September 18
b. 2	Harriman	1969 July 29
b. 2	Heliczzer, Piero	
b. 2	Heliczier, Pietro--manuscript for "The Addictions"	undated
b. 2	Heliczier, Pietro--manuscript for "Bali"	undated
b. 2	Heliczier, Pietro--manuscript for "I am not afraid of the dark"	undated
b. 2	Heliczier, Pietro--The pecan tree manuscript	undated
b. 2	Heliczier, Pietro--Tattoo manuscript	undated
b. 2	Hentoff, Nat	1967 June 9
b. 2	Huges, Bart	undated
b. 2	Innes, Brian	1970
b. 2	Jacobson, Mimi	1964
b. 2	Johnson, Phyllis	1970
b. 2	Josh (R. J. Reynolds Investments)	1969
b. 2	Kennedy, Adrian (Sun)	undated
b. 2	Kothuys, Anton	1965 September 30
b. 2	Leary, Timothy	
b. 2	Lebel, Jean-Jacques	1965
b. 2	Lemoki, Jill	1963
b. 3	Levy, William (3 folders)	1965-1970
b. 3	Levin, William Gulliver	undated
b. 3	Lionni, Paolo	undated
b. 3	McClelland, Maurice	1970 November 20
b. 3	Maclise, Angus (5 folders)	1969, undated
b. 3	Maclise, Angus--The Jive ikon	undated
b. 3	Maclise, Angus--The marriage stick	undated

b. 3	Maclise, Angus--Spanish manifest documents	undated
b. 3	Maclise, Angus--The subliminal report	undated
b. 3	Maclise, Angus--The sudden manifest documents	undated
b. 3	Maclise, Angus--manuscript & letter	undated
b. 3	Maclise, Hetty	undated
b. 3	Margoshes, Adam	1965 January
b. 3	Marshall, Edward	undated
b. 3	Mayo, Noël	undated
b. 3	McBrian, Jack (Arts Laboratory Bookshop)	undated
b. 3	Matson, Clive	1967-1970, undated
b. 3	Matson, Clive	
b. 3	Matson, Clive--To the mainline heart	undated
b. 3	Matson, Clive	undated
b. 3	Matson Clive--Space age	undated
b. 3	Matson, Erin	1969
b. 3	Meredith, Scott	1965
b. 3	Micheline, Jack	1968 May 28
b. 3	Montez, Mario	1970
b. 3	Nabokov, Vera	1963
b. 3	Nold, Yrène	1969 July 1
b. 3	Nour, Nazli	1964, undated
b. 3	Nuttall, Jeff	1964 September 7
b. 4	Perkins, Michael	1968 December 17
b. 4	Perkins Michael--Funeral flowers	1968
b. 4	Pernath, Hugues C.	1964
b. 4	Quadri, Franco	1970
b. 4	Rattray, David--Emerald city/Alejandro Jodorowsky	undated
b. 4	Rattray, David--Emerald city manuscript	undated

b. 4	Ratray, David--Emerald city/The bloodleaf manuscript	1971 February 28-29
b. 4	Ratray, David--Emerald city/The bloodleaf manuscript	1971 March
b. 4	Ratray, David--Emerald city manuscript	1970 January
b. 4	Ratray, David--House of Capricorn	1958 december
b. 4	Ratray, David--Emerald city	undated
b. 4	Ratray, David--The Emerald Isle manuscript	undated
b. 4	Ratray, David--The hall of repose manuscript	undated
b. 4	Ratray, David--"Six poems for the red flag...."	undated
b. 4	Ratray, David--The white poem manuscript	undated
b. 4	Ratray, David--The winged ship manuscript	1968 November 16
b. 4	Richkin, Robert	1968-1970
b. 4	Richkin, Robert--Parceque je tais mort	1968 November
b. 4	Richkin, Robert--Picture me on a lonely cross	1970 December 1
b. 4	Richkin, Robert--Poems from the macroscope	1968
b. 4	Richkin, Robert--Rain forest/poems for Clive Matson	1966
b. 4	Richter, Dan	1966 January 22
b. 4	Rochlin, Sheldon	1970
b. 4	Schleifer, Marc	1964, undated
b. 4	Schneck, Steve	1965-1966
b. 4	Shebar, Fran	1964-1969
b. 4	Schwartz, Rosalind (2 folders)	1964-1970
b. 4	Schwartz, Rosalind	undated
b. 4	Schwartz, Rosalind	undated
b. 4	Snyder, Don Paradise now	1970, undated
b. 4	Sontag, Susan	1967
b. 4	Stern, Jacques	undated
b. 4	Sulayman	1968 August 22
b. 4	Tarn, Nathaniel	1967 November 7

b. 4	Tavel, Ronald	1966
b. 4	Taylor, Chris	1963 December 16
b. 4	Vali (Vali Myers)	undated
b. 4	Vega, Janine--Pommy	1976-1977, undated
b. 4	Vega, Janine--Pommy	1971
b. 4	Vinkenoog, Simon	1964-1965
b. 5	Waldman, Anne	1970 April 18
b. 5	Weiners, John	1966 April 6
b. 5	Weissner, Carl	1966-1969
b. 5	White, Jack	1970 July 8
b. 5	Wilcock, John	1967 September 11
b. 5	Wilhelm, Helmut	1963 May 2
b. 5	Williams, Stuart	1968 September 30
b. 5	Wright, Anne (2 folders)	1969-1970, undated
b. 8	Young, Dana	undated
b. 5	Zazeela, Marian	1970
b. 5	Zem	1965
b. 5	Zemel, Carol	1969
b. 5	Unidentified	1963, undated

Series II: Writings and other papers, 1946–1979*6.42 linear feet (6 boxes)*

Contains writings, photographs, artwork, ephemera, and other documentation.

Materials roughly maintain organization found at time of acquisition.

b. 5	Assorted	1968
b. 5	Assorted--The windmill	1946
b. 5	Flyers and ephemera	1967-1970
b. 5	Unidentified manuscript	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Assorted	1965
b. 5	GNAOUA: Correspondence	1963-1964
b. 5	GNAOUA: Correspondence	1963-1964
b. 5	GNAOUA: Cover	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Mailing list	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Manuscripts	1963
b. 5	GNAOUA: Paper samples	1964
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photograph	1965
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photograph--cover	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photographs--film	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photograph--proofs	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photographs	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Photographs	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Plates	undated
b. 5	GNAOUA: Proof	1964
b. 6	GNAOUA: Proof with cover stock sample	undated
b. 6	GNAOUA: Complete galley proofs	1964 Spring
b. 6	GNAOUA: Galley proofs with different pagination	1963 February 20
b. 6	GNAOUA: Allen Ginsberg	1962 January 5
b. 6	GNAOUA: Proofs	undated
b. 6	GNAOUA: Table of contents	undated
b. 6	GNAOUA: Proofs	undated

b. 8	GNAOUA: Early galley proof	undated
b. 6	Great society--book stories	1969
b. 6	Great society--Chappaqua	1967
b. 6	Great society--cover	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Great society--uncut cover sheet	undated
b. 6	Great society--Jack Smith cover artwork	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Great society--cover	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Great society--cover proof	undated
b. 6	Great society--manuscript	undated
b. 6	Great society--manuscripts	undated
b. 6	Great society--mock-up	undated
b. 6	Great society--paste up	undated
b. 6	Great society--photographs	undated
b. 6	Great society--photographs including Robert Frank still from Chappaqua (2 folders)	undated
b. 6	Great society--prototype	1967
b. 6	Great society--table of contents	undated
b. 8	Great society--galleys	undated
b. 8	Great society--galleys	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Great society--galleys	undated
b. 10	Great society--film and plates	undated
b. 7	Jilala--assorted	undated
b. 7	Jilala--record label paste-up	1967
b. 9 (Oversize)	Jilala--artwork	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Jilila--artwork	undated
b. 7	Jilala--liner note proofs	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Jilila--liner notes by Ira Cohen	undated
b. 8	Artwork	undated
b. 7	Brain damage--art	undated
b. 7	Brain damage--avant garde award	1968 November 4

b. 7	Brain damage--avant garde award introduction	undated
b. 7	Brain damage--notebook	undated
b. 7	Brain damage--notes	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Brain damage	1979 November 7
b. 7	Photograph of Jack Smith and Rosalind	undated
b. 7	Founding pig	1966
b. 9 (Oversize)	Founding pig--paste up and original art	undated
b. 7	Invasion of the Thunderbolt Pagoda--credit list	undated
b. 7	Invasion of the Thunderbolt Pagoda--NYU Film Society/Universal Mutant press release	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Invasion of Thunderbolt Pagoda--artwork	undated
b. 9 (Oversize)	Ratray, David--The Emerald Isle	1971 January
b. 9 (Oversize)	Repoise--proof	undated
b. 8	Richkin, Robert--Prisms of darkness	1968 June 21
b. 8	Sidi Hiddi: the Kif saint of Morocco	undated
b. 7	Photographs--assorted	undated
b. 8	Photographs--assorted	undated
b. 7	Photographs--Bill Devore	undated
b. 7	Photograph of Jack Smith by Bill Devore	undated
b. 7	Photograph of Pete as White Cobra--taken by either Bill Devore or Ira Cohen	undated
b. 7	Photographs--taken by either Ira Cohen or Bill Devore	undated
b. 7	Photographs--taken by either Ira Cohen or Bill Devore	1965
b. 9 (Oversize)	Photographs--taken by either Ira Cohen or Bill Devore	undated
b. 7	Photographs--pages from Photo magazine	1971 February 2
b. 7	Photographs--Robert Frank	undated
b. 8	Photographs--"To your scattered bodies go" book jacket proof with Ira Cohen photo	undated
b. 8	Photographs and artwork--unidentified	undated
b. 8	Artwork and clippings	undated
b. 8	Artwork by Erin Watson	undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Beat generation
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

Occupations

Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Cohen, Ira

Contributors

Aaron, Richard Emmet
Cohen, Ira