

# Guide to the Max Beerbohm Collection

GEN MSS 133



by Timothy Young

December 1994

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 133

**CREATOR:** Beerbohm, Max, Sir, 1872-1956

**TITLE:** Max Beerbohm collection

**DATES:** ca. 1896-1945

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.25 linear feet (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, manuscripts of writings, and artwork by, to, or pertaining to Max Beerbohm.

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

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## 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.beerbohm>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ongoing collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The Max Beerbohm Collection 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Max Beerbohm Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

This register is updated periodically. For information on material added to the collection since the last update, please consult the Public Services desk.

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## Scope and Contents

This listing encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts pertaining to Max Beerbohm. Materials acquired prior to January 1995 have been arranged in three series. [Series I, Letters](#), consists of letters by Max Beerbohm and is alphabetically arranged by recipient. [Series II, Writings](#), contains writings by Max Beerbohm and is arranged alphabetically by title. [Series III, Artwork](#), contains drawings and sketches by Max Beerbohm and is arranged alphabetically by title of work.

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**Collection Contents**
**Series I: Letters, 1897 Oct 1**

b. 1, f. 1	Letter to "Dear Sir" 1 item (1 leaf) ; 28 cm. Bequest, 1954.	1897 Oct 1
b. 1, f. 2	Letter to Earl E. Fisk 1 item ( 1 leaf) ; 25 cm. Letter includes colored self-caricature by Beerbohm. Included with letter are materials by Earl E. Fisk intended for use in printing text of letter as a Christmas memento. Purchase, 1956.	1926 Aug 14
b. 1, f. 3	Letters to Mrs. Thomas Hardy (Florence Dugdale Hardy) 2 items Letters from Beerbohm and his wife, Florence Kahn Beerbohm, concerning the death of Thomas Hardy. Bequest, 1954.	1928 Jan 14
b. 1, f. 4	Letter [facsimile] to Edmond Kapp 1 item (1 leaf) ; 15 cm. Probably refers to Kopp's exhibition in 1919. Bequest, 1954.	[1919?]
b. 1, f. 5	Letters to Richard Le Gallienne 6 items. Includes typewritten transcriptions of letters. Gift	1899-1900, n.d.
b. 1, f. 6	Letter to Ada Levenson 1 item (2 leaves) ; 15 cm. Bequest, 1954.	[1896?]
b. 1, f. 7	Letter to Ada Levenson 1 item (3 leaves) ; 15 cm. Gift, 1954.	1908 Dec 1
b. 1, f. 8	Letters to Henry Marillier 2 items. Purchase, 1974.	1928
b. 1, f. 9	Letters to Mrs. Henry Marillier 2 items. Purchase, 1974.	1928, 1939

b. 1, f. 10	Letter to "Mr. Robinson" 1 item (1 leaf) ; 18 cm. Bequest, 1954.	1942 Aug 20
b. 1, f. 11	Letter to "Gentlemen" [Mr. Robinson?] 1 item (1 leaf) ; 23 cm. Bequest, 1954.	1943 May 31
b. 1, f. 12	Letter to Edward Fordham Spence 1 item (2 leaves) ; 18 cm. Includes typewritten transcription of letter and notes from auction catalog. Purchase, 1943.	1903 May 31
b. 1, f. 13	Letter to Mrs. Tremlett of Hutchinson and Co. <i>1 item (4 leaves) ; 21 cm. or smaller</i> Includes pages of instructions about photographs for <i>Herbert Beerbohm Tree</i> , edited by Max Beerbohm. Includes note explaining letter. Purchase, 1974.	

**Series II: Writings, n.d.**

b. 1, f. 14	<p>"A Ballade of My Betters," holograph, corrected 1 item (1 leaf) ; 32 cm. Poem. Included on manuscript is a caricature in pencil. Included on same page is an "Envoi" Includes typewritten transcription of "Ballade of my Betters," "Envoi," and notes on these poems. Includes on verso a poem, "L.S.," holograph, corrected, with caricatures of Lytton Strachey in pencil. Gift.</p>	n.d.
b. 1, f. 15	<p>"A Clergyman," printed version, corrected 1 item (3 leaves out of 26) : 32 cm. x 23 cm.; in cloth slipcase. Text concerning "Boswell," "Johnson," and "A Clergyman." In <i>The Owl</i>, no. 1, May, 1919. Includes typescript list of Beerbohm's corrections made by Herman Liebert. Gift, 1994.</p>	1919 May
b. 1, f. 16	<p>"Enoch Soames: A Memory of the Eighteen- Nineties," holograph, corrected 1 item (24 leaves) ; 32 cm. Short story. Includes notes from auction catalog and note by Beerbohm, "For the Red Cross, 1940 [...]" Bequest, [1954?]</p>	ca. 1919
b. 1, f. 17	<p>Note removed from <i>The Poets Corner</i>, "This copy belongs to Stanley Parker [...]," holograph 1 item ( 1 leaf) ; 18 cm. Note in unknown hand is on reverse side over printed illustration of Beerbohm. Gift, 1972.</p>	1945 Jul
b. 1, f. 18	<p>"No. 2. The Pines," holograph, corrected 1 item (21 leaves) : ill. ; 33 cm. Essay Includes caricature pencil sketches of Algernon Swinburne, James McNeill Whistler and Theodore Watts-Dunton verso of leaves. Includes notes from auction catalogs and from an exhibition of the manuscript. Bequest, [1954?]</p>	n.d.

b. 2, f. 19	<p>"Savonarola' Brown," holograph, corrected Stored in Oversize box 2 with Series III, Artwork. 1 v. (24 leaves), bound in codex ; 40 cm. Story Includes 5 leaves of another draft laid in, with typewritten transcript. Inscribed to John Drinkwater, May, 1923. Bequest, 1954.</p>	n.d.
b. 1, f. 20	<p>"A Short But True Story," holograph, corrected 1 item (6 leaves) ; 33 cm. Short story Gift.</p>	n.d.
b. 1, f. 21	<p>"Something Defeasible," holograph, corrected 1 v. (4 leaves), bound in codex ; 34 cm. Story Bequest, 1954</p>	n.d.



**Series III: Artwork, 1912, 1927, n.d.**

b. 2, f. 22-28	<p><a href="#">Caricatures</a></p> <p>7 items : 46.5 cm. x 38.5 cm. Caricatures of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Mr. Hilaire Belloc," pencil, ink, and watercolor on paper, mounted on board, signed.</li> <li>2. "Mr. Belloc on British Literature," ink, watercolor and newspaper clipping on paper, mounted in board, signed and dated: October, 1927. Includes caricature of Lytton Strachey.</li> <li>3. "Clyde Fitch," ink and watercolor on paper, mounted on board, signed.</li> <li>4. "Mr. G. K. Chesterton giving the world a kiss," pencil on paper, mounted on board, signed.</li> <li>5. "La France de Demain," ink and watercolor on paper, mounted on board, signed.</li> <li>6. "Signor Caruso, cynosure--," ink, pencil and watercolor on paper, mounted on board, signed and dated, 1912.</li> <li>7. "Such Good 'Copy'," pencil and watercolor on paper, mounted on board, signed.</li> </ol> <p>Bequest, [1954?]</p>	1912, 1927, n.d.
b. 2, f. 29	<p>"Dante Gabriel Rosetti, in his back garden," tracing made by Kate Kaufman and sent to Beerbohm for annotations, photostat.</p> <p>1 item (1 leaf) ; 27 cm. Removed from copy (discarded) of Beerbohm's <i>The Poet's Corner</i>.</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 30	<p>Frontispiece to "Three Plays for Puritans" [by G.B. Shaw]</p> <p>1 item (1 leaf) ; 32 cm. Pen and ink on paper, signed "Max", mounted on board. Gift, 1956.</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 31	<p>"Mr. H. G. Wells and his Patent Mechanical New Republic; and the Spirit of Pure Reason Crowning him President (View of Presidential Palace in background)"</p> <p>1 item (1 leaf) ; 32 cm. Pen and ink on paper, mounted on board, signed "Max". Bequest, 1954.</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 32	<p><a href="#">"Sir Philip Sassoon in the House of Commons"</a></p> <p>1 item (1 leaf) ; 30 cm. Pen and ink on paper, signed "Max, 1913", framed. Gift, 1956.</p>	1913

## **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**

Authors, English -- 19th century -- Archives

### **Names**

Beerbohm, Max, Sir, 1872-1956