

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss papers

GEN MSS 947



by Karen Spicher

2013 April

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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 947

CREATOR: De Palchi, Alfredo, 1926-

TITLE: Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss papers

DATES: 1920s-2005

BULK DATES: 1990-2005

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 18.4 linear feet (49 boxes)

LANGUAGE: In English and Italian.

SUMMARY: The Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss Papers contain correspondence between de Palchi and Raiziss and with others, concerning their writings, the literary journal *Chelsea*, and literary prizes; poems, other writings, and English translations of Italian poetry by de Palchi and Raiziss; writings by others, mostly Italian poetry translated into English by Raiziss and de Palchi, published by them in *Chelsea*, or submitted for literary prizes sponsored by them; clippings and other printed material relating to writings of de Palchi and Raiziss, and to other poets; biographical information about Raiziss and scrapbooks of ephemera relating to her early life and education at the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, 1920s; a few audiocassettes and videocassettes relating to poets and poetry readings; and a small amount of photographs and drawings. Research strengths include poetry by de Palchi and Raiziss; translation of Italian poetry into English by them and others; their editorship of *Chelsea*; other 20th-century Italian poets and their translators; the Academy of American Poets and the Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship; and the Bordighera Poetry Prize.

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

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.depalchi>.

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
■■■■ item barcode

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Alfredo de Palchi, 1997-2006.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 47 (computer disks): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Box 48 (audiotape reel): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Box 49 (audiovisual materials): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss papers 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.

Conditions Governing Use

Audiocassettes in boxes 22, 37, and 38: Use of originals is restricted. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Videocassettes in box 36: Use of originals is restricted. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Preferred Citation

Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This collection consists of materials formerly classed as Uncat MS Vault 791, Uncat MS Vault 820, Uncat MS Vault 857, Uncat MSS 132, Uncat MSS 185, Uncat MSS 498, Uncat MSS 579, Uncat MSS 784, and Uncat MSS 861. In 2013, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including partial rehousing and minimal organization. The collection was reclassified under one call number, materials were organized into series, and containers were renumbered in a single sequence. Most folder titles were based on information provided by the donor, while some were assigned by Library staff. Most names in the Correspondence and Writings of Others series were updated to conform to Library of Congress name authorities. Folder titles were not verified against contents.

Associated Materials

Chelsea Records (GEN MSS 1090)

Alfredo de Palchi (1926-)

Italian poet and translator. De Palchi was born in Italy and emigrated to the United States, settling in New York City in 1956. In 1952 he married poet and translator Sona Raiziss, with whom he edited the literary journal *Chelsea*, 1966-1994. After Raiziss's death in 1994, de Palchi edited *Chelsea*, 1994-2007, and has continued to manage the Sonia Raiziss Giop Charitable Foundation. He married Rita di Pace in 1989. Chelsea Editions, a subdivision of Chelsea Associates, edited by de Palchi, publishes bilingual editions of literature, mostly contemporary Italian poetry with English translation.

Sona Raiziss (1909-1994)

American poet and translator, also spelled Sonia Raiziss. Raiziss was born in Germany, was raised in Philadelphia, and attended the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, and Columbia University. Her translations include poetry of Alfredo de Palchi, whom she married in 1952. With de Palchi, she edited the literary journal *Chelsea*, 1966-1994. Raiziss founded the Sonia Raiziss Giop Charitable Foundation, which continues to fund the Jane Austen Essay Contest, the Bordighera Poetry Prize, and the Raiziss/de Palchi Translation Awards.

Scope and Contents

The Alfredo de Palchi and Sona Raiziss Papers contain correspondence between de Palchi and Raiziss and with others, concerning their writings, the literary journal *Chelsea*, and literary prizes; poems, other writings, and English translations of Italian poetry by de Palchi and Raiziss; writings by others, mostly Italian poetry translated into English by Raiziss and de Palchi, published by them in *Chelsea*, or submitted for literary prizes sponsored by them; clippings and other printed material relating to writings of de Palchi and Raiziss, and to other poets; biographical information about Raiziss and scrapbooks of ephemera relating to her early life and education at the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, 1920s; a few audiocassettes and videocassettes relating to poets and poetry readings; and a small amount of photographs and drawings. Research strengths include poetry by de Palchi and Raiziss; translation of Italian poetry into English by them and others; their editorship of *Chelsea*; other 20th-century Italian poets and their translators; the Academy of American Poets and the Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship; and the Bordighera Poetry Prize.

Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Correspondence, 1961-2005. II. Writings, 1930s-1999. III. Writings by Others, 1939-2003. IV. Printed Material, 1930s-1950s. V. Other Papers, 1920s-1930s.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1961-2005

5.84 linear feet (14 boxes)

Correspondence includes letters concerning writings of de Palchi and Raiziss, literary prizes managed by them, writings of others, and *Chelsea*. Some letters enclose drafts of writings or photographs. Unsorted correspondence may include additional letters from correspondents who are individually listed.

Additional correspondence is in Series II, Writings, and Series III, Writings of Others.

Organized into two subseries: Sona Raiziss; and Alfredo de Palchi. Each subseries is arranged alphabetically by correspondent, followed by unsorted correspondence.

Sona Raiziss		
b. 1	de Palchi, Alfredo	1966 July-August
b. 1	Unsorted 10 Folders	
b. 2	Unsorted 11 Folders	
b. 3	Unsorted 12 Folders	
b. 4	Unsorted 13 Folders	
b. 5	Unsorted 10 Folders	
Alfredo de Palchi		
b. 5	Academy of American Poets 4 Folders About the Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship	1994-2002
b. 6	Academy of American Poets 17 Folders About the Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship	1994-2002
b. 7	Academy of American Poets 16 Folders About the Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship	1994-2002
b. 7	American Association for Italian Studies	1998
b. 8	BOA Editions 2 Folders	1997, 1999
b. 8	Bordighera Press	2001
b. 8	Bressan, Michela	1997-1998

Alfredo de Palchi (continued)

b. 8	Buffoni, Franco	1996-1997
b. 8	Byrne, Elena Karina <i>2 Folders</i>	2003
b. 8	Farina, Raymond <i>3 Folders</i>	1997-2000
b. 8	Gioseffi, Daniela <i>5 Folders</i> About the Bordighera Poetry Prize	
b. 9	Gioseffi, Daniela <i>2 Folders</i> About the Bordighera Poetry Prize	
b. 9	Italian Poetry Society of America	1996-1997
b. 9	Lawner, Lynne <i>3 Folders</i>	
b. 9	Live Poets Society	
b. 9	Marangoni, Marco	1992, 1994
b. 9	Pasanisi, Roberto	1996-1997
b. 9	Piazza Nicolai, Adeodato	1997
b. 9	Raiziss, Sona <i>4 Folders</i>	circa 1961-1965
b. 9	Società operaia di mutuo soccorso ed istruzione San Vito al Tagliamento <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 10	Stortoni, Laura Anna	1997
b. 10	Vettori, Alessandro	1997
b. 10	Westermann, Barbara <i>3 Folders</i>	1997-1999, undated
b. 10	Wilentz, Ted <i>5 Folders</i>	1997
b. 10	Xenos Books <i>3 Folders</i>	1996-2002
b. 10	Zollo, Vincenzo	1993
b. 10	Correspondence removed from books	1994-2005, undated
b. 11	Unsorted <i>15 Folders</i>	1996-2000, undated
b. 12	Unsorted <i>14 Folders</i>	1996-2000, undated

Alfredo de Palchi (continued)

b. 13	Unsorted <i>16 Folders</i>	1996-2000, undated
b. 14	Unsorted <i>17 Folders</i>	1996-2000, undated

Series II: Writings, 1930s-1999*6.72 linear feet (17 boxes)*

Includes drafts of poetry, poetry collections, and other writings by de Palchi and Raiziss, some with related correspondence. Raiziss's writings include translations of poetry by de Palchi. The Writings by Sona Raiziss and Alfredo De Palchi subseries consists mostly of English translations of Italian poetry of other writers, some with related biographical information and correspondence. Some of these writers are also represented in Series III, Writings of Others.

Organized into three subseries: Sona Raiziss and Alfredo de Palchi; Sona Raiziss; and Alfredo de Palchi. Each subseries is arranged alphabetically by work title or genre, followed by unsorted writings.

Sona Raiziss and Alfredo de Palchi

- | | |
|-------|---|
| b. 15 | Italian poetry translations and notes
<i>11 Folders</i>
Includes poetry of Arnaldo di Benedetto, Vincenzo Cardarelli, Bartolo Cattafi, Eugenio Montale, Mario Novaro, Lucio Piccolo, Leonardo Sinisgalli, David Turoldo, Giuseppe Ungaretti, and others |
| b. 15 | Other poetry translations
<i>2 Folders</i> |
| b. 16 | Other poetry translations
<i>4 Folders</i> |
| b. 16 | Other poetry translations by Sona Raiziss and others
<i>2 Folders</i> |

Sona Raiziss

- | | |
|-------|--|
| b. 16 | <i>Bucks County Blues</i>
<i>8 Folders</i> |
| b. 17 | <i>Bucks County Blues</i>
<i>7 Folders</i> |
| b. 17 | <i>Free Fall</i>
<i>4 Folders</i> |
| b. 18 | <i>Modern European Poetry</i> (Bantam Books, 1978)
<i>15 Folders</i>
Includes translations of: Dino Campana, Giorgio Caproni, Vincenzo Cardarelli, Bartolo Cattafi, Luciano Erba, Alfonso Gatto, Eugenio Montale, Giorgio Orelli, Cesare Pavese, Lucio Piccolo, Salvatore Quasimodo, Umberto Saba, Rocco Scotellaro, Vittorio Sereni, Leonardo Sinisgalli, David Turoldo, and Giuseppe Ungaretti |
| b. 19 | <i>Modern European Poetry</i> (Bantam Books, 1978)
<i>4 Folders</i> |
| b. 19 | Translations of poetry by Alfredo de Palchi
<i>5 Folders</i> |
| b. 19 | Translations of Italian poets at Spoleto
<i>3 Folders</i> |

Sona Raiziss (continued)

b. 20	Translations of Hungarian poems <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 20	Translations, unsorted <i>11 Folders</i>	
b. 21	Poems, unsorted <i>10 Folders</i>	
b. 22	Poems, unsorted <i>10 Folders</i> Audiocassette: use of original is restricted. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	
b. 49, IIIII 39002091399288	Sonia Raiziss introducing reading from the Italian <i>1 Audiocassette 00:37:48 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] gen_mss_0947_39002091399288.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile material.	undated
b. 23	Poems, unsorted <i>21 Folders</i>	
b. 24	Poems, unsorted <i>12 Folders</i>	
b. 25	Other writings, unsorted <i>6 Folders</i>	
b. 31 (Oversize)	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, most by or about Sona Raiziss	1930s-1950s
Alfredo de Palchi		
b. 25	<i>Addictive Aversions</i> . Drafts and reviews <i>7 Folders</i>	1999
b. 26	<i>Addictive Aversions</i> . Drafts and reviews	1999
b. 26	<i>Anonymous Constellation</i> . Translated by Sona Raiziss. Drafts <i>7 Folders</i>	1996-1997
b. 26	<i>Essenza carnale</i>	
b. 26	<i>Movimenti, momenti, e mutazioni</i> . Drafts <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 27	<i>Movimenti, momenti, e mutazioni</i> . Drafts <i>9 Folders</i>	
b. 27	<i>The Scorpion's Dark Dance</i> . Drafts and correspondence <i>4 Folders</i>	
b. 28	<i>The Scorpion's Dark Dance</i> . Drafts and correspondence <i>7 Folders</i>	
b. 28	Writings, unsorted <i>4 Folders</i>	1961-1997

Alfredo de Palchi (continued)

b. 29	Writings, unsorted <i>9 Folders</i>	1961-1997
b. 30	Writings, unsorted	1961-1997
b. 30	Reviews, unsorted <i>3 Folders</i>	
b. 31 (Oversize)	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, most by or about Alfredo de Palchi	1960s

Series III: Writings of Others, 1939-2003*3.34 linear feet (8 boxes)*

Contains writings by and about authors, translators, and visual artists, some with related correspondence. Some writings of others relate to *Chelsea* or to translations by Raiziss or de Palchi; additional translations may be found in Series II, Writings.

Box 49 (audiovisual material): Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Arranged alphabetically by name of author or subject.

b. 32	Allen, Beverly	undated
b. 32	Allen, William	1997
b. 32	Bertoldo Roberto. <i>Il calvario delle gru</i>	2002
b. 32	Biagioni, Amelia. "The Hunts"	undated
b. 32	Bortolani, Ljuba Merlina <i>2 Folders</i>	1996-1998
b. 32	Byrne, Elena Karina	2003
b. 32	Caproni, Giorgio <i>4 Folders</i>	2001-2002
b. 33	Carle, Barbara <i>5 Folders</i>	2000
b. 33	Di Pasquale, Emanuel <i>10 Folders</i> Includes typescript of <i>Escapes the Night</i> and a published copy of "Europa" Includes translations of poems by Roberto Bertoldo, Milo De Angelis, and Silvio Ramat	2000-2003, undated
b. 34	Di Pasquale, Emanuel <i>8 Folders</i> Erba, Luciano See also: Sereni, Vittorio	2000-2003, undated
b. 34	<i>The Hippopotamus</i>	undated
b. 34	<i>The Metaphysical Streetcar Conductor</i> <i>2 Folders</i>	1998
b. 35	<i>The Metaphysical Streetcar Conductor</i> <i>6 Folders</i>	1998
b. 35	Other writings <i>3 Folders</i>	1996-1997
b. 35	Greenberg, Samuel. <i>Poems from the Greenberg Mss.</i> , edited by James Laughlin	1939
b. 35	Hahn, Robert	2003

b. 35	Jackson, Laura (Riding) <i>2 Folders</i> Includes material from the Laura (Riding) Jackson Symposium held in 1998, and the Laura (Riding) Jackson Home Preservation Foundation	1998
b. 36	Jackson, Laura (Riding) <i>7 Folders</i> Includes material from the Laura (Riding) Jackson Symposium held in 1998, and the Laura (Riding) Jackson Home Preservation Foundation. Videocassettes: use of original is restricted. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1998
b. 36, ■■■■ 39002102370203	Jackson, Laura (Riding). "To Let Be, and Let Do: Laura (Riding) Jackson in Florida." 15:12 (copy 1) GENMSS947_0001 <i>1 Videocassette (VHS) 00:15:55 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] GENMSS947_0001	1998 October
b. 36, ■■■■ 39002102370211	Jackson, Laura (Riding). "To Let Be, and Let Do: Laura (Riding) Jackson in Florida." 15:12 (copy 2) GENMSS947_0002 <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> This tape was not digitized. It is a duplicate.	1998 October
b. 46 (Oversize)	Jackson, Laura (Riding). "A Short Sentence for Private Reflections on the Universal Length of Meaning," limited edition broadside, signed	1995
b. 37	Manzoni, Alessandro. <i>The Betrothed</i>	1954
b. 49, ■■■■ 39002091243197	Montale, Eugenio / Sereni, Vittorio. <i>1 Audiocassette 00:29:41 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] gen_mss_0947_39002091243197.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 37	Nalan, Felice	1966
b. 46 (Oversize)	OM	1976
b. 37	Piccolo, Lucio	1971-1973
b. 37	Quasimodo, Salvatore	2001
b. 37	Ridinger, Gayle Translation of poems by Camillo Sbarbaro	2002
b. 37	Sereni, Vittorio <i>5 Folders</i> See also: Montale, Eugenio	2002-2003, undated
b. 49, ■■■■ 39002091243205	Sereni, Vittorio / Erba, Luciano. <i>1 Audiocassette 00:54:37 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static and a high amount of hiss can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] gen_mss_0947_39002091243205_a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated

b. 38	Sicari, Giovanna	2003
b. 38	Snodgrass, Ann. <i>Knowing Noise: the English Poems of Amelia Rosselli</i> 2 Folders	
b. 38	Spencer, Theodore. <i>The Paradox in the Circle</i>	
b. 38	Ulrichs, Timm 8 Folders	
b. 38	Vitiello, Justin	
b. 39	Unsorted 13 Folders	

Series IV: Printed Material, 1930s-1950s*1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)*

Contains literary journals, photocopied articles, and clippings, some annotated by Raiziss or de Palchi, including materials relating to some names represented in Series III, Writings of Others. Unsorted materials may include additional writings by de Palchi and Raiziss.

b. 40	Scrapbook of clippings related to authors	circa 1940s-1950s
b. 41	Scrapbook of clippings related to poets	1930s-1940s
b. 41	Scrapbook of clippings	1940s
b. 41	Clippings, unsorted <i>2 Folders</i> Includes clippings related to poets	
b. 42	Other printed material, unsorted <i>13 Folders</i>	
b. 43	Other printed material, unsorted <i>15 Folders</i>	

Series V: Other Papers, 1920s-1930s*0.54 linear feet (3 boxes)*

b. 44	Photographs and drawings <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 44	Sona Raiziss personal papers <i>3 Folders</i> Contains biographical information, identification cards, and school transcripts	
b. 45 (Oversize)	Sona Raiziss scrapbook Contains clippings, drawings, correspondence, and ephemera, most relating to the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, or to European travel	1920s-1930s
b. 46 (Oversize)	Sona Raiziss University of Pennsylvania diploma	

Computer media and audiovisual material*0.29 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Computer media

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| b. 47 | FREE FALL 76 pp. Poems by SONIA RAIZISS Selected and Edited by Emanuel diPasquale
2003-genm-0923-d-0001
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 47 | Coperfine -Il calvario delle gru-
2003-genm-0604-d-0005
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 47 | From Fire to Water: On the Poetry of Alfredo De Palchi Barbara Carle
2003-genm-0604-d-0003
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 47 | The calvary of the Cranes di R. Bertoldo Versone WinWord 2000 e Versone RTF
2003-genm-0604-d-0001
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 47 | The Calvary of the Cranes di R. Bertoldo Version Macintosh ([illegible] corrispondere)
2003-genm-0604-d-0002
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 47 | NEW AND SELECTED POEMS by Emanuel di Pasquale
2003-genm-0604-d-0004
<i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>
Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | |
| b. 48 (Oversize),
■■■■ 39002091243213 | Montale, Eugenio / Sereni
<i>1 Audiotape Reel; 1/4 inch; diameter 10 inches 00:29:41 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information. | 1961 December 3 |

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.

University of Pennsylvania -- Students

Preferred Titles

Chelsea (New York, N.Y.)

Contributors

De Palchi, Alfredo, 1926-
Raiziss, Sona

Subjects

American poetry -- 20th Century
Italian poetry -- 20th Century -- Translations
into English
Italian poetry -- 21st century -- Translations
into English
Literary prizes -- United States
Little magazines -- United States
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Poets, Italian -- 20th Century -- Archives
Poets, Italian -- 21st century -- Archives
Women poets, American -- 20th Century --
Archives

Genres / Formats

Audiovisual materials -- United States -- 20th
Century
Born digital -- United States -- 20th Century
Photographs -- United States -- 20th Century
Scrapbooks -- United States -- 20th Century
Sound recordings -- United States -- 20th
Century

Occupations

Poets -- Italy -- 20th Century
Poets -- Italy -- 21st century
Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

De Palchi, Alfredo, 1926-
De Palchi, Alfredo, 1926- -- Translations into
English
Raiziss, Sona

Corporate Bodies

Academy of American Poets
Cornell University -- Students