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**University of Memphis Libraries
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126 Ned R. McWherter Library
Memphis, TN 38152 - 3250
Phone: (901) 678 - 2210
E-mail: lib_sc@memphis.edu

Kayak press collection

Title: Kayak press collection
Collection No: MSS.129
Extent: 1.25 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1962-1977 and undated

Abstract: The collection contains copies of publications produced by the Kayak press based in Santa Cruz, California, between 1962 and 1977.

Processed by: Katherine Shockley, 1980; Gerald Chaudron, 2023.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: Kayak press collection, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis

Publication date: 2023 November

Administrative Information

Kayak was a small press that published in Santa Cruz, California, from 1962. It was founded by poet, playwright and artist George Parks Hitchcock (1914-2010) and became the publishing arm of his magazine of the same name. In the pages of Kayak publications are some of the first published works of people who became major poets and literary figures in California, as well as wood cuts and lithographs of some of the state's artists. This press emphasized surrealist poetry, for which it stimulated some controversy and won awards. All material published by this press was handset. A portion of Kayak's funding came from government grants.

Scope and contents

This collection includes the press's literary magazine; works by individual writers; and catalogs, advertising, and other ephemera of the press.

Subject terms

Kayak Press.

Poetry, Modern--20th century.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder

unfoldered

Kayak (literary magazine), George Hitchcock (ed.), Vol. 1-46, 1964-1977.

Literary works by individual authors published by Kayak Press:

George Hitchcock - Mel Fowler, *Poems & Prints*, 1962.

George Hitchcock, *Tactics of Survival*, art by Ann Parisi, 1964.

Kathleen Fraser, *Change of Address & Other Poems*, 1966

John Tagliabue, *A Japanese Journal*, art by Francesca Greene, 1966.

Fernando Alegria, *10 Pastoral Psalms*, art by Suzanne Vanlandingham, 1967.

Lennart Bruce, *Making the Rounds*, 1967.

Louis Hammer, *Bone Planet*, 1967.

Robert L. Peters and George Hitchcock (eds.), *Pioneers of Modern Poetry*, 1967.

Lennart Bruce, *Observations*, 1968.

Luis Garcia, *Mr. Menu*, 1968.

Yvan Goll, *Selected Poems*, art by Jean Varda, 1968.

H.R. Hays, *Selected Poems*, 1933-67, 1968.

Howard McCord, *Longjaunes His Periplus*, 13 color prints by George Nama, 1968.

Edouard Roditi, *New Hieroglyphic Tales*, art by Modesto Roldán, 1968.

Robert Bly, *The Morning Glory: Another Thing that will Never be My Friend*, art by Tomie de Paola, 1969, 1969-1970.

Kathleen Fraser, *In Defiance of the Rains*, art by Judy Starbuck, 1969.

George Hitchcock (ed.), *Losers Weepers: An Anthology of Found Poems*, 1969.

George Hitchcock, *Twelve Stanzas in Praise of the Holy Chariot*, 1969.

Thanasis Maskaleris, *Poems and Translations*, 1969.

Morton Marcus, *Origins*, art by Fernando Mercado, 1969.

Morton Marcus, *Origins*, art by Gary H. Brown, 1969.

Howard McCord, *Fables and Transfigurations*, 1969.

W.S. Merwin, *Animae*, art by Lynn Schroeder, 1969.

Robert Peterson, *Wondering Where You Are*, art by Walt Kuhlman, 1969.

Richard Shelton, *Journal of Return*, art by George Nama, 1969.

Georges Zuk, *Selected Verse*, Robin Skelton (trans.), 1969.

Charles Simic, *Somewhere Among Us a Stone is Taking Notes*, art by George Hitchcock, 1969.

James Tate, *Row With Your Hair*, art by Mel Fowler, 1969.

Keith Wilson, *Homestead*, art by Robert McChesney, 1969.

Lennart Bryce, *The Mullioned Window*, art by George Hitchcock, 1970.

Eric Barker, *Under Orion*, art by Francesca Greene, 1970.

Raymond Carver, *Winter Insomnia*, art by Robert McChesney, 1970.

Lawrence Fixel, *The Scale of Silence*, 1970.

Robert Mezey, *A Book of Dying*, art by Dane Olson, 1970.

Stephen Parker, *A Lifetime of Happiness!*, 1970.

R.G. Vliet, *The Man With the Black Mouth*, art by Diane Perham, 1970.

Robert Desnos, *22 Poems*, Michael Benedikt (trans.), art by Jacqueline Airamé, 1971.

George Hitchcock, *Another Shore*, 1971.

John Haag, *The Brine-Breather*, 1971.

Philip Levine, *Red Dust*, art by Marcia Maris, 1971.

Howard McCord, *Maps: Poems Toward an Iconography of the West*, art by Robert Sterling, 1971. (2, different covers).

William Pillin, *Everything Falling*, art by Polia Pollin, 1971.

Robin Skelton, *A Different Mountain: Messages 1962-1970*, 1971.

Nanos Valaoritis, *Hired Hieroglyphs*, 1971.

Diane Vreuls, *Instructions*, 1971.

Nancy Willard, *19 Masks for the Naked Poet*, art by Regina Shekerjian, 1971.

Lennart Bruce, *Letter of Credit*, art by Wilton David, 1973.

George Hitchcock, *Notes of the Siege Year*, 1974.

Louis Hammer, *Lying on the Earth*, art by Ludwig Zeller, 1975.

H.R. Hays, *Inside My Own Skin*, 1975.

Stephen Kessler, *Nostalgia of the Fortuneteller*, 1975.

William Pillin, *The Abandoned Music Room*, art by Polia Pollin, 1975.

John Unterecker, *Dance Sequence*, art by George Weinheimer, 1975.

James Grabill, *Clouds Blowing Away*, art by Douglas R. Fiely, 1976.

William Harmon, *The Intussusception of Miss Mary America*, art by Douglas McClellan, 1976.

George Hitchcock, *The Counterfeit Rose: A Baroque Comedy*, 1976.
Jascha Kessler, *In Memory of the Future*, 1976.
Linda Lappin, *Wintering with the Abominable Snowman*, 1976.
Robin Magowan, *Looking for Binoculars*, art by Norman Mallory, 1976.

Box 2

Bert Meyers, *Sunlight on the Wall*, art by John Digby, 1976.
Jay Wright, *Dimensions of History*, 1976.
Richard Grossman, *Tycoon Boy*, 1977.
Roberto Juarroz, *Vertical Poetry*, W.S. Merwin (trans.), art by Susana Wald, 1977.
Lou Lipsitz, *Reflections on Samson*, art by Philp Kuznicki, 1977.
Fernando Alegria, *Instructions for Undressing the Human Race*, art by Matta,
undated.
Eight Poets of Germany & America, selected and translated by Heiner Bastian and
George Hitchcock, art by Rolf Gentz, undated.
George Hitchcock, *A Ship of Bells*, art by Mel Fowler, undated.
Robin Magowan, *Voyages*, undated.
Robert Peterson, *Home for the Night*, art by Mel Fowler, undated.
Charles Simic, *What the Grass Says*, art by Joan Abelson, undated.
John Tagliabue, *The Buddha Uproar*, art by Jacqueline McFarland, undated.
Jean Varda, *A Portfolio: 26 Lithographs*, undated.

1 Publishers' advertisements, catalogs, 1967, 1971 and undated.