MSS0129. Kayak press collection finding aid

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Kayak press collection

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


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 of 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

unfolded


Literary works by individual authors published by Kayak Press:

Kathleen Fraser, Change of Address & Other Poems, 1966
Fernando Alegria, 10 Pastoral Psalms, art by Suzanne Vanlandingham, 1967.
Lennart Bruce, Making the Rounds, 1967.
Louis Hammer, Bone Planet, 1967.
Lennart Bruce, Observations, 1968.
Luis Garcia, Mr. Menu, 1968.
Yvan Goll, Selected Poems, art by Jean Varda, 1968.
Howard McCord, Longjaunes His Periplus, 13 color prints by George Nama, 1968.
Edouard Roditi, New Hieroglyphic Tales, art by Modesto Roldán, 1968.

**Box 2**

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.
Robin Magowan, *Voyages*, undated.