First and foremost, I am pleased to announce that Lisa Carter has been appointed the new Associate Director for Special Collections and Area Studies. Lisa comes to us from North Carolina State University where she was Head of the Special Collections Research Center, and, prior to that, Head of Special Collections at the University of Kentucky. Lisa brings, then, to Ohio State a wealth of experience, but, equally important, energy, insight and vision as she has long been among the national leaders in emerging trends in special collections librarianship.

Lisa’s arrival at Ohio State on April 1, 2011 was auspicious and, perhaps, a harbinger of good times ahead as the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library (RBMS) acquired two outstanding research collections. I do note that Library administration has always strongly supported RBMS, as you will observe by mention of other significant acquisitions in this current Newsletter. But the two collections described forthwith are of especial recognition.

The Ohio State University Libraries (OSUL) and the Columbus Museum of Art (CMA) have partnered in the acquisition of the record books and ledger of internationally renowned artist George Bellows (1882 – 1925). Bellows, acclaimed as among the greatest American artists of his generation, maintained meticulous records of his artistic production including sales and exhibition showings. Moreover, Bellows augmented the record books with over 200 thumbnail sketches of his original art. These documents are a unique research resource for the study of the historical book market and the taste and culture of early 20th-century America. The Bellows Collection will be housed in the secure and atmospherically controlled stacks area of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library. In addition, the Bellows Collection will be digitized for world-wide access. As a shared resource, the Bellows Collection will also be an invaluable asset to CMA for informing study of its outstanding collection of Bellows paintings. The Bellows Collection was acquired from the Bellows Trust that assumed stewardship of the materials upon the death of Bellows’ daughter, Jean Bellows Booth.

The William Charvat Collection of American Fiction is the strongest research book collection at Ohio State and among the premier American fiction collections in the nation. Over the years, we have enriched the book collection through the addition of important contemporary American literary manuscripts. The latest addition is the complete archives of the landmark Mysterious Press. The Mysterious Press was founded and edited by Otto Penzler who is universally deemed the world’s foremost authority on and publisher of mystery fiction, a man about whom Robert B. Parker has written, “[He] knows more about crime fiction than most people know about anything.” The archives offered here represent not only (continued on page 3)
Schwartz Films

One of our most heavily used collections, the archive of Lillian Feldman Schwartz, received a wonderful boost this year, in the form of three film preservation projects. Two of Schwartz’s short animations, *UFOs* (1971) and *Galaxies* (1974) were “adopted” by the Orphans Film Symposium 8, and received preservation attention by Moving Image Archiving and Preservation staff and students in New York University’s Department of Cinema Studies. NYU personnel then provided valuable assistance and support to Rare Books and Manuscripts that resulted in two grants to fund the preservation of other Schwartz films: one from the Women’s Film Preservation Fund of New York Women in Film and Television, Inc., for *Googolplex* (1972); and an Avant-Garde Masters Grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation for *Enigma* (1972), *Mutations* (1972), *Olympiad* (1973), *Papillons* (1973), and *Pixillation* (1970). We look forward to sharing the fresh, glistening colors of these films with our friends when the projects have been completed.

Photographs included in “Shared Intelligence” exhibition

Two very popular treasures from the photograph collection are currently on loan to the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum as part of the exhibition “Shared Intelligence: American Painting and the Photograph,” a show which opened at The Columbus Museum of Art in February before traveling to Santa Fe. The gelatin silver prints formed part of a portfolio of twelve “rayographs” by Man Ray, entitled *Champs Délicieux*. The Ohio State University’s copy of this rare selection originally belonged to Man Ray’s patron, Ferdinand Howald of Columbus, Ohio, who supported him while he worked in Paris in 1921-22. It is joined in our collection by a group of ten letters written to Howald by the artist, describing his work and that of contemporaries, such as Braque and Picasso. Howald’s heirs donated this precious collection to the great art collector’s alma mater, where it continues to awe students and faculty alike.

~ Lisa Iacobellis
Assistant Curator, RBMS
the complete manuscripts, corrected proofs, and correspondence of the Mysterious Press’ publications, but pristine copies of all galleys, limited editions, and first editions of the press, as well as other items. Among the many important and influential writers represented in this unique archive are Eric Ambler, Kingsley Amis, Isaac Asimov, Lawrence Block, Jerome Charyn, Len Deighton, Harlan Ellison, James Ellroy (6 titles altogether, including *The Black Dahlia* and *L.A. Confidential*), Erle Stanley Gardner, Patricia Highsmith, Elmore Leonard (represented by important miscellaneous materials), Ed McBain, John D. McDonald, Ruth Rendell, Rex Stout, Donald E. Westlake (some 9 titles are included), Gahan Wilson, and numerous others. No other comparable collection of papers representing such breadth and depth of mystery fiction has been, or is likely ever to be offered for institutional sale. Among Mr. Penzler’s many awards are an Edgar Award, the Raven Award given by the Mystery Writers of America for Lifetime Achievement, the Ellery Queen Award given by the Mystery Writers of America for contributions to the world of mystery publishing, and most recently, as the editor of *The Lineup*—named by *The New York Times* as one of the 10 Best Books of 2009.

Faculty support for acquisition of the collection was tremendous with various Ohio State scholars noting the significance of the Mysterious Press Collection: “in a few decades collections like this will be very important case studies of author-publisher relations at the pivotal moment just before and at the beginning of the transition from print to digital;” “this extensive, unique, and intact collection holds tremendous research value to literary scholars and historians working in an array of fields, including history of the book, popular culture, media studies, literary history, manuscript studies, and genre studies, as well as on individual treatments of the many cultural figures whose work and correspondence figure in the collection;” “Otto Penzler is the central figure in mystery publishing (generously defined) of the last half century and any institution that acquires what he has assembled will automatically become THE place to research any of the authors here represented, American genre fiction more generally, and American trade publishing in the late twentieth century (a period, I suspect, we will look back on as the height of the industry). But rich as it is in isolation, the Mysterious Press archive would be even richer and more useful if housed here at OSU with the extraordinarily impressive Charvat collection;” “contents of this archive—specializing as it does in popular contemporary mystery writers—would make it an especially engaging archive for introducing students to history of the book scholarship, and I could actually imagine creating a course around this archive;” and, “I am happy to see correspondence and manuscripts from some of the hardboiled writers who are essential to the history of the crime novel—Ed McBain, Cornell Woolrich, Erle Stanley Gardner—as well as materials from some of my favorite women writers—Ruth Rendell, Marcia Muller, Patricia Highsmith, and Charlotte MacLeod.”

The Mysterious Press Collection, then, will be an outstanding contribution to an already impressive collection of American literary manuscripts. Again, we owe great thanks to Library Administration for support of this acquisition and equal thanks to our OSU faculty colleagues, for, though our collections serve the international research community, one of our primary missions remains to promote the teaching and scholarship at Ohio State.

~ Geoffrey D. Smith,
Professor & Head, Rare Books & Manuscripts Library
With over 800 disjunct leaves, approximately 100 legal documents and just over two dozen codices, RBMS’s collection of pre-1600 Western European manuscripts is modest, but diverse—and it continues to grow. Still not fully recorded are the uncounted manuscript fragments recycled in past centuries for use in fifteenth and sixteenth-century book bindings. And if recent history is any indication of future trends in collection growth, new manuscript acquisitions will continue to be added to RBMS’s holdings at a steady rate.

Since Autumn 2009, through a combination of targeted purchases and generous donations, RBMS has acquired eleven new codices, more than thirty disjunct leaves from manuscripts produced from 1100-1450, an extensive fifteenth-sixteenth century family archive, a substantial fourteenth-century trial record written on a scroll nearly two meters long, assorted early-fifteenth century fiscal records dealing with payments made to clerics and minstrels, and a rare palimpsest featuring a musical text likely used within a classroom environment in late-fourteenth century Italy. Other assorted leaves have also joined our collections, as have three unique late-medieval manuscript-related artifacts: two bone parchment scrapers and a leather bag of the type used to carry the small pocket bibles that were so popular across Europe from the mid-thirteenth century onward.

Overall, the collection includes theological treatises, pastoralia, humanist texts, diplomatics, liturgical and musical books, patristic works, secular literature, hagiography, devotional tracts, biblical materials, academic expositions, and more. RBMS’s manuscripts offer teachers, researchers, and students a wealth of original primary materials to use in their own scholarly work. Numerous courses, such as “Medieval Manuscript Studies” and “Gothic Paris,” to name only two, draw upon RBMS holdings to enrich their curricula, while a number of in-progress research projects and forthcoming publications focus on particular items from the collection. RBMS manuscripts also serve as the foundation for ambitious undergraduate research efforts, such as the term-long individual studies projects by Benjamin Durham (on a 16th-century Parisian Book of Hours) and Isabelle Bateson-Brown (on an early-15th century Cistercian Processional) that were featured at the International Medieval Congress at Western Michigan University in May 2011. Acquisitions drive use and use, in turn, propels further acquisition. As RBMS’s collections continue to grow we look forward to introducing more teachers, students, and researchers—as well as more original primary medieval and renaissance manuscripts—to our growing collection.

Bone parchment folders/scrapers. England, ca. 1400.

Leather Bible bag. England, ca. 1400.


Catalan MS: Complete record of a disputed benefice. Manuscript on parchment in Latin and Old Catalan. Spain (Catalonia), Sant Sadurní de Subirats. May 1422.

Isabelle Bateson-Brown and Ben Durham at Kalamazoo 2011

Northern French family archive. 80 manuscript documents on parchment. Northern France, ca. 1413-1570.

De admirabili sacramento eucharistie. Manuscript on paper in Latin and German. Southern Germany, ca. 1460-80.
Early this year, the Rare Books & Manuscripts Library was able to expand its Irish Poets Collection with the aid of Waiting for Godot Books of Hadley, Massachusetts. Waiting for Godot had amassed a large collection of works by Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney. RBMS was granted right of first refusal on the lot and was able to purchase several dozen items. In conjunction with this acquisition, I was given the task of documenting RBMS’s new and existing holdings related to Heaney and developing a finding aid for those items.

A descriptive bibliography of Heaney’s works is already in print (Seamus Heaney: A Bibliography, 1959-2003, by Rand Brandes and Michael J. Durkan), and my original goal was to create a finding aid for the print monographs in the RBMS library by correlating our collection with the Brandes & Durkan bibliography. I also took special care to identify items published after the existing bibliography’s scope. The Heaney finding aid has since grown to include anthologies; serials; exhibit and program catalogs; broadsides, cards, and other ephemera; translations; interviews; and sound recordings, and describes some 225 items.

There are three main accomplishments of this project: First, I linked Heaney's name with 81 items to which he made contributions that are unrecorded in the library’s catalog due to cataloging conventions. Second, I documented 29 items in the RBMS collection that were published after the scope of the Brandes and Durkan bibliography. Finally, I discovered 36 items in the RBMS collection that were published before the existing bibliography but were not documented by Brandes and Durkan.

I believe the value and source of interest for this collection are the items that are truly rare because of

**Eleven Poems.** Festival Publications, Queen’s University of Belfast, Belfast, (1965).

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**Among Schoolchildren.** In Memory of John B. Malone. A Public Lecture given by Seamus Heaney on 9 June 1983. (First Edition, original green wrappers; navy wrappers, second state of wrappers.)
the story behind them – such as the first issue of Verses for a Fordham Commencement. This folded pamphlet contains a poem read by Heaney during the commencement at which he received his honorary degree from Fordham University. A sudden downpour during the event caused everyone to scramble for cover, leaving most of the pamphlets to be abandoned and destroyed. The collection also features the first three issues of Heaney’s first publications (Eleven Poems) as well as several limited, special, and hors commerce editions.

This collection spans the entirety of Heaney’s career, from his very earliest publications. It is a valuable resource, not only for the cross-section it provides of Heaney’s contribution to the body of Irish literature, but also for some of the fine examples of art, typography, printing, and bookbinding techniques that it contains. The Heaney collection is truly an asset to the already impressive and ever-developing Irish Poets Collection.

~ Joe Miller

Joe Miller completed an extensive and thorough descriptive catalog of the holdings of Seamus Heaney in the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library as a practicum project for his Masters in Information and Library Science degree from Kent State University.


Seamus Heaney 1936-

On 31 May, De res: The Rare Books and Manuscripts Student Society wrapped up its first year as an official University student association with a rousing successful “open house” exhibition that highlighted twenty volumes from RBMS’s “hard science” collections. The event was held at the Vernier Physics Commons in the University’s Physics Research Building, rather than RBMS’s usual location in Thompson Library, in order to target a student and faculty community that normally has little chance or occasion to frequent the Special Collections Reading Room. Well over 100 undergraduates, graduate students, research associates, and faculty from OSU’s broad “hard science” community attended the event where they got a chance to leaf through Einstein’s earliest published work on general relativity (1916), the first printed physics textbook (Philip Melanchthon’s *Initia doctrinae physicae*, printed in Wittenberg in 1555), a mid-seventeenth century printing of Galileo’s collected works, Michael Faraday’s *Course of Six Lectures on the Various Forces of Matter* (1868), Gaspar Schott’s *Physica curiosa, sive mirabilia naturae et artis* (1667), a fascinating book about physical and biological marvels, and much more. De res plans to host similar awareness-raising events for the sciences and other distinct campus communities in the coming years.
RBMS Irish Collection

We are pleased to announce that we received our first seed gift for the beginning of an Irish Collection endowment from the Ohio Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The Irish Collection has long been a focus of collection development in Rare Books and Manuscripts with manuscript holdings of Samuel Beckett and extensive book holdings of major Irish authors such as James Joyce, William Butler Yeats and Seamus Heaney (you will see the article on Seamus Heaney by Joe Miller elsewhere in this Newsletter). A brochure about the Irish Collection is available upon request.

Another goal of RBMS has been to acquire a complete run of the Cuala Press. The Cuala Press (originally the Dun Emer Press, 1903 – 1907) was a private press operated by Elizabeth Yeats, sister of William Butler Yeats, from 1903 to 1940. After Elizabeth Yeats’ death in 1940, the press was run by Esther Ryan and Marie Gill until its demise in 1946. Inspired by William Morris’ Arts and Crafts Movement, the press published works by writers associated with the Irish Literary Revival. The Irish Collection of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library at the Ohio State University Libraries owns over eighty percent of the titles published by the Cuala Press and we are searching valiantly for the remaining twenty percent.

Third Annual RBMS Acquisitions Night

RBMS will host its third annual Acquisitions Night on 27 October from 6 – 8 pm. Attendees will get a chance to examine for themselves the wide array of new materials the Library acquired—from high-medieval manuscripts to modern fiction (and all points in between)—during the 2010-2011 academic year. RBMS curators and staff members will be on hand to talk about each item, answer questions, and point out significant highlights. Join us in the Special Collections Reading Room (Thompson Library Rm. 105) at 6 pm for introductory remarks and to view all of our wonderful new additions. A catered reception accompanying the viewing will be held in Thompson Library Rm. 204.
Selected New Acquisitions at RBMS


Haug Marschalck. *Von dem weyt erschollen Namen Luther...* Augsburg: Melchior Ramminger, 1523.


Rare Books Funds & Endowments

Special endowments and funds help support the teaching, research, outreach, collecting, and conservation missions of the Rare Books and manuscripts Library. If you would like to make a contribution to the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, please make a check out to The Ohio State University Libraries and designate the fund:

- Anne & Ray Groves Rare Books & Manuscripts Fund
- Bennett Avant Writing Collection Endowment
- Denney Fund for Books in the Age of Shakespeare
- Donald Wing Endowment (English imprints, 1640 – 1700)
- Emanuel Rudolph Children’s Science Collection Endowment
- Friends Incunabula Fund (fifteenth-century books)
- Friends of the Irish Fund
- Friends of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts
- Friends of Rare Books (general funds)
- Friends Reformation/Counter-Reformation Fund
- Friends of the William Charvat Collection of American Fiction
- Meek Endowment (James Thurber and Thurber related materials)
- Philip Keenan History of Astronomy Collection Endowment
- Richard Clarke Arnold and M. Ruth Jones Endowment (Photographic Collections)