



GUIDE TO THE CHRISTOPHER BRENNAN COLLECTION

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Title:	Christopher Brennan personal papers
Collection dates:	1887-1976
Creator:	E.L. Hadley M. Delmer
Languages represented:	English; French; Latin
Repository:	Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/
Extent:	2 boxes
Abstract:	The Christopher Brennan papers contain correspondence, part of a proof copy of Brennan's poems (1913), lecture notes, books, newspaper cuttings and etchings.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance

Purchased and donated by Ms E.L. Hadley and Ms M. Delmer. Esme Hadley (died 1970) studied at the University of Sydney, graduating in 1914 with a BA Honours in French and German. It was during her time at the university that she met Christopher Brennan. During the 1930s she studied in Germany where she saw Hitler's first rally and attended the Berlin Olympic Games. She taught at Sydney Girls High from 1933-37 and from 1945 until her retirement in 1956.

Access

Rare Books and Special Collections is a closed access collection located on Level 1 of Fisher Library. Please make an appointment to use material from Rare Books and Special Collections using the online request form at <https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/request-form.html>

Staff will retrieve the material for you which must be read under supervision in the Rare Books Reading Room. You must provide identification (eg, University of Sydney library card, driver's license, passport) while you are using the material.

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consult with Rare Books and Special Collections Library staff for further information concerning these conditions.

Preferred citation

Christopher Brennan personal papers , Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library.

Biographical note

Christopher Brennan (1870-1932) was an Australian poet and scholar. He was a graduate of the University of Sydney (philosophy and classics) and studied at the University of Berlin from 1892-94. After discovering the poetry of Stephane Mallarme he returned to Australia to devote the next 10 years of his life to poetry, in which he explored the theme of the search for Eden. He worked at the Public Library of New South Wales from 1895 to 1907. He was appointed lecturer in French and German at the University of Sydney in 1909. From 1920 to 1925 he was associate professor in German and Comparative Literature.

Local Catalogue Headings

Brennan, Christopher John, 1870-1932

Lindsay, Lionel, Sir, 1874-1961

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

1. Letters from Christopher J. Brennan (CJB) to F.S.(Frederick Sefton) Delmer, 14 December 1900, Easter 1901. Includes transcriptions.
F.S. Delmer taught at Sydney Grammar School with Dowell O'Reilly and was responsible for introducing Brennan and O'Reilly.
2. Letter from Dowell O'Reilly to F.S. Delmer, undated. Undated. Includes transcription.
3. Letters from CJB to Esme Hadley, 1914-1923. 6 autograph letters signed.
4. Correspondence between Professor A.R. Chisholm (Dept. of French, University of Melbourne) and E.V. Steele (Librarian, Fisher Library) Feb-Oct. 1955. 20 letters.
5. C.J. Brennan, Poems. Corrected galley proofs. Pages 129-194.
Pastiche 18.9.13 Manuscript.
6. The burden of Tyre. Fifteen poems by C.J. Brennan. Privately printed by Harry F. Chaplin. Sydney, 1953.
#193 of 300 copies.
7. CJB's lecture notes on Stephane Mallarme, 1913-14. 8pp.
8. I am so deep in day..., 1931. Typescript poem.
Death, 1919. Published in Fellowship, 5(10), May 1919.

9. Stephane Mallarme. Poesies. (Editione complete, 5eme edition). Paris: Nouvelle Revue Francaise, 1913.
With CJB's signature tipped in.
10. Mallarme's L'Apres-midi d'un Faune. Paris: Leon Vanier, 1887. Delmer's copy.
11. Ad. van Bever and Paul Leautaud. Poetes d'Aujourd'hui 1800-1900. Paris: Societe du Mercure de France, 1900.
12. Lucretius. De rerum natura. London: Cambridge, [1901]. With CJB's signature tipped in.
13. Studio portrait of F.S. Delmer. Undated. Photograph.
14. Two etchings by Lionel Lindsay. Kept in Box 2. Item 1: Brennan as Cardinal Wolsey, with signature by Brennan; Item 2: Brennan as Marlowe, with poems by Brennan.
15. Newspaper cuttings relating to Christopher Brennan, 1915-1960.
16. Book Lover. No. 198, 1 October 1915. [Contains poem "Her soul's death-cry" by Dowell O'Reilly.]
17. Provenance notes about Ms M. Delmer's Brennan material. Manuscript notes by Ms Esme Hadley.
18. John Le Gay Brereton to CJB. 18/2/1917. Correspondence.