

# Guide to the John Christie archive

## MSS 21



YCBA Library Court. Photograph by Richard Caspole, YCBA, 2016.

Institutional Archives  
1080 Chapel Street  
P. O. Box 208280  
New Haven, CT 06520-8280  
(203) 432-8395  
[ycba.institutionalarchives@yale.edu](mailto:ycba.institutionalarchives@yale.edu)  
<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Center for British Art, Institutional Archives  
Institutional Archives  
1080 Chapel Street  
P. O. Box 208280  
New Haven, CT 06520-8280  
(203) 432-8395  
ycba.institutionalarchives@yale.edu  
<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

**CALL NUMBER:** MSS 21

**CREATOR:** Christie, John, 1945-

**TITLE:** John Christie archive

**DATES:** 1975-1995

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection comprises material concerning the production of seven artist's books by John Christie.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.mss.0021>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.mss.0021>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is unprocessed and may not be available for immediate access.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright Undetermined

The collection is the physical property of the Yale Center for British Art. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the Archives Department.

## Scope and Contents

The collection comprises material concerning the production of seven artist's books by John Christie.

Books represented include: Listen / John Christie, with text by Erik Satie and translation by Simon Cutts (Circle Press, 1975) -- A walk along the shore / John Christie, with text by Kenneth White (Circle Press, 1977) -- In the open air / John Christie with text by Thomas A. Clark (Circle Press, 1982) -- Nine intersections / John Christie with text by Gael Turnbull (Circle Press, 1982) -- As from a fleece / John Christie with text by Gael Trumbull (Circle Press, 1990) -- By. On. About / John Christie (Objectif, 1995) -- Dividing the light / John Christie with text by Thomas A. Clark (Objectif, 1995).

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## Collection Contents

- b. 1, f. 1      Listen  
Material for: Listen / John Christie, with text by Erik Satie and translation by Simon Cutts. Circle Press, 1975: A. Dummy book: original copy of the projected publication -- B. Monoprint: "Voices, voices..." -- C. Photo positive: positive of the title label -- D. Prospectus: eight different designs (two copies of "Through Frozen Air..."); front has print from book, reverse has publishing information -- E. Letters from Ron King to John Christie, concerning publication information -- F. Translation: Sports et Divertissements; written by Erik Satie and translated by Simon Cutts; original published in 1914.
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- b. 1, f. 2      A walk along the shore  
Material for: A walk along the shore / John Christie, with text by Kenneth White. Circle Press, 1977: A-J Collages: 10 original silk-screened images from the book (one not used) -- K. Dummy layout: 82 pages with corrections by Ron King -- L. Film positives: 23 designs used to make the photoscreens -- M. Photocopy: A Few Signs In the Sand; Kenneth White. Includes White's notes and corrections -- N. Photocopy: A Walk Along the Shore; Kenneth White. Includes White's corrections -- O. Prospectus: publication information.
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- b. 1, f. 3      In the open air  
Material for: In the open air / John Christie with text by Thomas A. Clark. Circle Press, 1982: A-D. Color spreads: four layouts for the book done in watercolor, graphite, and ink.
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- b. 1, f. 4      Nine intersections  
Material for: Nine intersections / John Christie with text by Gael Turnbull. Circle Press, 1982: A. Dummy book: original copy of the projected publication -- B. Proof pages: 12 test pages of graphics from book -- C. Unbound copy of the book.
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- b. 2, f. 5      As from a fleece  
Material for: As from a fleece / John Christie with text by Gael Trumbull. Circle Press, 1990: A. Dummy book: full size; original copy of the projected publication -- B. Dummy book: smaller size; original copy of the projected publication -- C. Letterpress proof sheets: six test pages with corrections by Gael Trumbull -- D. Review: "Artists Books - New BookWorks," written by Cathy Courtney; from Art Monthly -- E. Silkscreen positives: in envelope; various positives from book.
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- b. 2, f. 6      By. On. About  
Material for: By. On. About. /John Christie. Objectif , 1995: A. Book layout: 4 pages, printed and hand-colored -- B. Trial pages: 32 pages, printed and hand-colored.
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- b. 2, f. 7      Dividing the light  
Material for: Dividing the light / John Christie with text by Thomas A. Clark. Objectif, 1995: A. A4 Sheets of Notes: 4 pages regarding the dividing of the colors in book -- B. Color version: copy of book with color divides -- C-E. Dummy books: three copies of the projected publication from 1983.
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## 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.

### Preferred Titles

*Christie, John, 1945- As from a fleece*  
*Christie, John, 1945- By. On. About*  
*Christie, John, 1945- Dividing the light*  
*Christie, John, 1945- In the open air*  
*Christie, John, 1945- Listen*  
*Christie, John, 1945- Nine intersections*  
*Christie, John, 1945- Walk along the shore*

### Genres / Formats

Artists' books  
Artists' books -- Great Britain  
Book designers' mock-ups  
Collages (visual works)  
Correspondence  
Proofs (printed matter)  
Prospectuses

### Names

Christie, John, 1945-  
King, Ron, 1932-

### Corporate Body

Circle Press

### Contributors

Christie, John, 1945-  
Clark, Thomas A.  
Courtney, Cathy  
Cutts, Simon, 1944-  
King, Ron, 1932-  
Satie, Erik, 1866-1925  
Turnbull, Gael  
White, Kenneth, 1936-  
Circle Press  
Objectif (Publisher : London)