

# Guide to the Dachine Rainer Papers

YCAL MSS 639



by Beinecke staff

2007-05-16

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 639

**CREATOR:** Rainer, Dachine (1921-2000)

**TITLE:** Dachine Rainer papers

**DATES:** 1913-2000

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 36.59 linear feet (42 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection documents the life and work of poet and author Dachine Rainer (pseudonym of Sylvia Newman) and her relationships with other literary figures, particularly Rebecca West. Material includes correspondence, writings, personal papers, photographs, printed material, and a computer disk.

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

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.rainer>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Bernard Quaritch Ltd. on the Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund, 2001.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 41 (computer disk): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Box 42 (correspondence): Restricted until 2060. For further information consult appropriate curator.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Dachine Rainer Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Dachine Rainer Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Formerly classed as Uncat MSS 139.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization, at the time of acquisition. Further organization and description was carried out in 2012.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Dachine Rainer (1921-2000)

Dachine Rainer, American-born poet, author, and anarchist. Rainer was born Sylvia Newman in New York on January 13, 1921, and studied English literature at Hunter College. Her published works include: poems, essays, and articles in periodicals such as *The New Republic* and *The Nation*; and the books *The Uncomfortable Inn* (1960) and *Giornale de Venezia* (1996). Rainer befriended Rebecca West after moving to London in 1961. She died on August 19, 2000 and is buried in Highgate Cemetery.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection documents the life and work of poet and author Dachine Rainer (pseudonym of Sylvia Newman) and her relationships with other literary figures, particularly Rebecca West. Material includes correspondence, writings, personal papers, photographs, printed material, and a computer disk.

## **Arrangement**

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence, 1930-2000. II. Rebecca West Material, 1913-1996. III. Writings, 1936-1996. IV. Personal and Other Papers, 1938-2000.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1930-2000

9 linear feet (9 boxes)

b.1	"A" general	1955-1981
b.1	<i>Agenda</i> 2 Folders	1986-1997
b.1	<i>Artwatch</i>	2000
b.1	Auden, W. H.	1941-1973
b.1	Avrich, Paul	1977, 1988
b.1	"B" general	1959-1985
b.1	Babel, Isaac, related correspondence	1967-1968
b.1	Balcomb, John	1970-1993
b.1	Ballantine, Edward J. 3 Folders	1963-1983
b.1	Barrer, Gertrude	1948-1949
b.1	Bayley, John	1994-1996
b.1	Bellow, Saul	1942
b.1	Berryman, John	undated
b.1	Bernelle, Agnes	1980-1989
b.1	Bogan, Louise	1941
b.1	Brokenshaw, Louise	1966-1979
b.1	Burke, Jackson	1953-1954
b.1	"C" general	1962-1973
b.2	Cantine, Therese (Rainer's daughter) 13 Folders	1953-1996
b.2	Chomsky, Noam	1996 September 23
b.2	Chwast, Seymour 2 Folders	1947-1993
b.2	Comfort, Alex	1983-1996
b.2	"D-E" general	1941-1963
b.3	"F" general 2 Folders	1943-1985

b. 3	"G" general	1958-1970
b. 3	"H" general	1942-1990
b. 3	Hennacy, Ammon	1942-1948
b. 3	<a href="#">Huxley, Aldous</a>	1938
b. 3	Isherwood, Christopher	1949-1977
b. 3	"J" general	1948-1979
b. 3	"K" general	1948-1961
b. 3	Krim, Seymour	1956-1970
b. 3	"L" general	1951-1993
b. 3	Levertov, Denise	1960-1961
b. 3	"M" general	1930-1984
b. 3	MacDonald, Nancy and Dwight <i>2 Folders</i>	1960-1983
b. 3	Mailer, Norman	1955-1992
b. 3	Murdoch, Iris	1967
b. 3	"N-O"	1967-1981
b. 3	<i>New Directions</i>	1950-1990
b. 3	Newman, Esther (Rainer's mother) <i>4 Folders</i>	1945-1973
b. 3	Newman, Carl (Rainer's brother) <i>2 Folders</i>	1962-1995
b. 4	Newman family	1967-1999
b. 4	"P" general	1942-1993
b. 4	Pacifism	1960
b. 4	Patchen, Kenneth	1942-1945
b. 4	The Pushpin Group and miscellaneous	1980-1990
b. 4	"R" general	1946-1966
b. 4	Rachewiltz, Mary de	1983-1991
b. 4	Raine, Kathleen	1994-1996
b. 4	<i>Retort</i> <i>11 Folders</i>	1943-1948
b. 4	Rexroth, Kenneth	1941-1969

b. 4	Russell, Bertrand	1960-1961
b. 4	Russell, Peter	1972
b. 5	"S" general <i>2 Folders</i>	1941-1975
b. 5	Salzburg, University of	1995-1998
b. 5	Shirley, George	1969-1989
b. 5	Sistine Chapel Restoration, correspondence about	1992
b. 5	<i>Spectator</i>	1996-1998
b. 5	"T-U" general	1945-1973
b. 5	"W" general	1948-1981
b. 5	Walter, Nicholas	1988 February- April
b. 5	West, Kitty	1964-1999
b. 5	Woodcock, George	1946-1995
b. 5	Yale	1996-1998
b. 5	Cards. Seasonal, birthday and travel <i>12 Folders</i>	undated
b. 6	Cards. Seasonal, birthday and travel <i>19 Folders</i>	undated
b. 6	Sympathy cards (Teddy's death)	1968
b. 6	Unsorted literary correspondence <i>6 Folders</i>	undated
b. 7	Unsorted literary correspondence <i>19 Folders</i>	undated
b. 8	Unsorted literary correspondence <i>3 Folders</i>	undated
b. 8	Miscellaneous unsorted correspondence <i>20 Folders</i>	1950-1999
b. 9	Miscellaneous unsorted correspondence <i>18 Folders</i>	1950-1999



**Series II: Rebecca West Material, 1913-1996**

1.21 linear feet (2 boxes)

## Dachine Rainer Correspondence

b. 10	West to Rainer <i>5 Folders</i>	1962-1982, undated
b. 10	Andrews, Henry (West's husband)	1962-1968
b. 10	Rainer to West and Andrews <i>2 Folders</i>	1961-1978
b. 10	Rainer's correspondence regarding Rebecca West to publishers and newspapers, outlines for the Rebecca West Reader, Kitty West, Hetty Muirhead	1960-1973

## Writings

b. 10	"In Search of Rebecca West's Harry," copy of typescript	1967
b. 10	"This Happens Down Our Way All the Time" Typescript poem by West with revisions. Photocopy of the title page from "Oh Heaven and Poems Written On Active Service" by Ford Hueffer with inscriptions.	1968
b. 10	Rainer's notes on West	1960-1970
b. 10	"Dame Rebecca West-Disturber of the Peace," typescript, corrected	1965
b. 10	"No Thanks," excerpts regarding West	1975
b. 10	Articles on Rebecca West by Rainer that appeared in <i>The New Republic</i> , <i>Manchester Guardian</i> , <i>Commonwealth</i> , <i>Spectator</i> , and <i>Sunday Telegram</i> , printed versions	1957-1971
b. 10	Drafts and corrected manuscripts on West by Rainer	undated
b. 10	Reviews and articles written by Rebecca West, clippings	1913-1980
b. 10	Reviews and interviews of Rebecca West, clippings	1946-1979
b. 10	West ephemera <i>4 Folders</i> Includes newspaper clippings, notes, articles and the order of service for West's funeral at St.Martin-in-the-Field	1982-1986
b. 11	Photographs <i>7 Folders</i> Also stored in: Oversize Box 41	undated

**Series III: Writings, 1936-1996**

16.25 linear feet (18 boxes)

b. 12	"The Fragile Idyll" (also called "L'Escargot"), original manuscript, photocopies with corrections, carbons, typescripts, drafts, notes, correspondence, and related material <i>13 Folders</i>	1950-1980
b. 13	"The Fragile Idyll" (continued) <i>9 Folders</i>	1950-1980
b. 13	"In Search of Rebecca West's Harry," autograph manuscript and copy <i>2 Folders</i>	1967
b. 13	"For The Three Of Us," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 14	"No Thanks," typescripts, photocopies, notes, related material, and correspondence <i>11 Folders</i>	1975
b. 15	"No Thanks" <i>5 Folders (Includes 1 computer disk.)</i> Computer disks are restricted. Copies of electronic files may be requested through Access Services: Disk #2001.ycal.0313-g, "BOOK.DOC. PART2.DOC. PART3.DOC"	1975
b. 16	"Copper Colored," typescript copies, some corrected, photocopies, notes, and related material <i>17 Folders</i>	1979
b. 17	"Adam and Eve," autograph manuscript notes, typescript introduction, layout, photographs, and illustrations <i>6 Folders</i> Also stored in: Oversize Box 41	1975
b. 17	"Rembrandt," manuscript, typescripts of various drafts, correspondence, notes, and other material <i>10 Folders</i>	1972-1975
b. 18	"The Uncomfortable Inn," edited manuscript, typescript numerous copies, reviews, related correspondence, and notes <i>11 Folders</i>	1960
b. 19	"The Uncomfortable Inn" (continued) <i>4 Folders</i>	1960
b. 20	"Cousins: The Will of Marion Harbord," typescript, manuscript, numerous photocopies, some corrected, notes, and related material <i>12 Folders</i>	1993
b. 21	"Cousins: The Will of Marion Harbord" (continued) <i>6 Folders</i>	1993
b. 21	"The Will of Mitt," final typescript, pages 1-50 missing <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 21	"For The Three of Us"	undated
b. 21	"Outside Time," manuscript, corrected and typescript (copies)	1939

b. 21	"Giornale di Venezia," galleys, notes, corrected manuscript, reviews, and correspondence <i>2 Folders</i>	1996
b. 22	"Giornale di Venezia" (continued) <i>7 Folders</i>	1996
b. 22	"Famous Americans," typescript	undated
b. 22	Censorship	1985
b. 22	"Tom Keating and the Art Establishment," manuscript, corrected, clippings, notes, photographs, and correspondence <i>2 Folders</i>	1976
b. 22	"Ballet," manuscript, corrected, notes, photographs, and correspondence	1970
b. 22	Anti-War, manuscript, clippings, notes, and correspondence <i>2 Folders</i>	1991
b. 23	Selected Poems, typescripts, notes, and correspondence <i>12 Folders</i>	1961-1987
b. 23	"Ripeness Is All," manuscript, photocopies, and notes	1936-1969
b. 23	The Early Poems, handwritten and typed poetry with related correspondence <i>3 Folders</i>	1940-1960
b. 24	"Premonition of Bedlam," working copy <i>2 Folders</i>	1939
b. 24	"Loves Delights and Lamentations," edited typescript and photocopies	undated
b. 24	"Cambridge and Vienna," manuscript, with other writings	1966
b. 24	"Anarchism: Recent Thoughts," manuscript, notes and correspondence	1972
b. 24	"Double Agent," manuscript, newspapers and corrected typescript	1955
b. 24	"Borneo," manuscript and notes	1970
b. 24	"Conversations With My Dog," manuscript, edited typescript and notes	undated
b. 24	"Lost," typescripts, corrected <i>3 Folders</i>	undated
b. 24	Reviews Includes published reviews by Rainer that appeared in various magazines and correspondence with editors	1952-1980
b. 24	"The Story Of An Infatuation," typescript, carbon copy	undated
b. 24	"The Cat Door," typescript, corrected, notes	undated
b. 25	E. E. Cummings, notes, writings, correspondence, and related material about the poet <i>6 Folders</i>	1955-1962
b. 25	Balcomb, manuscript, corrected (copy)	1986

b. 25	The Artist Bonnington, notes, letters, rewrites, and synopsis	1978
b. 25	"Ezra Pound: Reminiscences and Opinions," typescripts, manuscript, related material, correspondence, notes and clippings <i>6 Folders</i>	1986-1992
b. 26	"Ezra Pound: Reminiscences and Opinions" (continued) <i>17 Folders</i>	1986-1992
Periodicals featuring Rainer's work		
b. 27	<i>Anarchy</i>	1962-1968
b. 27	<i>Commonwealth</i>	1964-1968
b. 27	<i>Liberation</i>	1961-1964
b. 27	<i>Listener</i>	1967
b. 27	<i>Nation</i>	1956-1961
b. 27	<i>New Republic</i>	1955-1970
b. 27	<i>New Statesman</i>	1980
b. 27	<i>The Match</i>	1987
b. 27	<i>Francis Routh</i>	undated
b. 27	<i>The Spectator</i>	1990-1995
b. 27	<i>Syracuse</i>	1961
b. 27	<i>The Wasp</i>	1952-1954
Unsorted writings by Rainer and others		
b. 28	Poems, short stories, notes, and related material <i>16 Folders</i>	1950-1996
b. 29	Poems, short stories, notes, and related material <i>17 Folders</i>	1950-1996

**Series IV: Personal and Other Papers, 1938-2000**

8.83 linear feet (10 boxes)

b. 29

Diaries and Address Books		
b. 30	Diaries <i>17 Folders</i>	1961-1979
b. 31	Diaries <i>16 Folders</i>	1980-1994
b. 32	Diaries <i>8 Folders</i>	1995-2000
b. 32	Address books, notebook <i>5 Folders</i>	undated
Student Papers		
b. 33	Morris High School Yearbook	1938
b. 33	Hunter College essays and school papers <i>2 Folders</i>	1938-1941
b. 33	Hunter College diploma	1941
b. 34	Dwelley Farm <i>20 Folders</i>  Includes letters to police, private investigators, British Parliament, local government agencies, newspapers, tradesmen, utility companies and chemical laboratories.	1978-1984
b. 35	Dwelley Farm (continued) <i>20 Folders</i>	1978-1984
b. 36	Dwelley Farm (continued) <i>21 Folders</i>	1978-1984
b. 37	Dwelley Farm (continued) <i>7 Folders</i>	1978-1984
b. 38	Real estate papers	undated
b. 38	Legal papers	undated
b. 38	Medical papers <i>13 Folders</i>	1950-1999
b. 38	Passports and government-issues documents	1967-1997
b. 39	Spiral notebooks <i>3 Folders</i>	undated
b. 39	Unsorted material, correspondence, typescripts, notes, and clippings <i>3 Folders</i>	1954-1971
b. 39	Unsorted material, correspondence, typescripts, notes, and clippings <i>13 Folders</i>	undated

b. 39

Financial papers

undated

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**Oversize**

*0.08 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 40 (Oversize) Photographs (from Series II) undated  
*2 Folders*

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b. 40 (Oversize) "Adam and Eve," photographs (from Series III)

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## Computer media

*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

"No Thanks" (from Series III)  
*(1 computer disk)*

b. 41

Formatted 25.10.89 MICROSOFT WORD 5.0 BOOK.DOC PART2.DOC PART3.DOC  
2001-ycal-0313-g-0001  
*15.25\_floppy\_disk*

Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

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**Restricted**

*1 linear foot (1 box)*

- b. 42                      Correspondence (restricted until 2060)  
                                 Restricted until 2060. For further information consult appropriate curator.
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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.

### **Subjects**

American literature -- 20th Century  
American poetry -- 20th Century  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives  
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

### **Genres / Formats**

Born digital  
Photographs

### **Occupations**

Authors  
Poets

### **Names**

Rainer, Dachine (1921-2000)  
West, Rebecca, 1892-1983