

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Kit Smyth Basquin Collection of Mary Ellen Bute

YCAL MSS 1007



by Beinecke staff

December 2019

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Collection Overview

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

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 1007

CREATOR: Basquin, Kit , collector

TITLE: Kit Smyth Basquin collection of Mary Ellen Bute

DATES: 1920s-2000

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 12.25 linear feet (13 boxes) + 3 record album storage

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: Writings, correspondence, printed material, and other papers relating to Mary Ellen Bute.

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

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.basquinbute>.

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.

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

b. box
 item barcode

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Kit Smyth Basquin, 2010, 2011.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Boxes 12-16 (audiovisual materials): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Kit Smyth Basquin Collection of Mary Ellen Bute 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.

Preferred Citation

Kit Smyth Basquin Collection of Mary Ellen Bute. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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 as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

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.

Collection Contents

Series I: Alphabetical files, 1927-2000

5 linear feet (4 boxes)

b.1	Chronology and contacts - addresses	
b.1	Chronology by Kit Basquin	1980s
b.1	Notebook, "Mary Ellen Bute, 5/19/84 -, notes on clippings and thoughts"	circa 1984
b.1	Notebook, "Mary Ellen Bute II, 8/9+10/ 84, Hampton Boys"	1984 August 9-10
b.1	"Abstronic - 1st electronically animated"	
b.1	"MEB Early - How she got into film"	
b.1	M. E. B.	1970s-1980s
b.1	"Bute Early 1930s - application for Guggenheim Fellowship"	circa 1930
b.1	Various Mary Ellen Bute materials	circa 1980s-1990s
b.1	Animated films - abstract film	
b.1	M. E. Bute: early documents	
b.1	Mary Ellen Bute and early clients	1970s
b.1	Mary Ellen Bute aesthetics	
b.1	"Bute - History of Getting into Cinema - relates to Rhythm in Light"	
b.1	"Mary Ellen Bute - Peter's donation to Whitman"	1970s
b.1	"Zack Bowen - Re: music; Finn Film"	
b.1	"James Bute Co."	1986
b.1	John Bute, Mary Ellen Bute and James Bute finances	
b.1	"MEB late"	
b.1	"Mary Ellen Bute, d '83, 1980s and obits"	1980s
b.1	Avant-Garde films	1980s
b.1	Bibliography / addresses	
b.1	"Book"	1984-1986
b.1	"Biography"	1985-1987
b.1	Angles magazine	1998 January
b.1	"Authorization by Ted Nemeth"	

b.1	"Zack Bowen on Bute - 6/12/87 in Milwaukee interview"	1987 June 12
b.1	"The Boy Who Saw Through"	
b.1	Cannes Film Festival	1986, 1988
b.1	Circus train film	
b.1	"Commercial Script by Ted Nemeth?"	
b.1	Kenneth Clark - Civilization film	
b.1	Correspondence	1985, 1989
b.1	Color Rhapsody <i>2 Folders</i>	
b.1	"Do"	
b.1	"Donnell Library, NYC"	
b.2	Disney	
b.2	Eastman House	1991 March 19
b.2	Eisenstein and Bute	1980s
b.2	Escape <i>2 Folders</i>	
b.2	Floating University <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1927
b.2	40 Horse Hitch <i>2 Folders</i>	
b.2	Houston	
b.2	Houston Public TV - KUHT TV Channel 8	
b.2	"Mom's Bute file"	
b.2	James Joyce Society	1993
b.2	Princeton [empty folder]	
b.2	Ireland	1987
b.2	Houston Map	
b.2	Gotham Book Mart	circa 1989
b.2	Interviews and letters <i>3 Folders</i>	
b.2	"Lewis Jacobs - Film History, including Bute"	
b.2	James Joyce Society, NY	
b.2	Joyce and Lacan	1987

b. 2	Joyce Paper - long version [empty folder]	
b. 2	"Joyce Paper, June '87 Kit"	1987 June
b. 2	Joyce conference	1987 June 11-16
b. 2	Kit's Play	1985
b. 2	Yoshio Kishi - Mary Ellen at work	1987 February 18
b. 2	"Kit, Angles, Spring '98"	circa 1998
b. 2	"Kit's Correspondence Re: Bute book"	1980s-1990s
b. 2	Kit	
b. 2	"Mary Ellen Bute: Search for Animation" <i>3 Folders</i>	1985
b. 3	"Margo Lion Nemeth, Ted Nemeth Jr.'s ex-wife"	
b. 3	"Patrick McCarthy on Bute's FW"	
b. 3	Madison Wisconsin Film archive	1985
b. 3	"Marquette Lecture on FW film"	1990 March 27
b. 3	Mailing list	
b. 3	Mary Manning	1986 October 20
b. 3	Marry Manning - Passages from Finnigan's Wake or the Voice of Shem	
b. 3	Norman McLaren	1986 September 21
b. 3	Mood contrast oscilloscope	
b. 3	Marquette University, lecture by Kit Basquin - Bute's Wake	1994 September 27
b. 3	Mobilcolor film, McLaren, and Cecile Starr	circa 1982
b. 3	Museum of Modern Art <i>2 Folders</i>	1982-1987
b. 3	Bute file at MOMA, NY '95	1995
b. 3	Music	
b. 3	"James Nemeth (see tape interview)"	
b. 3	Ted Nemeth, Jr.	
b. 3	"Oscilloscope - electronic test instrument which employs a cathode ray tube to display wave forms, currents and other visual patterns - Cecile Starr"	
b. 3	Paintings	
b. 3	Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts	

b. 3	Parabola	
b. 3	Pastoral	
b. 3	"Paper read before the New York Musicological Society"	1932 January 31
b. 3	"Ted Nemeth - d. Dec. '86" <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 3	"Letters from MEB - 1978 (to Mom) and 1980"	1978-1980
b. 3	Play - Kit	1985 December 9
b. 3	Polka Graph	
b. 3	Photographs <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 3	Pricelist and bills	
b. 3	Publishing	
b. 3	Religion	
b. 3	Rhythm in Light	
b. 3	Cecile Starr <i>3 Folders</i>	1985, 1995-1996
b. 4	The Skin of Our Teeth <i>3 Folders</i>	
b. 4	Sorbonne	circa 1928
b. 4	"Virginia Gibbs Smyth - interview and comments (see tape transcript)"	
b. 4	Edward Steichen - taped by Ted Nemeth	circa 1962
b. 4	Synchromy No. 2	
b. 4	"Albert Glinsky on Theremin - see his book"	1996
b. 4	"Whitman - Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking"	
b. 4	Isabel Wilder letters to Mary Ellen Bute	1960 May 31-1980 September 8
b. 4	Isabel Wilder - correspondence and interview with Kit Basquin	
b. 4	"Thornton Wilder re: Bute"	
b. 4	Thornton Wilder, 1897-1975	1970s
b. 4	Will	
b. 4	Women filmmakers	

b. 4	Women's Independent Film Exchange - Cecile Starr	
b. 4	Yale <i>3 Folders</i>	1980s
b. 4	Mary Ellen Bute at Yale, 1925-1926	1980s
b. 4	Yale Film Study Center	1987
b. 4	Cecile Starr <i>2 Folders</i>	1996-1997

Series II: Finnegans Wake, 1939-2000*2.5 linear feet (2 boxes)*

b. 5	Finnegans Wake <i>3 Folders</i>	
b. 5	"Discussion Guide, Finnegans Wake"	
b. 5	"FW - John Hardy"	
b. 5	Kit and Finnegans Wake	
b. 5	Finnegans Wake, Montreal Festival	1982
b. 5	Zurich paper	1996 June 18
b. 5	Experts on Ireland	
b. 5	FW Bute - Intro to Film - M.U.	1994 September
b. 5	Bute Lectures at Marquette University	1994 September 27
b. 5	"Lecture, MU Bute Bio and FW"	1994 September 27
b. 5	Botticelli	
b. 5	FW: correspondence	
b. 5	"Press Clipping FW - reviews mostly 1965-7"	1965-1967
b. 5	Color / Joyce revision	1988 June
b. 5	Close readings - Ulysses	
b. 5	Color in Ulysses	1988
b. 5	Romantic Love in Ulysses	
b. 5	Critical Articles in Ulysses	
b. 5	Visuals in Ulysses	
b. 5	Cinematic Techniques in Ulysses <i>2 Folders</i>	1980s
b. 5	"D. Schiff, animation film histories, Joyce scholar"	1996
b. 5	"Texas re: Bute"	1996
b. 5	Bute / Nemeth - photos	
b. 5	Texas Council for the Humanities	
b. 5	Gösta Werner: Joyce and film	1996
b. 5	UWM Library - donation	1985, 1997
b. 5	Joyce Conference, Wake - Berkeley	1939 July

b. 5	Expenses for Kit Basquin	1990 June 30
b. 5	Joyce Conference, Florida	1989
b. 6	Cecile Starr - Women's Independent Film Exchange <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 6	U.W.M. Lecture	1984 November
b. 6	Bute lecture	
b. 6	Bute Intro to Film, UWM	1986 November 20
b. 6	UWM Showing	1984 November
b. 6	"Duplicate of Bute Folder - given UWM"	
b. 6	Bute at UWM Library	
b. 6	Inventory of Bute Films and Papers at Yale	1987
b. 6	Peter Wintonick - Bute Interview	1982
b. 6	Spook Sport	
b. 6	Cecile Starr	2000
b. 6	Leopold Stokowski	
b. 6	Tarantella	
b. 6	"Technology - see bibliography"	
b. 6	Time Piece - Ted Nemeth	
b. 6	William York Tindall	
b. 6	UVM - Golda Meir Library	
b. 6	Walt Whitman - Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking	1960s
b. 6	Bute <i>3 Folders</i>	1997
b. 6	Texas	
b. 6	Mini-grant - Nov. 1 deadlines	1996
b. 6	Experimental artists	
b. 6	How Does Film Relate to a Novel?	1987 January 7
b. 6	James Joyce articles	
b. 6	Citizen Kane - Orsen Well	
b. 6	Bute Paper for Publication	1988
b. 6	Cinema in Finn	

b. 6 Cinematic Influences in Finnegans Wake circa 1986

b. 6 Miscellaneous pamphlets

Series III: Post-Bute, 1920s-1999*2.5 linear feet (2 boxes)*

b. 6	Posner / Harvard Film Association	circa 1999
b. 6	"Releases - agreements - permissions - forms"	
b. 6	Releases for Bute documentary video	
b. 6	Ron Powers, critique of Bute intro to Film showing - Breadloaf	1984
b. 7	Cinematic technique and reference in Finnegans Wake, through p. 308	
b. 7	Finnegan's Wake - Eng. 814, Fall '86	1986
b. 7	Mom's file - Kit and Mary Ellen Bute	
b. 7	Margo Lion	1996
b. 7	"Kit & MEB"	
b. 7	Mary Ellen Bute Nemeth <i>2 Folders</i>	
b. 7	Larry Mollot	1995-1996
b. 7	"U of Minnesota - re: FW"	
b. 7	Mary Manning	
b. 7	Bute paintings, and Mary Ellen Bute's residence on Grainary Park	
b. 7	Jim Nemeth	1996
b. 7	Bute obituaries	
b. 7	Bute - 1999 Women's Studies Conference, Marquette University	1999
b. 7	Finnegan's Wake - film intro Top of folder is labelled "Death: Films".	
b. 7	James Joyce - Ulysses <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1988
b. 7	Finnegan's Wake - James Joyce Contains large blue binder.	1939
b. 7	Joyce in Miluakee conference	1987 June 11-16
b. 7	Autobiography in Ulysses	
b. 7	Notes, personal papers	
b. 7	Joyce conference in Milwaukee	1987 June
b. 7	Miscellaneous	1980s
b. 8	Bute photos	1997

b. 8	1996 Harvard Film Festival - Articulated Light - Bruce Posner	1996
b. 8	Trieste	1998
b. 8	Joyce school <i>2 Folders</i>	1998 June
b. 8	John Bute interview - Houston	1995 October 19
b. 8	Interviews - Bower, McKay - Bute Film Memorial - Kardish, Lyman, Johnson, McKay <i>2 Folders</i>	1995
b. 8	Kit Do	
b. 8	"FW Casebook - Ed. John Harty - article by Ki"t	
b. 8	Film history <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1984
b. 8	"Descriptions of Documentary"	1996
b. 8	Early abstract films of MEB	
b. 8	Bute Paint Co., Houston - John Bute [empty folder]	
b. 8	Virginia Gibbs	1920s
b. 8	Anthology Film Archive	
b. 8	Bute	1996
b. 8	Soros Foundation - Funding - Eastern European Art	
b. 8	"Death: Drafts of NEA Grant"	
b. 8	"Death: NEA Grant Drafts"	
b. 8	Miscellaneous files	1990s
b. 8	Jessica Shamas - Bute videos	1999 April 1
b. 8	WHC Grant samples	
b. 8	Bute - grants	
b. 8	Mary Ellen Bute: Pioneer American Filmmaker, UMW library collection guide	1998
b. 8	Bute - 4th copy of script (first draft) - Cecile Starr <i>3 Folders</i>	circa 1999
b. 8	Box of Bute Papers from Ted Nemeth to Kit, 1985 - MEB tape 8/1/83 <i>2 Folders</i>	1983-1985
b. 9	Box of Bute Papers from Ted Nemeth to Kit, 1985 - MEB tape 8/1/83 Contains black binder.	1983-1985
b. 9	Cards sent by M. E. Bute	1970s
b. 9	Papers about Bute sent by Ted Nemeth to Kit Basquin in Milwaukee	circa 1984

Series IV: Other papers, 1920s-1985*1.42 linear feet (3 boxes)*

Includes photographs, clippings and printed material.

b. 9	Photographs 2 Folders	
b. 9	Miscellaneous correspondence and clippings	1920s-1930s
b. 9	Magazines and clippings	1925-1984
b. 9	Caricature - Houston Post Dispatch	circa 1929
b. 9	<i>On The Corner of Main and Texas: A Houston Legacy</i> , by Marie Phelps McAshan	1985
b. 9	Mary Ellen Bute Rolodex	
b. 10	M.E.B., "Plan for Study"	circa 1930
b. 10	Signs	
b. 10	Fabulous 40 Horse Hitch poster	
b. 10	Life, magazine	1968 December 27
b. 11 (Oversize)	"The Triest of Joyce School," poster	1998
b. 11 (Oversize)	Houston Post Dispatch - Sunday, August 20, 1929	1929 August 20

Series V: Audiovisual materials, 1961-1990s*0.83 linear feet (2 boxes) + 3 record album storage*

Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

	Audiocassettes	
		circa 1960s-1990s
b. 12	I: Kristine Nemeth, James Nemeth, ?, Hampton Bays <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1984 August 9
b. 12	Side 1 & 2: Edward Steichen : "Man to Man in Photography", Ted Nemeth - 630 Ninth Ave. <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	circa 1980s-1990s
b. 12	Ted Nemeth Jr. Re: Mary Ellen Berte <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1988 November 11
b. 12	Kit Basquii on Bute + Cerema <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1994 September 27
b. 12	Zack Bowain on Bute (Transcribed) <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1987 June 12
b. 12	"Virginia S. Low, Sayville, Poppie Train, mom talks on Jim Nemeth" <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1986 July 30- 1986 July 31
b. 12	Poppie on return from VT. (Stratton), ski trip, Mom re: Elizabeth Dillingham Edge <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1985 February 23
b. 12	Side A: Houston Virginia Gibbs on McAshan and Gibbs family history/Side B: party list on tea given by Rusty Gibbs <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1987 April 22
b. 12	Side A: Edward Steichen Man to Man in photography, taped by Ted Nemeth/ Side B: Steichen <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	circa 1962
b. 12	Side A: Isabel Wilder/Side B: Nici Temles <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1985 August 7
b. 13	Sides A & B: Isabel Wilder <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1985 August 7
b. 13	Isabel Wilder <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1987 July 9
b. 13	Sides A & B: Isabel Wilder <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1987 July 9
b. 13	Charleston, Nici-phone, "mix of things there that speak", for you ?, Like to get together, Bill ? Dici, Mary Manning <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1997 September-1997 October
b. 13	A: Copy of interview with Virginia Gibbs Smyth/Side B: Kit Basquin rehearsal for introduction to film presentation at UWN <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	circa 1994

Audiocassettes (continued)

b. 13	Side A: Ted side 3/Side B: Ted side 4 <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	Circa 1980s-1990s
b. 13	Ted Nemeth in Milwaukee <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	Circa 1980s-1990s
b. 13	Ted Nemeth in New York <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	Circa 1980s-1990s
b. 13	Vis. Arts (Transcribed) <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1983 February 10
b. 13	Side A: M & B + Ron Jarvis/Side B: Bute Koffman, Me on TV <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1976 May
b. 13	Finnegan's Wake readings <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1986
b. 13	NYC George Edge, Elizabeth Dillingham's second husband (Partially Transcribed) <i>1 Audiocassette</i>	1985 February 24
b. 13, ■■■■ 39002140908360	Side A: Ted Nemeth (partially transcribed)/Side B: Ted Nemeth (batteries ran down) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:18:43 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> The audio slowly decreases in the last 43 minutes of the program. The program starts and ends abruptly. Audio distortion, hiss, and hum are present. Audiovisual material: Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1984 November 22
b. 14 (Record album storage)	"James Joyce's Ulysses - Sirens - A Dramatic Reading Produced by Zack R. Bowen" - 33 1/3 RPM phonographic record set <i>1 Folder</i>	1966
b. 15 (Record album storage)	The James Joyce Society Presents: James Joyce Birthday Celebration, February 2, 1962 - 33 1/3 RPM phonographic record <i>1 Folder</i>	1962
b. 16 (Record album storage)	Meeting of the James Joyce Society, November 9, 1961, at the Gotham Book Mart in New York City - 33 1/3 RPM phonographic record <i>1 Folder</i>	1961

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

Cinematographers
Women motion picture producers and directors

Genres / Formats

Audiovisual materials
Photographs

Names

Bute, Mary Ellen
Wilder, Isabel, 1900-1995

Contributors

Basquin, Kit , collector
Bute, Mary Ellen , author of afterword, colophon, etc.