

Guide to the Bradley Smith Collection of Henry Miller

YCAL MSS 1554



by Nora Soto

May 2023

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Processing Information	4
Separated Materials	4
Bradley Smith (1910–1997)	4
Henry Miller (1891–1980)	5
Content Description	5
Arrangement	5
Collection Contents	6
Series I: March 2018 Acquisition, 1968–1978	6
Correspondence	6
Writings	6
Photographs	7
Series II: July 2018 Acquisition, 1970–1976	8
Correspondence	8
Writings	8
Selected Search Terms	9

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 1554

CREATOR: Miller, Henry, 1891-1980 , author

TITLE: Bradley Smith collection of Henry Miller

DATES: 1968-1978

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6.7 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: The collection contains correspondence, writings, photographs, and other papers relating to the books *My Life and Times* and *Insomnia: or, The Devil at Large*, written by Henry Miller and published by Bradley Smith's imprint Gemini Smith, Inc.

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

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.bsmith>.

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
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Glenn Horowitz Bookseller, Inc. on the Sinclair Lewis Fund and the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2018.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Bradley Smith Collection of Henry Miller 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

Bradley Smith Collection of Henry Miller. 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.

Various acquisitions associated with the collection have not been merged and organized as a whole. Each acquisition is described separately in the contents list below, identified by a unique call number and titled according to month and year of acquisition.

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. Information in brackets is also supplied by staff.

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

Separated Materials

Printed material received with the collection was removed for separate cataloging and can be accessed by searching the library's online catalog.

Bradley Smith (1910–1997)

Bradley Smith was an American photographer, author, and publisher who was a friend of Henry Miller. Under his imprint Gemini Smith, Inc., Smith published two books by Miller: *My Life and Times* (1971) and *Insomnia: or, The Devil at Large* (1974). Born on June 30, 1910 in New Orleans, Louisiana and raised in Karnes City, Texas, Smith worked as a freelance photographer for magazines such as *Click*, *The Saturday Evening Post* and *Time* in the 1930s and 1940s. He subsequently became a staff photographer for *Life*. In 1944, he co-founded the American Society of Magazine Photographers, a trade association and advocacy group. From the 1950s to 1980s Smith authored over twenty books, including the series *A History in Art*, as well as *Erotic Art of the Masters* (1970) and *The American Way of Sex* (1978). He died on August 28, 1997 in La Jolla, California.

Henry Miller (1891–1980)

Henry Miller was an American author and painter. A full biographical note for Henry Miller is provided in the finding aid for the Henry Miller Papers (YCAL MSS 472).

Content Description

The collection contains correspondence, writings, photographs, and other papers relating to the books *My Life and Times* and *Insomnia: or, The Devil at Large*, written by Henry Miller and published by Bradley Smith's imprint Gemini Smith, Inc. Correspondence consists of letters from Miller, Smith, photographers, publishers, and others involved in the books' publications. Other correspondents include Miller's friend Emil White. Writings include autograph manuscript drafts by Miller, as well as notes, drafts, galley proofs, and page proofs. Photographs include photographic prints, negatives, and slides for both books.

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. March 2018 Acquisition, 1968–1978. II. July 2018 Acquisition, 1970–1976.

Collection Contents

Series I: March 2018 Acquisition, 1968–1978

3.2 linear feet (5 boxes)

This series contains correspondence, writings, production files, and photographs relating to Miller's book *My Life and Times*, which was published by Smith's imprint Gemini Smith, Inc. in 1971. Correspondence includes letters exchanged between Miller and Smith, and letters from Miller's secretaries, Smith's assistants, photographers, and publishers. Also present are letters from American writer and artist Emil White, a friend of Miller. Writings include notes, drafts, galley proofs, and dummies. There are also photographic prints, negatives, and slides collected for the book.

Organized under three headings: Correspondence, Writings, and Photographs.

Correspondence

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 1, f. 1	Combs, Connie	1970–1972
b. 1, f. 2	Doyle, Chelagh	1972
b. 1, f. 3	Henderson, Nancy	1969–1970
b. 1, f. 4	Kunze, Sandra K.	1970–1971
b. 1, f. 5-6	Miller, Henry	1968–1978
b. 1, f. 7	Moses, Iris	1974
b. 1, f. 8	Niver, Juddy C.	1971–1972
b. 1, f. 9	Photographer permissions	1971
b. 1, f. 10	Publishers	1969–1973
b. 1, f. 11	Robitaille, Gerald	1969
b. 1, f. 12	Smith, Bradley	1968–1972
b. 1, f. 13	Tolchard, Clifford	1974
b. 1, f. 14	White, Emil	1972

Writings

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 1, f. 15	Notes	undated
b. 1, f. 16-24	Drafts, typescript	undated
b. 1, f. 25	Correspondence	1973–1974
b. 1, f. 26	Agreement	1970
b. 1, f. 27	Photograph notes	undated
b. 1, f. 28	Captions	undated

Writings (continued)

b. 1, f. 29	Layouts	1971
b. 1, f. 30	Dummy	undated
b. 1, f. 31-33	Drafts, typescript	1970, undated
b. 1, f. 34	Reprint drafts	1978
b. 6 (Oversize)	<i>The World of Henry Miller</i> , galley proof	undated
Photographs		
Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.		
b. 2, f. 35	Half title page	undated
b. 2, f. 36	Title page	undated
b. 2, f. 37	Pages 5–7	undated
b. 2, f. 38	Myra Waldo	undated
b. 2, f. 39-42	Pages 12–17	undated
b. 2, f. 43-44	Pages 20–24	undated
b. 2, f. 45-56	Pages 30–46	undated
b. 2, f. 57-86	Pages 50–99	undated
b. 3, f. 87-98	Pages 100–137	undated
b. 3, f. 99-127	Pages 141–192	undated
b. 4, f. 128-135	Pages 193–205	undated
b. 4, f. 136	Assorted photographic prints and negatives	undated
b. 4, f. 137	Henry Miller with secretary; with Bradley; humor shots	undated
b. 4, f. 138	Page 207	undated
b. 4, f. 139	Assorted photographic prints and negatives	undated
b. 4, f. 140-145	Slides	undated

Series II: July 2018 Acquisition, 1970–1976*2.5 linear feet (2 boxes)*

This series contains correspondence, writings, production files, and photographs relating to Miller's book *Insomnia: or, the Devil at Large*, which was published by Smith's imprint Gemini Smith, Inc. in 1974. Correspondence includes Smith's letters to Miller, and letters exchanged between Smith, Emil White, and others. Writings include autograph manuscripts by Miller and a signed colophon page from a previous printing by Loujon Press. There are also drafts, page proofs, and a small amount of photographic prints and negatives collected for the book.

Organized under two headings: Correspondence and Writings.

Correspondence

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 5, f. 146	Combs, Connie	1974–1975
b. 5, f. 147	Miller, Henry	1973–1976
b. 5, f. 148	Publishers	1973–1975
b. 5, f. 149	Webb, William	1971–1972
b. 5, f. 150	White, Emil	1972

Writings

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 5, f. 151	Page proofs	undated
b. 5, f. 152-153	Publisher's file	undated
b. 5, f. 154	Signed colophon page	1970
b. 5, f. 155	Screenplay draft	undated
b. 5, f. 156	Lawrence Durrell blurb	undated
b. 5, f. 157	Flap copy	undated
b. 5, f. 158	French edition page proofs	1974 March 14
b. 5, f. 159	Material for Bradley	undated
b. 5, f. 160	Photograph of Henry Miller	undated
b. 5, f. 161	Color negatives	undated
b. 5, f. 162	Autograph manuscripts by Henry Miller	undated
b. 5, f. 163	Transparencies	undated
b. 5, f. 164	French edition transparencies	undated
b. 5, f. 165	French edition page proofs, bound	undated
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 166	Posters	undated

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
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Photographers, American -- 20th Century
Publishers and publishing -- United States --
20th Century
Publishers -- United States

Genres / Formats

Negatives (photographs)
Photographic prints
Photographs
Slides (photographs)

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century
Photographers -- United States -- 20th Century
Publishers -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Miller, Henry, 1891-1980
Smith, Bradley, 1910-1997
White, Emil, 1901-1989

Contributors

Miller, Henry, 1891-1980 , author
Smith, Bradley, 1910-1997 , collector