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Inventory

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Alasdair Gray

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Literary papers and audio-visual material, circa 1999-2012, of and relating to Alasdair Gray; with some related printed items.

Presented, 2013.

1-11.	Notebooks. Not available for consultation until after the deaths of Alasdair Gray and Morag McAlpine.
12-29.	Literary and related papers, including some <i>Book of Prefaces</i> artwork.
30-65.	CDs and DVDs.
78-80.	Transparencies
81-98.	Printed material

1-11. Notebooks

Not available for consultation until after the deaths of Alasdair Gray and Morag McAlpine.

The ledgers and notebooks contain mainly draft writing – poetry, prose and plays. Alasdair Gray's practice is to repeatedly rewrite a piece by hand with minor changes, honing the work to the point at which he is satisfied with it; occasionally he pronounces himself satisfied, but then goes on to write further revisions. The notebooks also include diary entries, notes, doodles, sketches, addresses, phone numbers. The descriptions below are largely taken from labels applied to the volumes by Alasdair Gray.

1. Large ledger.
Title page (i.e. ledger page 38): 'The Damnation of Faust based upon Goethe's tragedy by Alasdair Gray, 27 May 2007'; page 54: 'The Damnation of Faust. Another version of Goethe's verse play, this time by Alasdair Gray'; note at foot of page 94: 'Uncomplete Alas – 1st September 2007'. Many entries in the ledger are dated, and include some relating to other publications and plans (*A Gray Playbook*, collected verses) and occasional journal entries. There are many blank folios in the middle of the volume.
From ?September 2007, Alasdair Gray also worked from the other end of the inverted volume, mainly on poetry, including 'The Ballad of Ann Bonny'. The final date in the ledger is 14 November 2007.
2. Large ledger, 'Begun from this end 19 December 2008 but with notes from the other end made in March 2010 – So what?'.
Begins with journal entries, a copy letter to Angela Mullane, and work on *A Gray Playbook*; work on poems including 'Naming Britain', 'Far North of Dover Beach', 'Last Request', 'Old Events' for *Collected Verse*, interspersed with journal entries. Inverted at end of volume, first page dated 22 March 2010, are further journal entries, draft writings and notes.
3. Copy of *Montaigne: Select Essays* (Edinburgh: Foulis, 1909), in which all blank pages and margins are filled with Alasdair Gray's journal, 11 August–25 October 2003.

4. Small fabric-covered hardback notebook, labelled:
'Worknotes for Men in Love / Oran Mor Mural & Hillhead Subway Decorations /
Circa 2009 and/or 2010 / Metaphysical rant about God, the Nature of Things & Lao Tsu, seeking forms of verse only fully formed this week, late September 2012'.
5. Small brown hardback notebook, labelled:
'Diary notebook, begun early 2010, ended (the book being full) this ae nicht near midnight 20 December 2010. This is one of my most concentrated accounts of a creative time: from near completion of A Life in Pictures through complete poem book → and one poem extra → to my Strathclyde Passenger Transport job and bizarre NOW acceptance by Glasgow administrators. To be reclaimed: babble heard on train to Edinburgh between some officials on way to an AUDIT: mainly one of them talking metaphors'.
6. Small red hardback notebook, covers much written-upon, labelled:
'Starts Saturday 1.1.2011 → Saturday 12 August → Work on Hillhead Subway Mural plus Tales Droll & Plausible'.
7. Small black hardback notebook, labelled:
'5 Jan 2011 → Notes for Fleck production / June 210 [sic] revising verses for 2 Ravens book / Sketch of Kelvin rippled water under Kelvin Bridge for Oran Mor gallery mural'.
8. Small spiral-bound notebook, labelled:
'Friday 13 September 2011 – Start of Far North of Dover Beach, also To Richard Dawkins. ... last entry 10.1.2013 after completing chapter 6 of Hell' (Alasdair Gray's version of Dante's Inferno, a work in progress at time of cataloguing).
9. Small red Moleskine notebook, decorated on covers, labelled:
'End of 2011, some of 2012'.
10. Small red softback cash book, labelled:
'Mostly diary resumed on returning from London on Saturday 8 February 2012 by train approaching Morpeth circa 10PM'.
11. Small brown hardback notebook, labelled:
'24.12.2012 → Mainly poem work notes plus, Eustace McNulty start, & planning Every Short Story Book'.

12-29 Literary and related papers, including some *Book of Prefaces* artwork.

12. *Cell Structure* by Dr Peter Toner and Dr Kate Carr. Photocopy of Drs Toner and Carr's copy of the book which Alasdair Gray had embellished in 1968.

13. Minutes, 25 August 1979, of meeting of Glasgow Print Studio Press. Alasdair Gray was Minutes Secretary; those present included James Kelman, Tom Leonard, Aonghas McNeacail, Brian McCabe and Carl MacDougall.
14. Correspondence, 1989-1991, with Oxford University Press, relating to an anthology of Scottish prose which OUP proposed Alasdair Gray should select and introduce. A change of commissioning editors at OUP led to the abandonment of the project. Includes drafts and copies of Alasdair Gray's letters.
15. Correspondence concerning publications, 1995-2002 and undated. Mainly relating to gathering material for *A Life in Pictures*, and other art-based books and proposals. Includes copies of Alasdair Gray's letters, faxes and e-mails.
16. *Book of Prefaces* (London: Bloomsbury, 2000).

'Helpers' portraits with photos & a few original drawings on which they were based.'
Original artwork, source photographs and drawings. Mainly of those who assisted in the book's production, but with some drawings of contributors included. With first version of the cover when title was 'An Anthology of Prefaces'.
17. 'Big Pockets with Buttoned Flaps'. Short story.
Two typescript drafts with manuscript corrections. January-February 1999.
Typescript extract from 'Anthology of Prefaces' titled 'Three National Bodies Reject a Head' on versos.
18. *A Short Survey of Classic Scottish Writing* (Edinburgh: Canongate, 2001).
Manuscript and typescript drafts of chapters 6-9.
19. *The Ends of Their Tethers* (Edinburgh, Canongate, 2003).
Typescript with manuscript corrections and manuscript mock-up of prefatory material.
20. *Lanark* (Edinburgh: Canongate, 2007).
Copy of introduction by William Boyd to the 2007 edition.
- 21-25. *A Life in Pictures* (Edinburgh: Canongate, 2010).
 21. Version 2 of the general introduction (incomplete and not used in book).
 22. Index cards of various digitised images, with one 35mm slide.
 23. Proofs of 'Art School 1952-54' chapter, dated 26 November 2008.
 24. Proofs of 'Artist Recorder 1977-78' chapter, dated 19/3/08, with index card images attached.

25. Proofs of 'Morag 1989 onwards' chapter, with index card images. Undated.
[Plus some further LiP proofs needing description].
26. 'Maisie and Henry', short story first published in *Every Short Story*. Typescripts drafts (dictated to secretary), with extensive manuscript insertions and corrections. Early-mid 2012.
27. *Every Short Story* (Edinburgh: Canongate, 2012). Draft cover design with Alasdair Gray's manuscript instructions regarding colour and lay-out.
28. 'A Mysoginist'. Short story. Two typescript drafts with manuscript corrections.
29. Erratum slips for various published works including: *Poor Things* (2 slips for ?different editions); *Old Negatives*, 1st edition; *A Short Survey of Classic Scottish Writing*.

30-65 CDs and DVDs.

The descriptions are largely taken from labels applied to the discs by Alasdair Gray.

30-33. A Gray Playbook.

30. 4 CDs in one sleeve:
 1. Disc with mug logo: block, & you rascal; raptor; reptile – in colour [for 'Graydale' mugs].
 2. Disc with Gray Playbook cover: red tile separation and 2 versions with darker and lighter blue backgrounds.
 3. A Gray Playbook, black & white images. [Disc dated 13 February 2009.]
 4. Another just like number 3. [Disc dated 13 February 2009.]
31. A Gray Playbook
19 August 2009, final version text and illustrations, plus 2 earlier versions.
3 CDs containing ?different versions, with text and illustrations; 2 discs are dated 10 February 2009, one of these is labelled 'Final'.
32. A Gray Playbook
20 August 2009.
33. Assorted black & white images: various jacket illustration outlines, vignettes, Lanark storyboard and Luath Press logo, Most of which is in The Gray Playbook. Also text → probably the lot. 19th February 2009.
[Written on disc: 'A lot of A Gray Playbook 2009']

34-49. *Life in Pictures*.

34. 5 discs of scanned images (at least one from NLS)
35. 23 pictures.
36. Disc containing 8 images, including portraits of Liz Lochhead, and pictures made for the unmade film, 'Now & Then' (a proposed collaborative venture with Lochhead, 1972).
37. Portraits, Nellimeg booklet pictures, figure paintings, Inverarity Whisky box (21 images).
38. Old Men in Love visual material; Petra's photos of murals: Greenbank Church, Palacerigg Nature Reserve, Abbot's House, Ubi Chip.
39. Work by Bob Kitts, including 3 pictures not included in the book; Book of Ruth mural, Greenbank Church; A Gray posters, book covers, illustrations; work by Carole Gibbons.
40. Fleck illustrations, 2010; 18 photographs of flowers; Diploma show pictures and many other images relating to A Life in Pictures.
41. Kelvin Walker falling; Sir Arthur Shots, spider; Merry & Poor devil heads in black + white. Disc: 15 August 2008.
42. Chapters 4 and 5, dated 4 March 2008.
43. Images for chapters 5-8, 13, 15 and 16. 15 September- 18 November 2009.
44. Images for chapters 11, 16 and postscript, 9 November 2009 [with other images relating to the book]; Inverarity Whisky box label.
45. ?Proofs, 15 May 2010.
46. Proofs, revised for paperback edition, 13 September 2011.
47. A Life in Pictures (special limited edition). Earliest slipcase label design, 28 March 2012.
48. A Life in Pictures (special limited edition). Poem for slipcase.
49. Powerpoint presentation (79 images) for a talk given by Alasdair Gray in Linlithgow. Disc created 15 March 2011. Disc created 15 March 2011.

50-53. *Every Short Story*.

- 50. '10 Droll Tales
Droll tales from a Scotch Prime Minister'
CD created 30 July 2011
- 51. 'Droll Tales complete
Ten Droll Tales from a Scotch Premier Era'.
CD created 15 August 2011
- 52. Every Short Story jacket design, black & white, 20 February 2012.
- 53. 'Version of Endnotes and a complaining letter to factor of 3 Marchmont Terrace, 11 August 2012'.

54-55. *Fleck: a comedy in verse derived from Goethe's Tragedy of Faust*.

The CDs relate to the version given as a performed reading at the Edinburgh International Book Festival, 2011.

- 54. Fleck's opening monologue read by Alasdair Gray. 1 April 2011.
Copy of a recording made for Will Self (who read the part of Fleck) to indicate how Alasdair Gray wanted the work to be read.
- 55. Text of play as read at Edinburgh Book Festival, 29 August 2011, with 'improved ending from the printed play – God's apology'.

56-62. Artwork.

- 56. Incomers & Outgoers.
Stained glass design executed by Siobhan Healey in Alloa public library. Disc date: 14 March 2012.
- 57. Incomers & Outgoers. 14 March 2012.
Basic linear template for Dovecot carpet design, without colour or words.
- 58. 'Two black & white images of May in Leather skirt, Girl in Leather Jacket, plus 2 colour images of Edinburgh Print Workshop silkscreens of these, and same size images of girl in long hair & Bill Skinner, portrait of him at home.' 6 images. Disc created 17 January 2012.
- 59. Three identical thistles, dark blue, for centre of stained glass panel.
- 60. Pictures of –
Katie Gardiner and Susie Boyd – mother & daughter
Stuart Henry, drawn 1965, painted 1999 for Susie Boyd as a present for her mother Katie
Drawing of Susie with cat & TV
Susie in grey tones, black background.

61. Antonia Boyce & Lev Constantinovski's wedding invitation 18 Feb 2009. [Drawn and designed by Alasdair Gray.]

62. Oran Mor.
Pre-2005 pictures.

63-65. Miscellaneous.

63. The One Show (Series 6). BBC.
Excerpt, 'Mile from a Masterpiece', about Alasdair Gray, filmed in Glasgow and presented by Phil Tuffnell.

64. 'The Star'. Short animated film by Dawson Murray based on Alasdair Gray's short story.

65. 'Ballads of the Book: a joint effort'.
CD recording of songs co-written by musicians and writers.

66-77 Audio cassettes

66. Some Unlikely Stories, read by the author.
Canongate Audio, 1994. 2 cassettes in one box.

67. Alasdair Gray's scenes from Lanark, read by the author.
Canongate Audio, 1996. 2 cassettes in one box.

68. Unlikely Stories, Mostly.
Recordings of selected stories, possibly for/by Canongate Audio Books.
Undated. 2 cassettes in one box.

69-70. 5 Letters from an Eastern Empire.
?Canongate proofs. Undated. 2 cassettes.

71. *McGrotty & Ludmilla* or The Harbinger Report. Undated. 1 cassette.

72-73. *McGrotty and Ludmilla*. ?Later version. Undated. 2 cassettes.

74-75. *Poor Things*, read by Jimmy Chisholm, Fiona Bell. Undated. 2 cassettes.

76. Secret Gardens. Alasdair Gray.
?Radio broadcast. 2 April 1990.

77. Annie Webster, 18/11/94. (Alasdair Gray doesn't know what this is).

78-80. Transparencies

78. Paintings by Alan Fletcher and Carole Gibbons for catalogue of Five Artists Show 1986. (14 transparencies).

79. Sculpture and paintings by Alasdair Taylor and John Connelly for catalogue of Five Artists Show 1986. (15 transparencies).
80. Abbots House mural, 1994-1995. (9 transparencies).

81-98. Printed material

81. '1951, 1956, 2007 verbal and visual material'.
Containing *Collins Magazine for Boys and Girls*, May 1951, in which Alasdair Gray's story 'The Star' was published. ('Readers' stories', pages 34-35); *Bella Caledonia*, Winter 2007, newspaper with masthead featuring colour version of Bella Baxter (character from *Poor Things*) by Alasdair Gray; The Clarion: Earl Attlee's Rectorial Campaign Newspaper (First issue, October 1956), photocopies of 2 pages featuring cartoons by Alasdair Gray.
82. *The Book of Prefaces*. Alasdair Gray's copy, with printer's errors and various changes marked up for a 2nd edition. Title on binding and jacket is 'Anthology of Prefaces'.
83. Flyers and ephemera. Includes Five Dramatised Play Readings (Tron Theatre); Lanark (Citizens); Lanark (Tweeddale Court, Peebles); 1991 Christmas card of Alasdair Gray and Morag McAlpine; *A History Maker* launch invitation (James Thin's); 'Alasdair and Alasdair' private view invitation (Alasdair Gray and Alasdair Taylor exhibition, 1995); Alasdair Gray / Joyce Gunn Cairns exhibition, Smithy Gallery, Blanefield, 15 April-13 May 2012.
84. *Whitehill School Magazine*. November 1951. Contents pages annotated by Alasdair Gray to indicate which contributions were his work.
85. *Whitehill School Magazine*. Summer 1952. Contents pages annotated by Alasdair Gray to indicate which contributions were his work.
86. *A Bad Day for the Sung Dynasty* / Frank Kuppner
Manchester: Carcanet, 1984.
Cover by Alasdair Gray. Copy dedicated to Gray by Kuppner.
87. *Shoestring Gourmet* by Wilma Paterson, illustrated by Alasdair Gray.
Edinburgh: Canongate, 1986.
88. *Up Wyster!* by David Morrison.
Wick: Pulteney Press, 1989.
Cover by Alasdair Gray.
89. *The Dear Green Pint: the Glasgow Real Ale Guide*.
CAMRA, 1991.
Cover by Alasdair Gray.
90. Bloomsbury: fifth anniversary catalogue. August 1992-January 1993.
Cover by Alasdair Gray.

91. *The Child Within* / Catherine Munrow
London: The Children's Society, 1993.
Cover by Alasdair Gray.
92. *Jonah, Micah and Nahum*, with an introduction by Alasdair Gray.
Edinburgh: Canongate, 1999.
With manuscript note of Alasdair Gray concerning reaction to the publication.
93. *The Ends of Their Tethers* / Alasdair Gray
Edinburgh: Canongate, 2003.
Advance reading copy.
94. Triptych Festival programme, 2007.
Cover by Alasdair Gray.
95. *The Dear Green Place & Fur Sadie* / Archie Hind
Edinburgh: Polygon, 2008.
With manuscript note of Alasdair Gray on title page giving background information.
96. *The Glasgow Group, 1958-2008*.
Glasgow: The Glasgow Group, 2008.
Introduction and portrait of Edwin Morgan by Alasdair Gray.
97. *Alasdair Gray: Now and Then*.
Exhibition catalogue. Sorcha Dallas, 12 April – 17 May 2008.
98. *Map. You are here: Journeys in Contemporary Art*.
Issue 13 (Spring 2008). Hong Kong International Art Fair.
Alasdair Gray 'Prologue to the Tragedy of Faust' published on pp. 22-25.
99. Great Western Auctions catalogue, 8 September 2012.
Alasdair Gray's painting, 'Bella Caledonia', was auctioned for charity with Alex Salmond in attendance.
100. Hebrew publication containing translation of Alasdair Gray's 'Ballad of Ann Bonny'.