



Inventory

Acc.12098

Stewart Conn

National Library of Scotland
Manuscripts Division
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh
EH1 1EW

Tel: 0131-466 2812
Fax: 0131-466 2811
E-mail: manuscripts@nls.uk

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Literary papers, 1961-99, of Stewart Conn (b. 1936), a poet and playwright who was for many years a drama producer for BBC Radio Scotland. These papers include typescripts and a small number of manuscript drafts of poetry, and scripts of plays and adaptations for stage, radio and television.

Many of the scripts in this collection have never been published, but it includes manuscripts and typescripts relating to the following published works:

- The Chinese Tower* (Edinburgh: Macdonald, 1967).
- Distances* (Edinburgh: Scottish Cultural Press, 2001).
- An Ear to the Ground* (London: Hutchinson, 1972).
- In the Kibble Palace* (Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Bloodaxe Books, 1987).
- The Luncheon of the Boating Party* (Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Bloodaxe, 1992).
- Stolen Light* (Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Bloodaxe, 1999).
- Thistlewood* (Todmorden: Woodhouse, 1979).
- Thunder in the Air* (Preston: Akros, 1967).

Bought, 2002.

- 1-35. Plays and adaptations for stage, radio and television, 1960-98.**
- 36-50. Poetry, 1963-99.**
- 51-54. Correspondence, 1962-78, n.d.**
- 55-57. Works by other authors, 1962-8, 1986.**

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- 1-35. Plays and adaptations for stage, radio and television, 1960-98.**

‘Break-Down’.

This play was first performed at the Citizens’ Theatre in Glasgow in 1961.

- 1. Corrected typescript, 1960.

‘Any Following Spring’.

This radio play was first broadcast by the BBC in 1962.

- 2. Copy of typescript, n.d.

'Cadenza for Real'.

This radio play was first broadcast on the BBC Home Service in 1964.

3. Annotated script, 1964.

'The Canary Cage'.

This radio play was first broadcast on the Scottish Home Service in 1967.

4. Annotated script, 1967.

'Birds in a Wilderness'.

This play was first performed at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1964.

5. Typescript, n.d.

'Broche'.

This play was first performed by the Glasgow University Arts Theatre Group in 1966.

6. Typescript, n.d., with a programme for the production by Edinburgh University Dramatic Society.

'The King'.

This play was first performed at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1967, and was broadcast on BBC Television in 1969.

7. Television camera script, 1969.

'The Sword'.

This play was first performed at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1967.

8. Typescript, 1969, with a programme for 'Victims', a production for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe by Edinburgh University Dramatic

Society in 1970, when the play was presented in a triple-bill with 'In Transit' and 'The Man in the Green Muffler'.

'A Slight Touch of the Sun'.

This play was first performed at the Pool Lunchtime Theatre in Edinburgh in 1973.

9. Corrected typescript, n.d.
10. Corrected typescript, n.d.
11. Revised typescript, 1980, with two letters, 1980-1, of Linda Haase, of the Tron Theatre Glasgow.

'Wally Dugs go in Pairs'.

This play for television was first broadcast on BBC 1 in 1974.

12. Rehearsal script, 1975.
13. Camera script, 1975.

'Thistlewood'.

This play was first performed at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1975.

14. Musical score, n.d.

'Hecuba'.

This play was first performed by the Winged Horse Theatre Company at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1979.

15. Typescript, n.d.

'The Kite'.

This play for television was first broadcast in 1979.

16. Rehearsal script, 1977, with some amended pages.
17. Camera script, 1977.

'Herman'.

This play was first performed at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1981.

- 18. Typescript, n.d.
- 19. Radio script, 1982.

'Blood Hunt' by Neil Gunn.

This adaptation for television was first broadcast on BBC 2 in 1986.

- 20. Typescript, 1985.
- 21. Typescript, 1985.
- 22. Typescript, 1985.
- 23. BBC publicity material, 1986.

'Hugh Miller'.

This play was first performed at the Netherbow Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1988.

- 24. Revised typescript, 2000.

'By the Pool'.

This play was first performed at the Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1988.

- 25. Typescript, 1991, of a version for Cleveland Play House.
- 26. Typescript, n.d., of a version for radio.

'The Dominion of Fancy'.

This play was first performed at the Pitlochry Festival Theatre in 1992.

- 27. Rehearsal script, 1992, with manuscript annotations.

'Too Late the Phalarope' by Alan Paton.

This dramatisation was first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

- 28. Script, 1984.

‘Miss Willmott’s Ghost’.

This radio play was first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1993.

29. Script, 1993.

‘Tiger Next Time’.

This radio play was first broadcast by the South African Broadcasting Corporation in 1995.

30. Typescript, n.d.

‘Mission Boy’.

This play was first performed by Theatre for Africa at the Grahamstown Festival, and subsequently at the Netherbow Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1996.

31. Typescript, 1996, and a programme.

‘Beside the Ocean of Time’ by George Mackay Brown.

This dramatisation was first broadcast on BBC Radio Scotland in 1997.

32. Manuscript notes, radio script, 1997, and press release.

‘Clay Bull’.

This play was first performed at the Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, in 1998.

33. Rehearsal script, 1998, with manuscript and typescript amendments.

34. Typescript, 1988, of final version.

‘Greenvoe’ by George Mackay Brown.

This adaptation was first performed at the St Magnus Festival in 1998.

35. Manuscript and typescript notes and synopsis, and typescript, 1997, of final version, with a letter, 1998, of Archie Bevan and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn, and a typescript, [1998], of the text of a pre-recital talk entitled ‘Music and Muse’.

36-50. Poetry, 1963-99.

'Thunder in the Air', 1963.

For further correspondence relating to this collection, please see Acc.12098/53 below.

36. Typescript, 1963, of a collection of poems entitled 'Thunder in the Air', with a letter, 1963 of J.L. Wade and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn, concerning the E.C. Gregory award.

'The Predators', 1969.

37. Initial manuscript draft and subsequent reworking of the poem sequence 'Predators', which was written in Conques in 1969, with a copy of *An Ear to the Ground*, with minor corrections.

'The Forest of Ettrick', 1983.

38. Radio script, 1983, of 'The Forest of Ettrick', which was later published in *Distances*.

***The Luncheon of the Boating Party*, 1986-88.**

39. Manuscript and typescript drafts of a sequence of poems entitled 'Lot-et-Garonne Poems', 1986.
40. Manuscript and typescript drafts of the sequence of poems entitled 'The Luncheon of the Boating Party', 1988, with a cutting from the *Glasgow Herald*.
41. Manuscript drafts, c. 1988, of 'Unknown Man', one of the poems from the sequence 'The Luncheon of the Boating Party'.
42. Manuscript and typescript drafts of 'At Les Collettes', 1988.

'The Living Poet', 1989.

43. Script, 1989, of a programme of poems and commentary for BBC Radio 3.

'Drumbeg', 1992.

44. Manuscript, corrected and revised typescript drafts of a sequence of 'Drumbeg Poems', written in Sutherland in 1992. Part of this sequence was published under the title 'Summer, Assynt' in *In the Kibble Palace*, and part was published under the title 'Drumbeg Poems' in *Northwords* 23, pages 16-7.

'Letters to Iain', 1999.

45. Manuscript and typescript drafts, and two sets of corrected proofs, 1999, of poems for 'Letters to Iain', a sequence of poems concerning Iain Crichton Smith, with the order of service for his funeral. This sequence of poems was published in *Stolen Light*.

22e Festival Franco-Anglais de Poésie, Paris, May 1999.

46. Annotated typescript, 1999, of 'Poèmes et Traductions', with a copy of the festival programme.

'Reflections', 1999.

47. Manuscript and typescript drafts, 1999, of a sequence of poems set in Venice, which were published in *Distances*.

'La Mola', 1999-2000.

48. Typescript drafts, c. 1999, of poems concerning a visit to La Mola, which were subsequently translated by Miquel Desclot, with two photographs, and a signed copy of Stewart Conn and Anna Crowe, *Dos poetes escocesos a la Mola. Versió catalana de Miquel Desclot* (2002).

Worksheets of unpublished poems, c. 2001-02.

49. (i) 'Girl in the Picture'.
(ii) 'Free Fall'.
(iii) 'Paul Newman Interviewed'.
(iv) 'Impairment'.
(v) 'Relic'.
50. 'Lux in Tenebris', 2002.
- 51-54. Correspondence, 1962-78, n.d.**
51. Correspondence, 1962-78, n.d.
Letter, 1962, of Robert Rendall.
13 letters, 1967-70, n.d., of Robert Nye, with a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
5 letters, 1970-1, of Elizabeth Clark ('Joan Ure').
2 letters, 1971, n.d., of Jessie Kesson.
5 letters, 1968-c. 1971, of Cecil P. Taylor.
3 letters, 1971-2, of Kenneth White.
Letter, 1972, of T.J. Douglas MacDonald ('Fionn MacColla').
Letter, c. 1978, of the International Mark Twain Society.
52. 4 letters, 1966-7, of Callum Macdonald, with copies of 4 letters of Stewart Conn, concerning *The Chinese Tower*.
53. 7 letters, 1966-7, of Duncan Glen, with copies of 4 letters of Stewart Conn, concerning *Thunder in the Air*. For further correspondence relating to this collection, please see Acc.12098/36 above.
54. Editorial correspondence, 1973-4, for *New Poems 1973-1974. A PEN Anthology of Contemporary Poetry* (London: Hutchinson, 1974).
2 letters of Peter Abbs, with a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Dannie Abse.
Letter of Sam Adams, and typescript of 'Martins' Nest', with copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Fleur Adcock, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of James Aitchison.
3 letters concerning *Ambit*.
4 letters concerning *The Anglo-Welsh Review*.

Letter of Patricia Beer, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Eavan Boland, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Martin Booth, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Euros Bowen, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter written on behalf of Edwin Brock, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of George Mackay Brown.
3 letters of Wayne Brown, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Basil Bunting.

Letter of Charles Causley, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of John Pepper Clark, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter written on behalf of David Carver.
2 letters of Gillian Clarke, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Tony Connor, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of John Cotton, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
3 letters concerning *Caret*.
Letter of Kevin Crossley-Holland, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Donald Davie, and copies of 4 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of David Day, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Peter Dent, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Alan Dixon, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Gordon H. Dyson, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

Letter of D.J. Enright, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Gavin Ewart, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Roy Fisher, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Roger Garfitt, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Raymond Garlick, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Valerie Gillies, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Giles Gordon, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Henry Graham, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Thom Gunn, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Michael Hamburger, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Seamus Heaney, and copies of 4 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Lois March Herrickson, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Geoffrey Hill.
Letter of Philip Hobsbaum, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of David Holbrook, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Glyn Hughes, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Olwyn Hughes, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Daniel Huws, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

Copy of a letter concerning *Isbmael*, and a press cutting.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Elizabeth Jennings.
Letter of B.S. Johnson.

Letter of George Kendrick, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Thomas Kinsella, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

3 letters of Michael Longley, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Norman MacCaig, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
4 letters of Alasdair Maclean.

Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Gordon Wright.
Letter of Trevor McMahon, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Wes Magee, and copies of 4 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Derek Mahon, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Paul Matthews, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Derwent May.
Letter of John Mole, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of John Montague, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Edwin Morgan, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Note written on behalf of George MacBeth.

3 letters of Leslie Norris, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Robert [Nye].
2 letters of Ronald [?].
2 letters concerning *Oasis*.
Letter concerning *Ostrich*.
2 letters of John Ormond, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Frank Ormsby, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Valerie Owen, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters concerning *Outposts*.
5 letters concerning *The Oxford Poetry Magazine*.
Letter of Peter Orr, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters concerning Oxford University Press.

2 letters of Philip Pacey, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Peter Porter, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.

Letter of William Peskett.
2 letters of William Plomer, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Tully Potter, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to [?] Purangi.
4 letters concerning *Phoenix*.
2 letters concerning *Planet*.
Letter concerning *Poetry Review*.
Letter concerning *Poetry Wales*.
6 letters concerning the Poetry Book Society.

4 letters of Peter Redgrove, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.

2 letters of Vernon Scannell, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
7 letters of Michael Schmidt, and copies of 6 letters of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Alexander Scott.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Howard Sergeant.
2 letters of Penelope Shuttle, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Alan Sillitoe, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
2 letters of Charles H. Sisson, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Carolyn Slaughter.
Letter of Iain Crichton Smith.
3 letters of Stephanie Smolinsky, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
3 letters of Jon Stallworthy, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Anne Stevenson.
Letter concerning *Samphire*.
4 letters concerning Second Aeon Publications.
Letter concerning *Stand*.

Copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn to R.S. Thomas.
2 letters of Anthony Thwaite, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Charles Tomlinson, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of John Tripp, and copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn.
2 letters concerning the *Transatlantic Review*.
3 letters of W. Price Turner, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

3 letters of Jeffrey Wainwright, and copies of 3 letters of Stewart Conn.
Copy of a letter of Stewart Conn to Derek Walcott.
Letter of Christopher Wallace-Crabbe, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Andrew Waterman, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
Letter of Jane Wilson, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.
4 letters concerning *Wave*.

Letter concerning *Workshop New Poetry*.

4 letters of Anthony Whittome, and copies of 7 letters of Stewart Conn.

8 letters of Douglas Dunn, and a copy of a letter of Stewart Conn.

Copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn to Charles Osbourne.

Copies of 2 letters of Stewart Conn to David Carver.

55-57. Works by other authors, 1962-8, 1986.

55. 'Scottish Life and Letters' radio programmes for the Scottish Home Service, 1962, 1968, n.d. Scripts, with editorial amendments by Conn, for programmes which included contributions by Walter Keir, Edwin Morgan and Alexander Scott, and which were originally broadcast on 14 January, 4 March, and 1 April 1962, and 28 April 1968.

56. Radio script, 1964, of 'Largs: the battle by the Ships', by George Mackay Brown, and part of a script, n.d., of a radio programme featuring George Mackay Brown.

57. Photocopy of typescript, 1986, of 'A Celebration for Magnus' by George Mackay Brown.