Collection List 12

F. R. Higgins Papers

(MSS 27,853-27,927)

Accession No. 4113
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Biographical

MS 27,853  Part of an autobiographical note by F. R. Higgins describing his life to c. 1933; 4 pp
1933

MS 27,854  Biographical notes on F. R. Higgins and others, compiled by May Higgins; c. 20 items
          c. 1945-1970

Poems, Stories and Plays

1923

MS 27,856 /1-4  ‘Island blood’, typescripts, galley proofs and a copy of the published edition of F. R. Higgins’s book of poems ‘Island Blood’ (London, Lane 1925). With some manuscript annotations; 5 items
1925

MS 27,857 /1-3  ‘The Dark Breed’, 3 typescripts of F. R. Higgins’s book of poems ‘The Dark Breed’. With some manuscript annotations; c. 130 pp
[1927]

MS 27,858  ‘The Beautiful Comrade: a Mystery Play’, manuscript notebook; 20 pp
[c. 193-?]

MS 27,859  ‘Days of Pilgrimage’, typescript and manuscript of a short story; 20 pp
[c. 193-]

MS 27,860  ‘Doom’, typescript play; 33 pp
[c. 193-]

MS 27,861  ‘Twong: a masque’, manuscript notebook; 20 pp
[c. 193-]

MS 27,862  ‘A Wedding in the West of Ireland’, short story, 2 typescripts; 20 pp
[c. 193-]

MS 27,863 /1-2  ‘Poteen’, short story, drafts, typescript and offprint from the Dublin magazine; c. 24 pp
1932
MS 27,864  5 typescript poems by F. R. Higgins for Cuala Press
Broadsides, with some notes on the broadsides; 7 pp
[1935]

MS 27,685 /1-2  ‘A Deuce of Jacks’, a play, drafts, typescript and offprint from
the Dublin Magazine; c. 30 pp
1935-1936

MS 27,686  ‘I love a boy’, outline for a play, typescript; 25 pp
[c. 1937-1938]

MS 27,687  ‘Puck Fair’, ballet scenario, typescript; 8 pp
[c. 1939-1940?]

MS 27,688 /1-5  ‘The gap of brightness’, typescript copies of poems mostly
published in ‘The Gap of Brightness’ with Xerox copies and a
copy of the published edition (London, Macmillan, 1940). With
some manuscript annotations
1940

Miscellaneous notebooks, drafts, etc.

MS 27,869 /1-4  4 small notebooks containing drafts of poems and miscellaneous
notes, mostly of a literary nature
c. 1917-1941

MS 27,870 /1-2  Miscellaneous manuscript and typescript poems by F. R.
Higgins; 26 pp
c. 1920-1940

MS 27,871  Miscellaneous drafts of stories etc.; 41 pp
c. 1925-1940

MS 27,872  Quarto notebook containing notes for a short story ‘Our white
companionship’ and for a play; 16 pp
[c. 193-?]

MS 27,873  Quarto notebook containing miscellaneous notes on annual
festivals etc.; c. 30 pp
[c. 193-?]

MS 27,874  Quarto notebook containing notes on the history of Palestine,
modern and biblical; 14 pp
[1937?]

Articles, lectures, reviews, etc.

MS 27,875 /1-5  Typescripts of lectures, talks and articles by F. R. Higgins on
modern poetry in general, modern Irish poetry, Yeats,
Ledwidge, Irish painting etc.; c. 70 pp
c. 1930-1940

MS 27,876  Manuscript notes for lectures on modern Irish poetry; 23 pp  
c. 1930-1940

MS 27,877  Typescript book reviews by F. R. Higgins, mainly of books of  
verse; c. 20 pp  
c. 1930-1940

MS 27,878  Issues of ‘The Dublin Magazine’ and ‘The Arrow’ containing  
respectively a poem and an article on W. B. Yeats by F. R.  
Higgins; 2 items  
1939

**Scrapbooks, pressclippings**

MS 27,879  Hardback quarto notebook containing pressclippings of poems  
and articles by F. R. Higgins published in ‘New Ireland’ etc.,  
with some manuscript poems; c. 50 pp  
1914-1916

MS 27,880  ‘Literary gleanings’, quarto notebook containing pressclippings  
re contemporary poets viz. Francis Ledwidge, Seumas  
O’Sullivan, Joseph Plunkett, Thomas MacDonagh, Patrick  
Pearse, James Crawford Neil etc.  
1914-1916

MS 27,881  Volume containing presscuttings of reviews of F. R. Higgins’s  
books of poems; 21 pp  
1923-1927

MS 27,882  Large bound scrapbook containing membership cards, invitation  
cards and other memorabilia of F.R. Higgins, and presscuttings  
of articles and reviews by and about him; c. 70 pp  
1924-1938

**Correspondence**

MS 27,883 /1-8  Letters from F. R. Higgins to his wife May, nee Moore; 97  
items  
c. 1918-1939  
/1-3  [c. 1918-1920]  
/4  1918  
/5-6  c. 1920-1927  
/7-8  1937-1938

MS 27,884 /1-18  Letters to F. R. Higgins; 77 items  
/1  A.E. Memorial Council; 1 letter per H. F. Norman.  
18 May 1839
British Broadcasting Co., 2 letters per W. H. Guthrie and G. L. Marshall
1925, 1938

/2  G. M. Bryson, 1 letter enclosing poems
14 August 1927

Levin Chase, 1 letter
30 August 1927

/3-5  Austin Clarke, 16 letters with draft letter to Clarke from Higgins
[c. 1925-1935]

/6  Mario Esposito, 2 letters
1922

Padraig Fallon, 1 letter
19 October 1940

Sean Flynn, 1 letter
31 May 1940

John Freeman, 3 letters
1927-[1933?]

/7  Oliver St. John Gogarty, 1 letter of recommendation
30 January 1928

Stephen Gwynn, 1 letter
5 January undated

William Jeffrey, 1 letter
16 July undated

Patrick Kavanagh
30 December 1926

/8  Isabel Leslie, 1 letter
23 October 1939

Cecil Day Lewis, 1 letter,
22 September [1932?]

James M. Listn, Bishop of Auckland, 1 letter
9 March 1932

/9  Hugh MacDiarmuid, 2 letters
1927, 1939

/10  Hamish MacLaren (of The Spectator), 1 letter
[c. 1930?]

Brinsley MacNamara, 1 letter
28 February 1934

‘Maureen’, 197 North Circular Road, 2 letters
[193?]

T. C. Murray, 1 letter
7 February 1937

Sean O’Casey, 1 letter
21 August 1939

/11

Michael O’Donovan, 5 letters, 3 re affairs of the Abbey Theatre, one to May Higgins
[192?], 1937

/12

Sean O’Faolain, 1 letter
28 November 1933

S. Oshima, 1 letter
10 November 1939

Herbert Palmer, 1 letter
24 January [193?]

J. B. Priestley, 1 letter and postcard
1927

/13

[Radio Eireann] per T. J. Kiernan, 1 letter
23 March 1939

Richard Rowley, 1 letter
20 April 1937

Royal Hibernian Academy per George Atkinson, 1 letter
20 October 1939

Ruth Manning Sanders, 1 letter
22 August [193?]

John [Spiers], 1 letters
30 January 1924

/14

Estella Starkie, 2 letters
1928

Walter Starkie, 1 letter re Abbey Theatre
1936
/15  Francis Stuart, 1 letter
     30 April 1926

     Pamela Travers, 1 letter
     9 October [193?]  

     Helen Waddell, 1 letter
     3 December 1934

     Robert N. Wilson, 1 letter
     1 April 1920

/16  Elizabeth C. Yeats, 2 letters re Cuala Industries
     1939

/17  George Yeats, 5 letters, mainly re Cuala Press business, one
     letter re a minor operation undergone by W. B. Yeats
     c. 1935-1937

/18  W. B. Yeats, 6 letters re Abbey Theatre, advice re publishers,
     Oxford Book of Modern Verse
     c. 1935-1938

MS 27,885  /1-3  Correspondence of F. R. Higgins with his publishers mainly
     John Lane, the Bodley Head Ltd. and Macmillan and Co.
     including a letter from Stephen Spender in 1940. With copies of
     his publishers’s contracts, c. 160 items
     October 1924-October 1940

     Irish Academy of Letters

MS 27,886  Circular letter addresses to F. R. Higgins from George Bernard
     Shaw and W. B. Yeats proposing the setting up of an Irish
     Academy of Letters
     c. 1932

MS 27,887  Correspondence between W. B. Yeats, George Russell and F. R.
     Higgins discussing membership of the Academy, Academy
     affairs, and Yeats’ fund raising trip to America; 8 items
     1932-1933

MS 27,888  /1-8  Letters to George Russell and F. R. Higgins, Secretaries to the
     Irish Academy of Letters, mainly accepting or rejecting
     membership and discussing Academy affairs; 58 items
     1932-1935

/1  Shan Bullock, 2 letters
    1933
Austin Clarke, 2 letters
1932-1933

Padraig Colum
1932

Shaw Desmond, 2 letters
1932

Lord Dunsany, 2 letters with 3 letters from the Secretary of the Academy
1932, 1934

St. John Ervine, 4 letters
1933

Oliver St. John Gogarty, 3 letters with a letter from George Russell
1933

Shane Leslie/Oliver St. John Gogarty, 3 letters
1933

Brinsley MacNamara, 1 letter
1932

Stephen MacKenna, 1 letter
1932

W. F. Magee, 1 letter
1932

Ethel Colburn Mayne, 1 letter
1935

T. C. Murray, 5 letters with a letter from the Secretary
1932-1933

Sean O’Casey, 1 letter
1935

Peadar O’Donnell, 2 letters
1932

Sean O’Faolaoin, 2 letters
1932-33

Eugene O’Neill, telegram
1933
Seamus O’Sullivan; 1 letter
1933

Forrest Reid; 2 letters
1932-1933

Lennox Robinson; 8 letters
1932-1933

E. Oe. Somerville; 12 letters
1932-1933

Cynthia Stephens; 1 letter
1932

James Stephens; 2 letters
1932, 193?

L. A. G. Strong (per Monica Redlich); 1 letter
1932

Francis Stuart; 1 letter
1932

Helen Waddell; 2 letters
1932, 1934

MS 27,889 Accounts of the Irish Academy of Letters; 6 items
1932-1933

MS 27,890 /1-6 Circular letters, notices, nomination forms, voting papers etc. of
the Irish Academy of Letters; c. 100 items
1933-1934

MS 27,891 Correspondence between Richard Campbell of New York and
the Secretaries of the Irish Academy of Letters, George Russell
and F. R. Higgins, mainly re the setting up of the Casement
Award domated by the Marquis MacDonald, and including
reference to W. B. Yeats’ fund raising trip to New York in
1932-1933; 5 items
1933

MS 27,892 Correspondence re the Harmsworth Award between the ‘Sunday
Dispatch’, Desmond Harmsworth, Seamas MacCall and George
Russell, F. R. Higgins of the Irish Academy of Letters; 7 items
1933

MS 27,893 Correspondence between the Irish Academy of Letters and the
Dept. of Justice re the banning of Shaw’s ‘Adventures of a
Black Girl in search of God’. With a complaint to the Academy
from J. F. Harvey Jacob re censorship; 9 items
1933, 1937

MS 27,894  Letter from the Gate Theatre to Dr. Walter Starkie re letting the theatre to the Irish Academy of Letters, 1933; programme for a series of lectures under the auspices of the Friends of the Irish Academy of Letters, 1940-1941; 2 items
1933, 1940

See also
MS 27,924  Photographs taken at the presentation of Irish Academy of Letters awards
c. 1934

Abbey Theatre

MS 27,895  Abbey Theatre literature: 6 miscellaneous programmes, 1934, 1937-1938; brochure entitled ‘The Abbey Theatre Players’, and poster for a Festival of Irish Drama, 1938; 8 items
1934-1938

MS 27,896  Typescript ‘Scheme for a State Theatre submitted to the Minister for Finance by the Directors of the National Theatre Society Ltd.’; 2 pp
c. 1935

MS 27,897 /1-8  Correspondence and papers re Abbey Theatre Company’s tour of the U.S.A. and Canada, managed by F. R. Higgins
1936-1938

/1  November 1936-June 1937

/2  July-September 1937

/3  6 letters from F. R. Higgins to Eric Gorman, Abbey Director, and to Frank O’Connor, reporting on progress in the U.S. and Canada
October 1937-February 1938

/4  October 1937

/5  November-December 1937

/6  January-August 1938

/7  Miscellaneous contracts, accounts, agreements etc.
October 1937-1938

/8  Correspondence with Messrs. Shan Mor Rice and Pat Gallagher arranging for the Abbey players to make a film; 18 letters
January-May 1938

See also
MS 27,925 Pressclippings and photographs of the Abbey Players tour to the U.S. and Canada 1937-1938

Miscellaneous Literature, Dedications, etc.

MS 27,898 /1-2 6 volumes of poetry by various authors, vic. Seosamh MacCathmhaoil, M. J. MacManus, Thomas Keohler, Seosamh MacGill Eathain and Robert Darioch, some dedicated to Higgins, and a copy of Gavan Duffy’s ‘Ballad Poetry of Ireland’, 6 items 1909-1940

MS 27,899 Cuala Press broadslides, including 3 edited by F. R. Higgins with W. B. Yeats; 11 items 1909, 1915, 1935, 1937

MS 27,900 /1 Manuscript poem by Francis Stuart entitled ‘Opium River’ sent [to F. R. Higgins] with covering note from Tintown Prison Camp, for inclusion in ‘We have kept the faith’; 3 pp 1923

MS 27,900 /2 ‘We gace kept the faith’ by H. [Francis] Stuart, Oak Leaf Press, Dublin 1923. [Printer’s copy] made up of printed copies of poems stuck down on pages of a notebook with ms. annotations; 1923

MS 27,901 Typescript and manuscript copies of poems by Mangan, Yeats, Frank O’Connor and R. N. D. Wilson; 24 pp c. 1920-1940

MS 27,902 Miscellaneous programmes, exhibition catalogues etc. including some for Old Dublin Society and a concert at the Gaiety Theatre; 12 items c. 1929-1940

MS 27,903 Miscellaneous postcards and transfer of a Celtic design; 6 items c. 1930-1940

MS 27,904 Offprints of stories by Hugh O’Grady and Arthur Mills, and of Eileen O’Connell’s ‘Lament for Art O’ Leary’ [c. 1935?]

MS 27,905 Programme for the Irish Ballet Club, and ‘Four talks on Irish women poets’ by Lennox Robinson c. 1939
MS 27,906 Leaflet for a commemorative service for W. B. Yeats, 1939 and obituary of Elizabeth Corbet Yeats, d. 1940; 2 items 1939-1940

May Higgins, 1917, 1941-1982

MS 27,907 Letters to May Higgins from ‘Arthur’ writing from France during the First World War; 4 pp 1917

See also
MS 27,926 Press photographs taken of F. R. Higgins’ funeral 1941

MS 27,908 /1-6 Letters and telegrams of condolence to Mrs F. R. Higgins on the death of her husband; c. 152 items January-February 1941

/1 Miscellaneous

/2 A-F, including letter from Austin Clarke

/3 G-K, including letter from Joseph Holloway

/4 L-N, including letters from Temple Lane, Sybil Le Brocquay, Hugh MacDiarmuid, Sean MacEntee, Maurice MacGonigal

/5 O-R, including letters from Cathal O’Shannon, Sean O’Sullivan, Lennox Robinson

/6 S-Y, including letters from C. Yeats and Eimear Yeats

MS 27,909 Accounts re settlement of F. R. Higgins’ estate; c. 30 items 1941

MS 27,910 Ms. Poem entitled ‘F. R. Higgins’ signed by Donagh MacDonagh 8 January 1941

MS 27,911 Souvenir programme for the F. R. Higgins Memorial Concert, 1 June 1941 at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin 1941

MS 27,912 Miscellaneous postcards, obituaries, leaflets etc. c. 1941-1966

MS 27,913 Miscellaneous letters to may Higgins, on personal and business matters; c. 20 items 1941-1976
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<tr>
<th>Catalogue</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS 27,914</td>
<td>Miscellaneous theatre programmes including some for the Abbey Theatre, Irish Ballet Club, Dublin Drama League, Pike Theatre Club; 11 items 1941-1949, 1962-1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,915</td>
<td>The Dublin Magazine, 1941, Longroom 1973 and ‘Poems from Ireland’ edited by Donagh MacDonagh 1944, all including references to or poems by F. R. Higgins; 4 items 1941-1973</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,916</td>
<td>Letters to Mrs F. R. Higgins from publishers and authors making arrangements to use her late husband’s work; c. 50 items 1943-1982</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,917</td>
<td>2 letters to May Higgins from Austin Clarke, 2 from Padraic Colum, 1 from Temple Lane and 14 from Brinsley MacNamara; 18 items 1946-1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,918</td>
<td>Miscellaneous notes etc., some of a literary nature by May Higgins; c. 30 items c. 1950-1970</td>
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### Photographs

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<tr>
<th>Catalogue</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,919</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Higgins family photographs; c. 70 items c. 1900-1977</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,920</td>
<td>Photographs of F. R. Higgins; 20 items 1919-1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,921</td>
<td>Photographs of F. R. Higgins with his wife May and other members of his family; 12 items c. 1920-1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,922</td>
<td>Photographs of James M’Neil Whistler, Douglas Hyde, R. M. Smyllie, Donagh MacDonagh, Walter Starkie, Brinsley MacNamara, Saumas O’Sullivan, and Brenda Gogarty c. 1920-1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS 27,923</td>
<td>Photographs of F. R. Higgins with Lennox Robinson, Seamus O’Sullivan, Yeats and Brinsley MacNamara; 4 items c. 1930-1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,924</td>
<td>Photographs taken at the presentation of the Irish Academy of Letters awards, including pictures of Yeats, Lord Dunsany, F. R. Higgins, Sean O’Faolain and Brinsley MacNamara; 2 items c. 1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,925</td>
<td>Press photographs of Abbey Players tour to the U.S. and Canada; 6 items</td>
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<td>1937-1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,926</td>
<td>Press photographs taken at F. R. Higgins’ funeral, including pictures of Lennox Robinson, Sean O’Faolain, R. M. Smyllie, and photographs of Sean O’Sullivan’s painting of Higgins; 9 items</td>
</tr>
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<td>1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS 27,927</td>
<td>2 panels of photographs of F. R. Higgins, his family and friends, made up with captions by May Higgins for exhibition</td>
</tr>
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<td>[c. 1945?]</td>
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