



Guide to the Allan Gurganus Papers, 1961-2020

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Durham 27708

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Summary

Collection Title:

Allan Gurganus Papers, 1961-2020

Creator:

Gurganus, Allan, 1947-

Abstract:

Allan Gurganus (1947-), a gay, white, Southern writer, was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Gurganus trained as a painter, served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, then studied at Sarah Lawrence College and the Iowa Writers' Workshop. He later taught writing at Sarah Lawrence College; the Iowa Writers' Workshop; Stanford University; and Duke University. The collection includes the following series: (1) Writings; (2) Correspondence; (3) Personal Papers; (4) Artwork; and (5) Others' Works.

Extent:

65 Linear Feet
.07 Gigabytes

Language:

Materials in English

Collection ID:

RL.11748

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1mk94>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Allan Gurganus Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

The (1) Writings Series is divided into the Books, Novellas and Articles subseries, Uncollected Works subseries, and Addresses and Speeches subseries. Gurganus's writings, collected here as manuscripts, typescripts, and proofs with

notes, documenting his development of well-known and critically-acclaimed works. His collected works include *White People*; *The Practical Heart*; *Plays Well with Others*; and, *Local Souls*. Gurganus's other books and individual stories, essays, and drawings or illustrations related to the titles are included in this Series.

The (2) Correspondence Series is divided into the Chronological Correspondence subseries which consists of letters to and from Gurganus, publishers, and friends, and the Correspondence, Alphabetical by Name subseries is comprised of correspondence between Gurganus and other writers, artists, literary figures, and close friends.

The (3) Personal Papers Series contains Gurganus's family correspondence, documents, many of the books, letters, art and photographs kept in his home. Financial and legal records as well as documentation of his writing career through contracts and royalty statements are also included in this series. The (4) Artwork Series is comprised of doodles, drawings, paintings, and sketches. Series (5) Others' Works, includes books, articles, and typescripts written by friends, students, and others.

Biographical/Historical

Allan Gurganus (1947-), a gay, white, Southern writer, was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. He trained as a painter at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. As punishment for his draft evasion during the Vietnam War, he served as a message decoder in the United States Navy for three years. It was during his time on the USS Yorktown that he began to write. After his military service, he graduated from Sarah Lawrence College where he had studied with Grace Paley. In the Iowa Writers' Workshop at the University of Iowa, Gurganus studied with John Irving, Stanley Elkin, and John Cheever. It was Cheever who sold one of Gurganus's short stories to *The New Yorker* without his knowledge. "Minor Heroism" became the first story *The New Yorker* ever published about a homosexual character. Gurganus later taught writing at Sarah Lawrence College; the Iowa Writers' Workshop; Stanford University; and Duke University.

Extensive personal and professional correspondence between Gurganus and his family, friends, and other artists provides insight into how being gay and living in the south shaped his writing. These letters concern both personal and literary matters. Frequently the correspondents commented on each other's recent publications and work, or on projects in progress.

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Arrangement

Organized into the following series: Writings, Correspondence, Personal papers, Artwork, and Others' works.

Arrangement follows creator's chronological dates where available. Archivist arranged where dates are not available.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Access restricted. The Personal Papers series, Academics, Gurganus as Teacher subseries includes student materials. In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended, Duke University permits students to inspect their education records and limits the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records. Contact Research Services for more information.

Access note. Collection contains electronic records that require special equipment. Contact Research Services with questions.

Access note. Collection contains fragile audiovisual/photographic formats that may need to be reformatted before use. Contact Research Services for access.

Access restricted. Collection contains potentially sensitive information in the Personal series, Financial and Legal subseries. Contact Research Services for Access.

Acquisition Information

The Allan Gurganus Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase in 2012-2020.

Processing Information

Processed by Leah Kerr and Bethany Lynch, October 2019.

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2012-0127, 2012-0221, 2017-0172, 2018-0062, 2018-0082, 2018-0142, 2018-0155, 2019-0057, 2020-0049, 2020-0100, 2021-0103, 2024-0014.

Updated by Leah Tams, December 2021.

Accessions 2020-0049 and 2020-0100 processed by Vladimir Lukin, February 2023.

Accession 2024-0014 processed by Craig Breaden, April 2025.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

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Related Materials

Related Material

[Allan Gurganus papers](#), David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Names and Subjects

- Authors, American -- 21st century

- American literature -- Southern States
- American literature -- 20th century
- American literature -- Male authors
- Authors, American -- Correspondence
- College teachers -- United States
- Caucasian race in literature
- Essays -- 20th century
- Gay men -- Southern States
- Literature -- History and criticism
- American literature -- Manuscripts
- Short stories, American -- 20th century
- Humorous stories, American -- History and criticism
- Drawings (visual works)
- Pen and ink drawings.
- Original illustrations: Engravings, woodcuts, drawings, lithographs
- Paintings (visual works)
- United States -- Navy -- Sea life
- Vietnam War, 1961-1975 -- Personal narratives
- Gay people -- North Carolina
- Rocky Mount (N.C.) -- History
- Taylor, Paul, 1930-
- Eatman, George H.
- Humphreys, Josephine
- Marlette, Doug
- Spiro, Ellen
- Thorp, Daisy B.
- Yaddo (Artists' colony)
- Smith, Leverett T., Jr.
- Paley, Grace

Collection Inventory

Writings, 1972-2020, undated

Access Restrictions:

Collection contains electronic records that must be requested through the collection guide and accessed in our reading room. Contact Research Services with questions. Collection contains fragile audiovisual/photographic formats that may need to be reformatted before use. Contact Research Services for access.

Scope and Contents

This Series includes writings by Gurganus, and are arranged into the subseries Books, Novellas and Articles; and Addresses and Speeches. The Books

subseries is composed chiefly of manuscripts, drafts, typescripts, and proofs of Gurganus's novels, novellas, essays, and articles with the author's notations and revisions, and provides a thorough representation of the development of each. The Uncollected Works subseries contains drafts, copies, proofs, and published works not included in Gurganus's books and novellas. Transcripts of his speeches appear in the Addresses and Speeches subseries.

Books, Novellas and Articles, 1972-2016, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes the notes, manuscripts, drafts, revisions; correspondence; galleys; proofs; publicity; and reviews related titles of Gurganus's works. Gurganus's early work includes actual 'cut and paste' edits on typewriter drafts before his use of a computer with that same digital ability. They are arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Breathing Lessons, 1981-1982, undated

Notes and drafts, 1981-1982, undated Box 1

Scope and Contents

Includes Library of Congress registration correspondence.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1981 Box 21

Scope and Contents

Includes a signed copy.

Good Help, 1987-1988, undated

Scope and Contents

Good Help or The Slave's Tale

Notes and drafts, 1987, undated Box 1

Physical Description: 4 folders

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1988 Box 21

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes a signed copy; and a copy with an inscription to Ted Pewett.

Publicity, 1988, undated Box 1

Physical Description: 5 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes announcements for readings; illustrations; patron list; and articles.

Publicity, oversized, 1988 Feb 21 Box 24

Publicity, 1988 May 30 Box 25

Reviews, 1988 Box 1

Physical Description: 2 folders

Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All, 1982-2010, undated

Scope and Contents

Gurganus's first novel was a New York Times best seller for eight months. The novel was later adapted into a television mini-series, and a stage play.

Notes and drafts, 1983-2001, undated Box 1

Physical Description: 27 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes Jock - The Good American Story.

Notes and drafts, undated Box 2

Physical Description: 15 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts and correspondence with Eddie P; Her Confession - theatrical adaptation. Also includes Under this Very Mall.

Proofs and galleys, 1989-1990 Box 2

Physical Description: 15 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated proofs and galleys.

Proofs and galleys, 1990-1991, undated Box 3

Physical Description: 23 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated proofs and galleys.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1992	Box 21
Physical Description: 4 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Italian and German translations.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works, oversized, undated	Box 24
<hr/>	
Publicity, 1982-1990, undated	Box 3
Physical Description: 35 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes articles; interviews; invitations; and schedules related to publicity.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, 1990-2010, undated	Box 4
Physical Description: 100 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes articles; fliers; and correspondence related to the novel, and the television mini-series.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, 1989-1994, undated	Box 23
Physical Description: 11 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes articles, fliers, and interviews.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, oversized, 1991-2001	Box 24
Physical Description: 8 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes articles about the television mini-series; German articles; and French articles.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, 1989-1999	Box 25
Physical Description: 11 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes newspaper articles; reviews; and fliers.	

Reviews, 1989-2003, undated Box 4

Physical Description: 16 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes reviews from the Los Angeles Times; and the Book-of-the-Month Club.

Correspondence, 1988, undated Box 4

Physical Description: 2 folders

Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All,
television mini-series, 1994

Box 71 > Video-cassette
RL11748-VHS-0001-
RL11748-VHS-0004

Physical Description: 4 items

Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All
(Play Adaptation): Draft, circa 2000s Box 73

White People: Stories and Novellas, 1972-1997, undated

Scope and Contents

White People is a collection of stories and novellas including Adult Art; A Hog Loves Its Life; America Competes; Art History; Blessed Assurance; Condolences to Every One of Us; It Had Wings; Minor Heroism; Nativity, Caucasian; and Reassurance.

Notes and drafts, artwork, undated Box 4

Scope and Contents

Includes original artwork for the book.

Notes and drafts, 1989-1990, undated Box 4

Physical Description: 21 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts of Adult Art; A Hog Loves Its Life; America Competes; Art History; Blessed Assurance; and Breathing Room.

Notes and drafts, 1972-1997, undated Box 5

Physical Description: 40 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts and galleys, correspondence, and articles related to Condolences to Every One of Us; It Had Wings, with illustrations; Minor Heroism; Nativity, Caucasian; and Reassurance.

Proofs and galleys, 1986-1990, undated Box 5

Physical Description: 14 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts and galleys, correspondence, and articles related to Blessed Assurance, with a draft of the teleplay by Joyce Eliason; Condolences to Every One of Us; It Had Wings; Minor Heroism, Nativity, Caucasian; and Reassurance. Also included is Blessed Assurance as published in Granta magazine.

Proofs and galleys, 1990-1991 Box 6

Physical Description: 8 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated proofs and galleys. Also includes Minor Heroism as published in the New Yorker magazine.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1974, undated Box 6

Physical Description: 2 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes Nativity, Caucasian, as published in the Brown Journal of the Arts with an inscription to Marvin and Ethel Gurganus.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1990 Box 21

Scope and Contents

Includes the Spanish translation, Blancos.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 2001 Box 22

Scope and Contents

Includes the French translation, Les Blancs: Nouvelles.

Publicity, 1974-1994, undated Box 6

Physical Description: 47 folders

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1989	Box 21
Physical Description: 2 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes A Hog Loves Its Life, published in The Quarterly; and Boys Like Us.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, oversized, 1991, 1992	Box 24
Physical Description: 5 folders	
<hr/>	
Publicity, 1991, 1995, undated	Box 25
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes newspaper reviews, including a review in Spanish published in El País.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, Blessed Assurance, 1991	Box 23
<hr/>	
Publicity, Blessed Assurance, oversized, 1995 Jul 2	Box 24
Scope and Contents	
Includes an article on the television movie, The Price of Heaven, which was adapted from the novella.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works of Nativity, Caucasian, oversized, 1987	Box 24
Scope and Contents	
Includes Nativity, Caucasian which was published in the Village Advocate.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works, oversized, 1991	Box 24
Scope and Contents	
Includes Los Angeles Times Book Prizes flier for White People.	
<hr/>	
Nativity, Caucasian, undated	Box 72 > Audio-cd RL11748-CD-0002
Scope and Contents	
Includes a recording of Gurganus reading Nativity, Caucasian.	

Reviews, 1991-1992, undated Box 6

Physical Description: 18 folders

The Biography of My Autobiography, undated

Notes and drafts, undated Box 6

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts.

Selections from the Writings of Allan Gurganus on his Fiftieth Birthday, undated

Notes and drafts, undated Box 6

Plays Well With Others, 1991-1998, undated

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts and galleys, arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Notes and drafts, 1997 Box 6

Physical Description: 4 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated typed manuscripts.

Notes and drafts, 1997, undated Box 7

Physical Description: 23 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes annotated drafts and galleys, including subtitle Thirty Dildoes.

Notes and drafts, undated Box 8

Physical Description: 19 folders

Proofs and galleys, 1997 Box 8

Physical Description: 6 folders

Proofs and galleys, 1997-1998, undated Box 9

Physical Description: 13 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes a bound, annotated draft.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1997,
1999

Box 21

Physical Description: 3 items

Scope and Contents

Includes the German translation, Die älteste noch lebende Rebellen-
witwe erzählt.

Plays Well with Others Proofs and Galleys,
1997, undated

Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes cover proofs.

Publicity, 1991-1999, undated

Box 9

Physical Description: 19 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes interviews, and publicity.

Publicity, 1997

Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes an interview with Gurganus published in Bomb magazine.

Publicity, oversized, 1997, undated

Box 24

Physical Description: 6 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes reviews; interviews; and articles. Also includes a note from Lee
Smith.

Plays Well With Others audiobook cassettes,
1997

Box 72 > Audio-cassette
RL11748-CS-0001 -
RL11748-CS-0004

Physical Description: 4 items

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus reading Plays Well With Others.

Reviews, 1997-1998, undated	Box 9
Physical Description: 21 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes interviews, and reviews.	
<hr/>	
Publicity, 2001 Nov 21	Box 25
<hr/>	
Plays Well With Others digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003
Physical Description: 13 files; approximately 10 megabytes.	
Scope and Contents	
Contains document files.	
<hr/>	
A Highly Unlikely Love Poem to My Parents: Draft (2 folders), circa 1980s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Plays Well With Others: Draft, circa 1990s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Plays Well With Others: Audiobook Draft, 1997	Box 73
<hr/>	
Sacrificial Couples and the Splendor of our Failures: Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, undated	
Notes and drafts, undated	Box 9
Physical Description: 2 folders	
<hr/>	
Sacrificial Couples and the Splendor of our Failures digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003
Physical Description: 2 files; less than 1 megabyte.	
Scope and Contents	
Contains document files.	
<hr/>	
Sacrificial Couples: Draft, circa 1990s	Box 73
<hr/>	
The Practical Heart: Four Novellas, 1974-2009, undated	
Scope and Contents	
This subseries includes materials related to the novellas and chapters in The Practical Heart including: He's One, Too; The Practical Heart; Expense of Spirit; Impractical Truth; Preservation News; Available for Restoration;	

Celebrating the Life of Theodore Hunstable Worth; Saint Monster - New Testament; and Saint Monster - Old Testament. The materials are arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Notes and drafts, 1974-1976, undated	Box 10
Physical Description: 29 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes annotated drafts.	
Notes and drafts, 2001, undated	Box 11
Physical Description: 9 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes annotated drafts of Preservation News #14; Saint Monster; and Expense of the Heart.	
Proofs and galleys, 1993, 2001	Box 11
Physical Description: 20 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes annotated proofs, including He's One Too; Old Testament; and cover art in German.	
Proofs and galleys, 2001, undated	Box 12
Physical Description: 8 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes bound copies of Preservation News; correspondence; and cover art.	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 1997	Box 12
Scope and Contents	
Includes a bound copy of Preservation News.	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 2004	Box 22
Physical Description: 3 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes the German translation, Die wilden Jahre.	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 2009	Box 22

Scope and Contents

Includes the Italian translation of Saint Monster, Santo Mostro, with an inscription to Maria.

Publicity, 1993-2001, undated Box 12

Physical Description: 15 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes a cover proof in German; interviews; articles; and publicity.

Publicity, oversized, 1998 Mar 29 Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes an article on the opera adapted from Practical Heart.

Publicity, 1999 Box 25

Scope and Contents

Includes a performance flier for Practical Heart by The Jewish Museum Program.

Reviews, 1998-2001, undated Box 12

Physical Description: 10 folders

The Practical Heart digital materials Digital-materials
RL11748-SET-0003

Physical Description: 20 files; approximately 10 megabytes.

Scope and Contents

Contains document files.

The Practical Heart: Drafts, circa
1980s-1990s Box 73

My Heart is a Snake Farm, 2004-2005, undated

Notes and drafts, 2004 Box 12

Physical Description: 4 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes a copy of the publication in Harper's magazine.

Publicity, 2004 Box 12

Scope and Contents

Includes an invitation to the Center for Documentary Studies.

Publicity, undated Box 23

Reviews, oversized, 2005 Jun 5 Box 24

My Heart is a Snake Farm digital materials Digital-materials
RL11748-SET-0003

Physical Description: 1 file; less than 1 megabyte.

Scope and Contents

Contains a document file.

Taletelling the Tyche Collection: Narrative Responses, 2010, undated

Scope and Contents

Taletelling the Tyche Collection: Narrative Responses was published in Fortune Smiles: The Tyche Foundation Gift.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 2010 Box 12

Physical Description: 2 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes Taletelling the Tyche Collection: Narrative responses, published in Fortune Smiles; and the Tyche Foundation Collection catalog.

Proofs and galleys, undated Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes an annotated galley.

Local Souls: Novellas, 2012-2016, undated

Scope and Contents

Local Souls: Novellas include Decoy; Fear Not; and Saints Have Mothers, and is arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Notes and drafts, 2012, undated Box 12

Physical Description: 15 folders

Scope and Contents	
Includes manuscripts with notes; maps of Falls; and editing and production specifications.	
Notes and drafts, 2015, undated	Box 13
Physical Description: 24 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes annotated drafts of Decoy; and Fear Not.	
Proofs and galleys, 2012-2013, undated	Box 14
Physical Description: 10 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes correspondence with publishing correspondence.	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 2016	Box 22
Scope and Contents	
Includes the Italian translation of Decoy.	
Proofs and galleys, undated	Box 23
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Publicity, 2013	Box 14
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Local Souls cover art.	
Local Souls digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003
Physical Description: 5 files; less than 1 megabyte.	
Scope and Contents	
Contains document files.	
Decoy: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Local Souls: Drafts, circa 2010s	Box 73
Saints Have Mothers: Draft (2 folders), circa 2010s	Box 73

Uncollected Works, 1973-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes drafts; copies; proofs; and published works not included in Gurganus's books, and is arranged in alphabetical order.

Notes and drafts, A-C, 1977-2013, undated

Box 14

Physical Description: 32 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies of: \$19.95 Walking Tour; A Still Small Voice Under the Cannonade: Field Notes toward Fiction's Pact with History; Allan's Handy Examples; Anatomy of Injustice: Raymond Bonner review; Asheville Takes a Suitor; At My Present Weight; Attempt of a Story About Easter Island; Baseball: Runs Batted In; Basic Photography and the Self-Made Man; Beggars' Etiquette; Behemoth; Billie Holiday research; Blue Devils Made Them Do It; The Body Politic: A Fable; Body Tends to Shine: The Book of Justified Punishments; Boys Like Us, publicity and reviews; The Brussel Sprout as Theology or Food Ways of the Presbyterians; The Business of Blessing; Car Offer; The Case of the Silent Violinist; Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol; Cholera: We Wish for a Good Young Country Doctor; Chris and Cathy Wilson interview at Old Town Plantation; The Civil War in Us; and A Clean, Well-Lighted Internet Cafe.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1985

Box 21

Physical Description: 2 items

Scope and Contents

Includes A Body Tends to Shine, published in The Paris Review.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, 1990 Oct 8

Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes The Civil War in Us.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 2010

Box 22

Scope and Contents

Includes 27 Views of Hillsborough: A Southern Town in Prose and Poetry, Old Houses & Young Men: Notes on Renovation & Survival.

Notes and drafts, C-G, 1976-1979, 1989-1999,
2000-2004, undated

Box 15

Physical Description: 50 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies: Comfort; Communique; Competition; Complications; Concerned Baptist Novelist Appeals to Jesse Helms' Sense of Art; Dad's at the Office; A Dress is a Flag; Drown: How I Died and What I Learned From It; Early Art and Notes; Eden: The Sequel; Essay: On Being Alone; Essential Stories Still Unwritten; Falls maps; Feels Like Home with Correspondence; Female Trouble; The Fertile 'We' of One Chaste 'I'; Fetch; First Week of His Retirement; The Food Obsession; The Fool of Quality or Heart in Hand The Fool of Quality; For the Norton Anthology: In Praise of Stephen Crane's 'The Open Boat'; Forced To: A Naughty Story for David Del Tredici; For the Memories; Friends Notes on Writing; The Future; Garden Sermon: Being the History of a History; Gatsby; and Gossip.

All Things Considered, 2004 Dec 24

Box 72 > Audio-cd
RL11748-CD-0004

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus reading A Fool for Christmas.

Notes and drafts, G-M, 1984-1996, 2000-2008,
undated

Box 16

Physical Description: 48 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies: Gossip; Gurganus on Melissa Meyer; Gurganus publicity biography; Having Come Out, Look! We Have Come Through: Or What Togs Are Appropriate For the March on Washington?; He's At the Office; The Henfield Prize Stories; Hiram Johnson Cuthrell Jr.: In Thanksgiving for His Life; House and Garden draft; How're the Folks; How I Died and What I Learned From It; How to Leave; In God There Is No East or West; In Praise of Stephen Crane's The Open Boat; Inside Out; Introduction of Gurganus by Ron George; The Invention of Suburbia; Inventory; Iowa drafts; I Sing in Praise of 'Man Bites Dog'; It Had Ears: Toward an Even More Precise Identification of the Newer Angels; John Cheever Turns 100; The Jubilee Dinner Program The Iowa Writers' Workshop; Lair and Refuge: I Work at Home, photographs by Frank Hunter; Legend Has It; The Lessons of Likeness; Lift Off, Laurel Wreaths and the Power of 'Yes': A Decade of the Henfield Prizes; Literary Outtakes: An Anecdote from Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All; Local Man for Granata; Love: An Introductory Offer; Luther's Dream; A Macho Fish Story for the Guy of Today; The Man with the Man that Drowned; Man,

Woman, Dog, and a Hole in the Ground; The Man Who Loved Cemeteries; Many Happy Returns Inc.; Many Happy Returns of the Day Invocation, John One, One; Men are Either Loud or Silent; Mr. Barnhill Horse Rescue; and The Mortician Confesses.

Annotated proof, He's At the Office, undated Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes an oversized proof.

The Best American Short Stories, 2000 Box 72 > Audio-cd
RL11748-CD-0003

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus reading He's at the Office.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, 1989 Jan 19 Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes Love at 99.

Proofs and galleys, published works, undated Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes If Grandma Had Been Homer.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, undated Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes Knopf Christmas Book List.

Notes and drafts, M, 1993, undated Box 17

Physical Description: 20 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies: The Mortician Confesses; Mouth of the South; Museum; My Cultural Misappropriation; and My First Death.

Notes and drafts, M-T, 1973-1975, 1992-1999,
2000-2012, undated Box 18

Physical Description: 44 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies: My Magic Lantern Talk notebook; My Mother and the Hair-do's of the Staff; Notes for a Talk to People of Faith Against the Death Penalty; Now the Feds are Paying Us Not to Grow One Thing, What Shall We Export From Eastern North Carolina?; O, The Blackberries of 51!; Ode to Boy; Old Houses and Young Men; On Being Alone; One Family Repeatedly; On Whether to Purge the Dead from One's Address Book; The Passable Kingdom; The Picker's Tale; Pocket Watch Goes North; Reynolds Price memorial draft; Reynolds Price review; The Promissory Glance of David Verano; P.T. Barnum and my Great-Great Granddad's Slaves; The Punishment for Suicides; The Rebellion Continues, at Least in the Southern Short Story; Rental Garden; Rough Sketch in Evergreen: Toward the Resurrection of Charles Dudley Warner; Rumor Has It; Sailor: A Macho Fish Story for the Guy of Today; The Scavenger Hunt for 1850; Scott Fitzgerald at 100: The Most Gifted Jazz Baby, with correspondence; See Me in the Movies: The Author Goes on Location with His Oldest Living Confederate Widow; The Sense of Life: Paintings by Melissa Meyer; Seven Details: The Major Critic of the Show Felt to be Overexplicit; Shell Castle; Shep, A Dog of Our Time; Soldiers and Sailors Like to Take Showers; So Long 20th Century Heroism; Something About My Father; Soot, Spit, and the Silence: Imagining Now and Why James Castle Drew; A Stolen Bible is a Noticed Bible; Strangers on a Train; Sufficient Candy: A Racial Memory; The Tailor and the Leg; The Taste of Game; A Tissue of Lies; Tomb of the Unknown Citizen; and A Torrent of Kindness.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1975

Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes a review of Surface of the Earth by Reynolds Price.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1984
Oct 14

Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes A Public Denial.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, 1991

Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes Relax, It's Almost Over.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1991
Dec 1

Box 25

Scope and Contents

Includes A Sendak Christmas.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1992,
2002

Box 22

Physical Description: 3 items

Scope and Contents

Includes My Summer in a Garden with an introduction by Allan Gurganus; and Ode to Boy, published in The Yale Review.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, 1995 Aug 22

Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes The State of Tobacco.

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1997
Jun 26

Box 23

Scope and Contents

Includes SEP Fiction galley.

Proofs and galleys, published works,
oversized, 1999 Oct 2

Box 24

Scope and Contents

Includes A Torrent of Kindness.

Notes and drafts, T-Y, 1989-1999, undated

Box 19

Physical Description: 21 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and copies: Toward a More Precise Identification of Newer Angels; Toward a New Romanticism?; To War Again; War Story; We, the Improbable Heirs Yaddo in the 1980's; We, of Weedland; We Wish For a Good Young Country Doctor; Welty, Eudora; When Everything Was Funny; Where Babies Come From; White Like Us; Whitman-Eakins talk; Whitman: A Candidate for the Future Speech; Why Charleston Won't Commit to Me; The World is a Painted Wall; Writers Dreaming; Xmas; Yaddo and American Film; Yaddo Essay 100th Anniversary; and You, As a House.

Notes and drafts, Sister Eudora, oversized,
1999

Box 24

Proofs and galleys, published works, 1989	Box 23
Scope and Contents	
Includes The Most Truthful Liar?.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 1991	Box 67
Scope and Contents	
Includes What's Wrong With This Picture, from A Sendak Christmas, published in The New York Times Book Review.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works, oversized, 1993	Box 24
Scope and Contents	
Includes Why We March.	
<hr/>	
Proofs and galleys, published works, 2014	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Includes We are Fossils from the Future, published by the Master of Fine Arts in Experimental and Documentary Arts program in association with the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University.	
<hr/>	
Adult Child Still Home: Draft, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Behemoth: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Celebrating the Tyche Collection: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Civics and Protein: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carrol, adapted by Michel Malone and Allan Gurganus: Draft (2 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
The Country Child, When Overpraised, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
<hr/>	
The Deluxe \$19.95 Walking Tour of Historic Falls (NC) - Light-Lunch Inclusive: Drafts (5 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73

Fate of a Left-Handed Faith Healer: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Fetch: Draft (2 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
A Fool for Christmas, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
For Jack Fullilove (1917-2000): Draft, circa 2000	Box 73
Future site of...: Draft (2 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Garden Sermon: Draft, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 73
Goddess Sizes: Draft (2 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
He's at the Office: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
He's One Too, adapted for the screen by Thom Fitzgerald, 2000	Box 73
I Sing the Sister Who Stayed Put: Draft, 1998	Box 73
Just One Damn Thing After the Other (A Story Collection): Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Lair and Refuge: On Frank Hunter's Photos, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
Madame de Villeneuve-Flayoss, 1789: Draft, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
The Mortician Confesses: Draft, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
My Heart is a Snakefarm: Draft (2 folders), circa 2000s	Box 73
Ode to Boy: Draft (2 folders), circa 1990s	Box 73
Old Houses and Young Men: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Plays Well: Draft, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 76

Shep, a Dog of Our Time: Draft, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
Sufficient Candy, a racial memory: Draft, 1996	Box 73
The Toad King is Moody: Draft, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 73
Toward a More Precise Identification of the Newer Angels: Draft, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 76
Toward a More Precise Identification of the Newer Angels: Draft, 1984	Box 73
Trends in the Current Cinema: Draft, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Unassisted Human Flight: Drafts (3 folders), circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
Uncollected digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003

Physical Description: 67 files; approximately 10 megabytes.

Scope and Contents

Contains document files.

Magazine Publications, 1974-2020	Box 76
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Addresses and Speeches, 1991-2018, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes addresses and speeches written and given by Gurganus and is arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Poets and Writers Twentieth Anniversary gala, 1991	Box 20
Yaddo and American film, 1995	Box 20
Iowa Writers' Workshop, 2010 Apr 30	Box 20

Scope and Contents

Includes If Fiction is a Form of History, How is History Itself Not Fictional?: A Talk.

St. David's School commencement	Box 20
Graduation address, Bennington MFAs, 2018 Jan	Box 20
Acceptance speech for Lammie, fiction, undated	Box 20
Bessie Schonberg introduction, undated	Box 20
Lecture on the south in memory, undated	Box 20
Whitman: A candidate for the future, undated	Box 20
We are Fossils of the Future: Duke MFA graduation speech, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 73
If Fiction Is One Form of History, How Is History Itself Is Not Fictional? Iowa Writers' Workshop: Draft, 2010	Box 73
Concerning "Fiction as History and Vice Versa", circa 2010s	Box 73

Untitled Works, 1970-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

Includes untitled and undated drafts; fragments; illustrations; notes; poems; and scripts.

Untitled works, 2003, undated	Box 19
Physical Description: 19 folders	
Untitled works, undated	Box 20
Physical Description: 51 folders	
Untitled Drafts (23 folders), 1970s-2010s	Box 74
Untitled works digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748- SET-0003
Physical Description: 36 files; approximately 5 megabytes.	
Scope and Contents	
Contains document files.	

Drafts, 1999-2005

Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0005

Scope and Contents

Drafts stored in the My Documents folder of Gurganus's personal computer. Drafts have not been sorted out. The structure of the folder retains the original grouping of the files and hence may contain duplicate files.

Drafts - Floppy Disks, 1993-2008

Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0005

Scope and Contents

The folder contains Gurganus's drafts stored on 3.5" and 5.25" floppy disks. Files have names such as "REAL", "FUN.BK!", "Hairdo" etc. which do not necessarily reflect the actual title of a piece. Some drafts contain multiple versions and reflect Gurganus's writing and editing process.

Files from 5.25" floppy disks were made by using Wang Word Processor: the text is accessible via hex editors while the original formatting is lost.

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Correspondence, 1961-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

The Correspondence Series is divided into the Chronological Correspondence subseries and the Correspondence, Alphabetical by Name subseries. The Chronological Correspondence subseries consists of letters to and from Gurganus. Correspondents include family, friends, artists, and admirers of his work. These letters concern both personal and literary matters. Frequently the correspondents commented on each other's recent publications and work, or on projects in progress.

Correspondence, Chronological, 1961-2019

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes correspondence between Gurganus and his family, friends, associates, students, and business contacts, and is arranged chronologically.

Correspondence, 1961-1993

Box 26

Physical Description: 13 folders

Correspondence, 1994-2019	Box 27
Physical Description: 10 folders	
Correspondence, oversized, 2017	Box 40
Correspondence digital materials	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003
Physical Description: 5 files; less than 1 megabyte.	
Scope and Contents	
Contains document files.	
Correspondence, circa 1960s-2010s	Box 74
Email correspondence, 2002-2005	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0006
Physical Description: Approximately 1200 email messages; 50 megabytes.	
Scope and Contents	
Email messages in MBOX format.	
Correspondence, Alphabetical by Name, 1966-2020, undated	
Scope and Contents	
This subseries includes correspondence between Gurganus and other artists, his family, and friends, and is arranged by last name of the correspondent, or company name. Where known, the occupation of the correspondent is included. Many Correspondence folders contain a limited number of items.	
Abelson, Donald S., 1991	Box 28
Adams, Pat (painter), 1989, undated	Box 28
Ajay, Steve (writer), 1982	Box 28
Allen, Kenny, 1995	Box 28
American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, 1990-2007	Box 28
Anderson, Julian, 1984-1989	Box 28
Appffel, Edmund, 1981-1985	Box 28
Appel, Richard, 1993-1994	Box 28

Scope and Contents

Includes a television script from The Simpsons.

Arimondi, Victor (photographer), 1996	Box 28
The Asheville School, 1989	Box 28
Athas, Daphne (writer), 1990	Box 28
Averill, Brett (newspaper editor), 1982-1990	Box 28

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs.

Baenen, Michael, 1982, undated	Box 28
Ballantine, Del Rey, Fawcett, Ivy, 1991-1992	Box 28
Banks, Russell (writer), 1991	Box 28
Barkway, Stephen (writer), 1993-2018	Box 28
Beattie, Ann (writer), 2012	Box 28
Beavon, Constance (opera singer), 1983-1995	Box 28
Becket Logan Photography, 1989	Box 28
Belzer, Judith (painter), 1996	Box 28

Scope and Contents

Judith Belzer is married to Michael Pollan.

Berghausen, Sara Seten (curator), 2016	Box 28
Bernard, Andre, 1989	Box 28
Betts, Doris (writer), undated	Box 28
Bishop, Elizabeth (poet), 1975	Box 28
Black, Robin (writer), 1989	Box 28
Blangsted, Else (music editor), 1991	Box 28
Bonner, Jay (Asheville School), 1981-2018	Box 28

Bourjaily, Tina, 1976-1993	Box 28
Boyle, T.C. (writer), 1993	Box 28
Bram, Chris (writer), 1989-1998	Box 28
Bromwell, Henry (writer), 1976	Box 28
Brown, Larry (writer), 1990	Box 28
Buchanan, Jeff, 1982-1988, undated	Box 28
Buford, Bill (writer), 1989	Box 28
Burke, Mike, 1992-1997	Box 74
Burke, Steven, 2020	Box 74
Burns, Ken (filmmaker), 1990	Box 28
Burstyn, Ellen (actor), 2011	Box 28
Caldwell, Joe (writer), 1989-2013, undated	Box 28
Calisher, Hortense (writer), 1990-1991	Box 28
Candida Donadio and Associates, 1976-1990, undated	Box 28
Carbonneau, Suzanne (art historian), 2010	Box 28
Carpenter, Carleton (actor), 2016	Box 28
Carver, Raymond (writer), 1981	Box 28
Cheever, John, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 74

Scope and Contents

Approximately 15 letters to Allan from John Cheever, most TLSes and some with envelopes, mid-1970s.

Chibka, Robert (writer), 1975-1995	Box 28
Clinton, Bill (politician), 1995	Box 29
Cole, Steven (opera singer), 1983	Box 29

Conroy, Frank (writer), 1994	Box 29
Cooper, Jane (poet), 1988-1990	Box 29
Crawford, Dean (writer), undated	Box 29
Cuthrell, Hiram Johnson, 1988, undated	Box 29
D'Agata, John (writer), 2015, undated	Box 29
Delillo, Don (writer), 1989	Box 29
Del Tredici, David (composer), 1981-1983, undated	Box 29
Doctorow, E. L. (writer), 1975	Box 29
Doyle, Ursula (writer), undated	Box 29
Drechsel, Shirley, undated	Box 29
Drisch, Russell (artist), 1989	Box 29
Eatman, Ed, 1990-1995	Box 29
Eatman, George (attorney), 1978-2014, undated	Box 29
Physical Description: 3 folders	
Eatman, George, and John Craft, 1978-1986	Box 29
Edgerton, Catherine (artist), undated	Box 29
Eiben, Therese (writer), 1989-1993	Box 29
Eil, David (economist, attorney), 1989	Box 29
Eliason, Joyce (television writer and producer), 1990-1991	Box 29
Elkin, Stanley (writer), 1976	Box 29
Ettlinger, Marion (photographer), 1990	Box 29
Faber and Faber, 1990-1998	Box 30
Faber and Faber, 1991	Box 42

Faust, Irvin (author, educator), 1989	Box 30
Field, Edward (poet), undated	Box 30
Fitzgerald, Thom (film and theater director), 1998, undated	Box 30
Fox, Paula (writer), 1989	Box 30
Frank, Daniel, 1995-1996	Box 30
Fraser, Luke (nephew), 1990-1994	Box 30
Freiert, Jeff (writer), 1989	Box 30
Galvin, Jim (poet), 2017	Box 30
Garrett, George (poet), 1997, undated	Box 30
Gingher, Marianne (writer), 1989	Box 30
Godwin, Gail (writer), 1982	Box 30
Gordon, John (writer), 1989	Box 30
Gornick, Vivian (writer), 1982	Box 30
Grace, Nancy (legal commentator), 1982-1984	Box 30
Graham, Nan (writer), undated	Box 30
Graham, Philip (writer), 1989	Box 30
Grealey, Mary Beth (film producer), undated	Box 30
Grumbach, Doris (writer), 1988-1996	Box 30
Gurganus, Allan, 1988-2006, undated	Box 30

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence from Allan Gurganus to named and unnamed correspondents. Much of this correspondence was written by Gurganus and faxed to recipients. Due to Gurganus's familiarity with his correspondents, many documents do not contain names, or are addressed affectionately to Dear One, Dearest, or Dear Heart.

Haffenden, John (professor), 1975	Box 30
Hall, John, 1995	Box 30
Hammer, Langdon (professor), 1983	Box 30
Handy, Amy (writer), 1966-2006	Box 30
Harnack, Curt (writer), 1990-1994	Box 30
Harper's Magazine, 1988-1995	Box 30
Scope and Contents	
Includes correspondence from Harper's executive editor, and author, Michael Pollan.	
Harper, Michael S. (poet), 1989	Box 30
Harper, Wally (theater director, arranger and composer), 1992	Box 30
Hazard, Shirley (writer), 1995	Box 30
Hedbring, John T., 1989	Box 30
Hill, Jonathan, 1991	Box 30
Scope and Contents	
Includes the Helms for Senate newsletter that mentions Gurganus' anti-Helms efforts.	
Hirsch, Tom, 1989	Box 30
Holding, Jane (actor), 1998-2016	Box 30
Holding, Jane, 1990	Box 42
Huffman, John (professor), 2002	Box 30
Humphreys, Josephine (writer), 1989-1999	Box 30
Hunnewell, Susannah (editor, publisher), 1996	Box 30
International Creative Management (ICM), 1990-1998, undated	Box 30

Scope and Contents

Binky Urban at ICM optioned the motion picture rights for He's One Too.

Iowa University, 1975-1989	Box 30
Irving, John (writer), 2013	Box 30
Jarman, Mark (poet), undated	Box 30
Johnson, Diane (writer), 1997	Box 30
Kaiser, Dan, 1996	Box 31
Kayafas, Peter (photographer), 1999	Box 31
Kenan, Randall (writer), 1992-1998	Box 31
Kirchwey, Karl (poet), 1986-2004	Box 31
Knopf, 1989-2006	Box 31
Kringle, Dolly, 1976	Box 31

Scope and Contents

Dolly Kringle was Wallace Stegner's secretary.

Kuralt, Charles (journalist), 1991-1996	Box 31
Lachterman-Singer, Brett (writer), undated	Box 31
Lauterback, Ann (poet), 1980	Box 31
Lewis, Heather (writer), 1990-1995, undated	Box 31
L'Heureux, John (writer), 1990-1991	Box 31
Liebermann, Lowell (composer), 1996	Box 31
Link, Thomas, 1981, undated	Box 31
Literary Network, 1993	Box 31

Scope and Contents

Includes update to NEA controversy.

Logan, Liz (writer, editor), 1990	Box 31
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Mackle, Joanna, undated	Box 31
MacNeil, Robert "Robin" (television news anchor), 1991	Box 31
Margolies, Malka (writer), 1992	Box 31
Margolis, Margo (painter), undated	Box 31
Marlette, Doug (editorial cartoonist), 2001	Box 31
Mattes, Jed (literary agent), 1989	Box 31
Maxwell, William (writer), 1990-1991	Box 31
Scope and Contents	
William Maxwell was Allan Gurganus' first editor.	
McCarthy, Rebecca (writer), 1989-1997	Box 31
McClatchy, Sandy (poet), 1996-1998	Box 31
McCorkle, Susannah (singer), 1982	Box 31
McCracken, E. (writer), 1995, undated	Box 31
McElwee, Ross (filmmaker), 1998	Box 31
McGarrell, Ann and Jim (poet, and printmaker), 1996	Box 31
McGuirk, Leslie (illustrator), 1989-1992	Box 31
Meadow, Lynne (theater producer), 1989-1991, undated	Box 31
Meeland, Ron, 1989	Box 31
Merkin, Daphne (critic), 1982-1988, undated	Box 31
Merriam, Clark Lee (Cousteau Society), 1989	Box 31
Meschery, Joanne (writer), 1981-1989, undated	Box 31
Messer, Sarah (poet), 2002, undated	Box 31

Meyer, Melissa, 1982	Box 31
Meyer Melina, 1998 Feb 3	Box 42
Miner, Todd, 1989	Box 31
Minkin, Bertram (writer), 1975	Box 31
Minter, Drew (opera singer), 1993	Box 31
Moody, Rick (writer), undated	Box 31
Moose, Ruth (writer), 1989	Box 31
Murphy, Michael, 1991	Box 31
Nabokov, Ivan (publisher), 2000-2002	Box 32
Nagano, Paul T. (painter), 1976-2003	Box 32
National Endowment of the Arts, 1976	Box 32
Naylor, Gloria (writer), 1989	Box 32
New Yorker Magazine, 1983	Box 32
Niece, Gerry, 1981	Box 40
North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA), 1996-1998	Box 32
Nunez, Sigrid (writer), 1982	Box 32
Nydick, Leslie, 1995 Jan 26	Box 40
Oxenhorn, Harvey (academic, author), 1982-1989	Box 32
Patchett, Ann (writer), 1991-1996, undated	Box 32
Paley, Grace (writer), 1980-1993, undated (online item available)	Box 32
Digital Object: Paley, Grace (writer), 1980-1993, undated	
Pantheon Books, undated	Box 32
Paschal, Huston (editor), undated	Box 32

Patterson, Ippy (artist), 2001	Box 32
Scope and Contents	
aka Barbara Tarleton Astlett	
Petrocchi, Russell, 1993	Box 40
Pilcer, Sonia (writer), 1979	Box 32
Pollan, Michael (writer), 1989-1996	Box 32
Pope, L.B., 1999	Box 42
Preservation Magazine, undated	Box 32
Price, David (politician), 1994	Box 32
Price, Reynolds (author, professor), 1981-1993	Box 32
Price, William, 2011	Box 32
Random House Audio, 1991-2000	Box 32
Reed, John Shelton (writer), 1996	Box 32
Scope and Contents	
Random House published audio versions of Oldest Living Confederate Widow and White People.	
Reichlein, Georg, 1989-1996, undated	Box 32
Riner, Ed (Forbes magazine editor), 1968	Box 32
Richardson, Amy, 1990-1991, undated	Box 32
Ring, Frances, 2004	Box 32
Scope and Contents	
Frances Ring was F. Scott Fitzgerald's secretary from 1939-1940.	
Roberts, Dorothy E. "Dot" (Duke administrative assistant), 1989	Box 32
Rogers, Betsy, 1966-1998	Box 32
Rorem, Ned (composer), 1990	Box 32

Rosenthal, John (photographer), 2017-2018	Box 32
Royster, Frances (Bonnie), 1982-1991, undated	Box 32
Sanford, Mary, 1994, 1996	Box 32
Sapp, B. Daniel, 1990, undated	Box 32
Saylor, Bruce (composer), 1981-2013, undated	Box 33
Schneebaum, Tobias (artist), 1982-1997, undated	Box 33
Schnur, Steven (writer), 1989	Box 33
Scowcroft, Richard (writer), 1990	Box 33
Segal, Lore (writer), 1976	Box 33
Simon, Andrea (filmmaker), 1982-1996, undated	Box 33
Simon and Schuster, 1995	Box 33
Simon, Peter, 1976	Box 33
Scope and Contents	
Includes information on documentary about dancer and choreographer, Bessie Schonberg.	
Simpson, Eileen (writer), 1976-1989	Box 33
Simpson, Mona (writer, editor), 1989-1993, undated	Box 33
Sklarew, Myra (biologist, poet), 1989, undated	Box 33
Slouka, Mark (writer), 2002, undated	Box 33
Smith, Elise, 2003	Box 33
Smith, Leverett Terry (professor), 1977-2007, undated	Box 33
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Smith, Terry, 1998	Box 40

Speight, Sarah Blakeslee (painter), 1993	Box 33
Spencer, Elizabeth (writer), 1993-1996, undated	Box 33
Spiro, Ellen (filmmaker), 1990-1996, undated	Box 33
Steele, Max (writer), 1996	Box 33
Stewart, Ann (artist), 1982-1996, undated	Box 33
Stewart, Joyce, 1989-1992, undated	Box 33
Stewart, Susan (poet), 1990	Box 33
Stockwell, Anne (editorf), 1997	Box 33
Sultan, Altoon (artist, writer), 1989	Box 33
Sundell, Mike (president, Yaddo), 1998, undated	Box 33
Szabo Rostock, Susanne (filmmaker), undated	Box 33
Tartt, Donna (writer), 1995	Box 33
Taylor, Paul (dancer, choreographer), 1981-2013	Box 34

Physical Description: 16 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence between Gurganus and long time friend, dancer and choreographer Paul Taylor. Along with postcards and letters, Taylor often sent DVDs and programs for the Paul Taylor Dance Company, and personal items including condoms, loose sand and feathers.

Taylor, Paul (dancer, choreographer), 2008-2015, undated	Box 72 > Dvd RL11748-DVD-0001 - RL11748-DVD-0021
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Physical Description: 21 items

Access Restrictions:

Series contains fragile audiovisual/photographic formats that may need to be reformatted before use. Contact Research Services for access.

Scope and Contents

DVD titles include: Gossamer Gallants; Death and the Damsel; Sullivaniana; To Make Crops Grow; Beloved Renegade; Sea Lark; Creative Domain; American Dreamer; Dilly Dilly; House of Joy; Marathon Cadenzas; Three Dubious Memories; Perpetual Dawn; and, The Man Behind the Dance.

Taylor, Paul (dancer, choreographer), 2014-2016, undated	Box 35
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Physical Description: 4 folders

Taylor, Paul, 2003-2008	Box 74
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Theroux, Alexander (writer), 1989	Box 35
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Thompson, Jean (writer), 1989	Box 35
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Thorp, Daisy (art professor), 1967-1988	Box 35
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Physical Description: 8 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence from Gurganus to Thorp.

Thorp, Daisy (art professor), 1989-1993, 1995	Box 36
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Physical Description: 6 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence from Gurganus to Thorp.

Thorp, Daisy (art professor), 1996-1998, undated	Box 37
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Physical Description: 7 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence from Gurganus to Thorp.

Thorp, Daisy (art professor), undated	Box 38
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Physical Description: 3 folders

Thorp, Daisy (art professor), 1976-2008, undated	Box 41
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Tillich, Hannah (painter), undated	Box 38
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Troxler, Allan (artist), 1995, undated	Box 38
Truitt, Anne (sculptor), 1989-1994	Box 38
Unnamed, undated	Box 42
USA Today, 1989	Box 38
Urban, Amanda "Binky" (literary agent), 2000, undated	Box 38
Vance, Jane Gentry (poet), 1993	Box 38
Vaterlaus, Anne Elizabeth (landscape architect), 1989-1990, undated	Box 38
Vecchi, Floriano (artist), 1992	Box 38
Vereano, David (artist), 1983	Box 38
Walker, Alice (writer), 1975	Box 38
Warren, Rebecca Drane, 2013	Box 38
Watson, Ben, 1986	Box 39
Physical Description: 3 folders	
Wechsler, Jane (educator, married to Bruce Gurganus), 1989-1998, undated	Box 39
Wechsler, Jane , undated	Box 42
Wheeler, Lawrence, 1996-1998	Box 39
White, Edmund (writer), 1980-1997, undated	Box 39
Wiley, Dick (writer), 1989	Box 39
Willett, Richard (writer), 1999, undated	Box 39
Williams, Donald, 1991-1997	Box 39
Williams, Jonathan (poet), 1992-1997	Box 39
Wilson, Helen (artist), 1988-1998, undated	Box 39
Wolff, Tobias (writer), 1989-2013	Box 39

Wolitzer, Hilma (writer), 1976-2000	Box 39
Woodman, Tim (sculptor), 1990-1996, undated	Box 39
Yaddo, 1982-2005	Box 39

Scope and Contents

Yaddo is a writer's community in Sarasota Springs, New York, frequented by Gurganus.

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Personal Papers, 1917-2018, undated

Scope and Contents

This Series includes family correspondence; early drawings; books; photographs; and audiovisual materials.

Access Restrictions:

Access restricted. The Academics, Gurganus as Teacher subseries includes student materials. In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended, Duke University permits students to inspect their education records and limits the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records. Contact Research Services for more information.

Access restricted. This series contains potentially sensitive information in the Financial and Legal subseries. Contact Research Services for Access.

Family Correspondence, 1917-1996, undated

Scope and Contents

Correspondence includes World War II letters between Allan's parents, Ethel and Marvin Gurganus; letters from Allan to his parents written while in college; in the Navy; and later living in New York city and is arranged chronologically. Also included is correspondence between other Gurganus family members.

Correspondence, 1962, 1965-1975	Box 43
Physical Description: 9 folders	

Correspondence, 1976-1983, 1986, 1988-1996, undated	Box 44
Physical Description: 7 folders	

Other family correspondence, 1917, 1968, undated	Box 44
Gurganus, Bruce, 1968-1996, undated	Box 45
Gurganus, Bruce, 1990, undated	Box 42
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes newspaper article on a gay film festival, and oversized correspondence.	
Gurganus, Ethel, 1969-1995, undated	Box 45
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Gurganus, Ethel, 1971	Box 42
Scope and Contents	
Handmade birthday card by Gurganus, and oversized correspondence.	
Gurganus, Ethel and Marvin, 1989, 1994, undated	Box 45
Gurganus, Marvin and Ethel, 1965-1992	Box 40
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes a newspaper article about AIDS, and oversized correspondence.	
Gurganus, Marvin and Ethel, 1977, 1981	Box 42
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Correspondence includes World War II letters between Gurganus's parents, Ethel and Marvin Gurganus; letters from Gurganus to his parents written while in college; in the Navy; and later living in New York City and is arranged chronologically. Also included is correspondence between other Gurganus family members.	
Gurganus, Gary, 1968, 1978, undated	Box 45
Gurganus, Marvin, 1965-1995, undated	Box 45
Gurganus, William, 1981-1995	Box 45

Family Papers, 1942-2003, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes original Gurganus family documents; newspaper clippings; and records, and is arranged by type of item.

Hospital baby records, 1942	Box 46
US Air Force diploma, 1943	Box 46
Marvin and Ethel correspondence, 1940-1945	Box 46
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Ethel Gurganus wedding gift record, 1946	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus writing, 1990-1995, undated	Box 46
Physical Description: 3 folders	
Ethel Gurganus writing, 1989	Box 67
Scope and Contents	
Includes No Yolok.	
Ethel Gurganus article, undated	Box 46
Gurganus travel papers, 1970-1981, undated	Box 46
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Ethel Gurganus letter, undated	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus's teaching certificate, 1946	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus's classroom list, undated	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus USO club pamphlet, undated	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus eulogy, 1996	Box 46
Memorial Service of Marvin Gurganus, 1995 Dec 7	Box 72 > Audio-cassette RL11748-CS-0006
Aunt Dell's 90th birthday, 2003 Apr	Box 46
Ethel Gurganus Mother's Day card, undated	Box 46

H. Gurganus article, 1978	Box 46
Bill Draper article, undated	Box 46
Gurganus genealogy, undated	Box 46
Kinston Camporee map, 1965	Box 46
Gurganus Bros. Supermarket article, undated	Box 46
The Brothers Gurganus gallery exhibit, undated	Box 46
Newspaper clippings, undated	Box 46
Bruce Gurganus's letter to the editor, undated	Box 46
Mr. and Mrs. Morris article, undated	Box 46
Beauty Queen article, with a note to Ethel Gurganus, undated	Box 46
Video, 2008	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0005

Scope and Contents

A 2 minute home video of a toddler, presumably a child of one of Gurganus's relatives.

Family Documents, 1937-1989, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes Gurganus family artifacts, and is arranged chronologically.

Ethel Gurganus's Bible, undated	Box 47
Marvin Gurganus's Rocky Mount High School diploma, 1937	Box 67
Allan Gurganus's baby book, 1947	Box 47
Christian youth workbook, 1963	Box 47
Allan Gurganus Boy Scout yearbook, 1963-1964	Box 47

Marvin Gurganus's passport, 1970	Box 47
Ethel Gurganus's passport, 1970	Box 47
Ethel Gurganus's nametag, undated	Box 47
Ethel Gurganus's 50th high school reunion, 1985	Box 47
Allan Gurganus's Kings Point nametage and article, 1989	Box 47
Rocky Mount High School yearbook, 1964	Box 48
Allan Gurganus's North Carolina sketches, undated	Box 48

Early Life and Career, 1955-2013, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes documents from Gurganus's life before he began writing, and is arranged chronologically where possible.

Documents from early life, 1955-1970, undated Box 49

Physical Description: 13 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes early school assignments; yearbooks; certificates; copies of the Rocky Mount Senior High School publication, *The Paradigm*; and high school graduation announcement.

Art exhibition articles, 1962-1972, undated Box 49

Scope and Contents

Includes newspaper accounts of Gurganus's art exhibitions.

Newspaper articles, 1959-1964 Box 49

Physical Description: 4 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes newspaper articles written by Gurganus about the Fannie Gorsham School; and Rocky Mount Senior High School, *The Blackbird*.

Newspaper articles, 1975-1991, undated Box 49

Scope and Contents

Includes newspaper articles about Gurganus's grants; reviews; and writing.

PEN/Faulkner nominees article, 1992 Box 49

Skidmore College honorary doctor of letters, 2009 Box 49

Naval career, 1965-1969, 2013, undated Box 49

Physical Description: 8 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes documents related to Gurganus's naval service on the USS Yorktown, including Selective Service System card; newspaper articles; Yorktown newsletter; and illustrations.

US Naval Training Center, 1967 Box 22

US Navy Silver Anniversary, 1993 Box 22

Diary, 1965 Box 74

Events, 1958-2010, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries is arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Event documents, 1958-2010, undated Box 53

Physical Description: 26 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes invitations; playbills; and programs from events attended by, and of interest to Gurganus. Events include a Christmas Musical Festival; a North Carolina artists' exhibition; an Ambassador Book award; a Bessie Schonberg Tribute; a hot dog gay dance; and an Iowa Writers' Workshop paper.

Event flier, An Ode to Artifice, undated Box 67

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus illustration for his drawing exhibit.

Exhibit photographs, Allan Gurganus: A
Writer's Sketchbook, Power Plant Gallery,

Durham, North Carolina, 2019-01 (online item available)

Digital-materials SET-0002

Digital Object: [Exhibit photographs, Allan Gurganus: A Writer's Sketchbook, Power Plant Gallery, Durham, North Carolina](#)

Scope and Contents

Eighteen photographs by Hoang Nguyen, of Allan Gurganus's drawings and paintings exhibited at the Power Plant Gallery in Durham, North Carolina.

Thomas Wolfe Festival: Clippings, Publicity, 1995

Box 74

Allan Gurganus speaking at the Center for Documentary Studies, 1995 September 15

Box Separated DVD and CS Box 2 > Audio-cassette RL11748-CS-0001

A Celebration of Award-Winning Writer Allan Gurganus, 2019-01-17

Scope and Contents

Video and audio of a reception for and reading by Allan Gurganus, celebrating the acquisition of his papers by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Transfer of papers (online item available)

Digital-materials SET-0001 > Video-file OnTransferofPapers.mp4

Digital Object: [A Celebration of Award-Winning Writer Allan Gurganus, Transfer of Papers, 2019-01-17](#)

Allan Gurganus reading - video (online item available)

Digital-materials SET-0001 > Video-file AllanGurganusReadingJan17_FullVideo.mp4

Digital Object: [A Celebration of Award-Winning Writer Allan Gurganus, Allan Gurganus reading - video](#)

Allan Gurganus reading - audio (online item available)

Digital-materials SET-0001 > Audio-file AllanGurganusReadingJan17_2019.wav

Digital Object: [A Celebration of Award-Winning Writer Allan Gurganus, Allan Gurganus reading - audio](#)

Interviews and Biographies, 1982-2018, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains interviews with, and biographies about Gurganus, and is arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Interviews and biographies, 1988-1994 Box 53

Physical Description: 3 folders

Interviews and biographies, 1982-2003 Box 67

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes oversized clippings.

When I'm Fog on a Coffin Lid, 1993 Box 53

Scope and Contents

Includes an interview published in the Southern Review.

Interviews and biographies, 1995-2002 Box 53

Physical Description: 4 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes an interview published in Mirabella magazine.

Interviews and biographies, 2010-2018,
undated Box 54

Physical Description: 8 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes an article in RL Magazine on Allan Gurganus Papers.

North Carolina Literary Review, 2018 Box 22

Scope and Contents

Includes an interview with Gurganus.

Videos from the Road, undated Box 71 > Video-cassette
RL11748-VHS-0005

Scope and Contents

Includes collaborations with Ellen Spiro.

Macneil/Lehrer Report, 1990 Sep 1 Box 71 > Video-cassette
RL11748-VHS-0006

Scope and Contents

Includes a Gurganus interview.

Walt Whitman, undated Box 72 > Dvd RL11748-
DVD-0022

Scope and Contents

Gurganus is included.

Pass It On...A Portrait of the Teaching Career
of Reynolds Price, 2009 Box 72 > Dvd RL11748-
DVD-0023

Scope and Contents

Includes a Gurganus interview.

Interviews and biographies digital materials Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0003

Physical Description: 13 files; less than 1 megabyte.

Scope and Contents

Contains document files.

Boyers questions for Gurganus, 2009 Box 74

Private Papers, 1839-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes materials Gurganus kept in his home, and is arranged in alphabetical groups.

Address books, 1999-2005 Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0005

Appointment books and journals, 1978-1980,
1988, 1995, 1997-1998 Box 55

Physical Description: 6 items

Appointment book, 1979 Box 74

Appointment book, 1980 Box 74

Appointment book, 1991	Box 74
Appointment book, 1993	Box 74
Appointment book, 1999	Box 74
Appointment book, 2000	Box 74
Appointment books and journals, 2001-2006	Box 56
Physical Description: 6 items	
Appointment books and journals, 2007-2014	Box 57
Physical Description: 7 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes notebook with drafts of The Erotic History of a Southern Baptist Church.	
Appointment book, 2005-2006	Box 74
Appointment book, 2008	Box 74
Appointment books and journals, 2015-2018	Box 58
Physical Description: 4 items	
Artifacts, 1960, 1989, 1991-1992, 1996, 2004, undated	Box 54
Physical Description: 8 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes a gay car air freshener; drawings by Muhammad Ali's cornerman, Fernando "Ferdie" Pacheco; and a 1992 Democratic National Convention press pass.	
Artifacts, Clan Fraser of Lovat, 1960	Box 22
Scope and Contents	
Fraser, Charles Ian	
Artifacts, oversized, undated	Box 60
Physical Description: 2 folders	

Scope and Contents

Includes Cub Scouts faux skin with patches for Rocky Mount Pack 31, Den 4; and History is Lunch... t-shirt for The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All.

Artifacts, vintage, 1839-1889, 1904, -1930,
1953-1971, 1991

Box 54

Physical Description: 12 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes signed James Howie cartes des visite; Lectures on English literature; Evening Party Amusements; Poetical Selections; YMCA ribbon; collected postcards including Alice the Alligator Girl; signed Over the Top with the Motor Transport Corps YMCA program; Porgy and Bess program; and Edgemont Presbyterian Church plans.

Artifacts: It Had Wings - a mockup by Dave
Wofford, circa 1980s-2010s

Box 74

Biographical Information, 1999-2005

Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0005

Scope and Contents

Different versions of CV and short biographical information (mostly for book covers and blurbs) collected from the My Documents folder of Gurganus's personal computer.

Letters, personal ads, 1987, 1990

Box 54

Physical Description: 2 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes personal ads placed by Gurganus, and letters written to him in response.

Newspaper clippings, 1947-2007, undated

Box 66

Physical Description: 39 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes oversized clippings and copies of newspaper articles, including: Punch & Judy show banned as sadism; RMSHS theater productions; Vivian Smith McMillan; Gurganus Dansforth finalist; Manly Wade Wellman; Karl Wagner; A Vanishing South?; Jesse Helms articles; Joanne Meschery; Where the beat meet the elite; From Hamburger Hill to Bull Run;

Teletubbies say eh-oh; Vollis Simpson; Alan Shapiro; Doug Marlette; nude images; a third grade class article; and articles regarding Gurganus.

Newspaper clippings, 1962, 1975, 1994 Box 67

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes clippings and copies of newspaper articles including The Art Student; John F. Kennedy photographs in The Globe; Barbara Feldon visiting the USS Yorktown; and Confederate widows get Army benefits.

Newspaper clippings, 1988-1997, 2000, 2013, undated Box 54

Scope and Contents

Includes clippings and copies of newspaper articles of local interest, and with unusual titles, including Man asks for dog's company in court; Rabid raccoon attacks cow's head; Gay men beware; and RMSH gains thirteen teachers.

Notes, 1984, 1996, undated Box 59

Scope and Contents

Includes old address book.

Notes, Allan Gurganus, 1997, 2002, undated Box 59

Scope and Contents

Includes handwritten notes; writing fragments; and original faxes.

Notes, Allan Gurganus, 1997, undated Box 59

Scope and Contents

Includes typed notes; writing fragments; and Allan Gurganus's List of Favorite Books for Summer.

Notes, and drawings from Easter Island, undated Box 59

Notes, from friends, undated Box 59

Notes, Allan Gurganus, 1995 Box 67

Scope and Contents

Includes a doodle of a penis on a photograph in The New York Times Magazine.

Notes, untitled or undated, 1968, 1991, 1999, undated

Box 59

Physical Description: 6 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes notes, articles, photocopies.

Mooney-Surprise Attack on Harper's Ferry, undated

Box 72 > Cd RL11748-CD-0001

Scope and Contents

Includes a copy of the Mooney painting.

A Call to Renewal, Songs of Separation, of Rest and Resolution: A Recital in the Time of AIDS, 1993 Sep 17

Box 72 > Audio-cassette
RL11748-CS-0005

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus reading.

Town Meeting on Books, undated

Box 72 > Audio-cassette
RL11748-CS-0007

Flood tapes, 1999 Dec, undated

Box 72 > Audio-cassette
RL11748-MCS-0001 -
RL11748-MCS-0004

Physical Description: 4 items

Scope and Contents

Includes Flood tapes, Tarboro, Bob Barnhill and Betsy Squires; Vivian; master; and Weeks house.

Private papers digital materials

Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003

Physical Description: Approximately 360 files; 25 megabytes.

Scope and Contents

Includes still image files, document files, and web files.

Charles Upsher's Funeral Service, 1997	Box 75
Exhibition and conference booklets, 1983-2004	Box 75
The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde: Printed Text, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 75
Medical Records, 2013	Box 75
Nespaper Clippings, circa 1970s-1990s	Box 75
Notebooks, circa 1980s-2010s	Box 75
Notes, circa 1980s-2010s	Box 75
Publicity, 1989-2000	Box 75
Research Materials: Scans, circa 1980s-1990s	Box 75
Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren's Official Court of Inquiry: Scan, 1864	Box 75
Scrapbook, 1989-1990	Box 79
Website, 2003	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0005

Scope and Contents

A full copy of Gurganus's website as for 2003.

Friends, 1976-2018, undated	Box 59
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Scope and Contents

This subseries reflects Gurganus's ongoing friendships. Memorials and obituaries are also included as Gurganus has lost friends to AIDS, or the natural aging process. Also included are articles and speeches.

Cuthrell, Hiram Johnson, Jr., 1991	Box 59
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Scope and Contents

Includes memorial by Gurganus.

Eatman, George, undated	Box 59
Evans, David Bruce, 1998	Box 59
Harnack, Curtis, 2013	Box 59
Linney, Romulus, 2011	Box 59
Margolies, Malka, 1997	Box 59
Matheson, Elizabeth, undated	Box 59
McElwee, Ross, 1995	Box 59
Scope and Contents	
Includes a proposal for the documentary Tobacco Road.	
Merrill, James, 1977-1995	Box 61
Physical Description: 12 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes photocopies of correspondence between Gurganus and Merrill, and Peter Hooten; published poetry; Rhapsody on Czech Themes, for Allan Gurganus, published in Yale Review; a eulogy written by Gurganus; a playbill for Phaedra; a proposal and script for Voices from Sandover; a prospectus for Last Poems; and correspondence with Merrill's estate.	
Millard, Charles, 1992-2018, undated	Box 62
Physical Description: 14 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Includes correspondence between Gurganus and Charles Millard. Also includes Millard's correspondence with George Nick; Michael Trapp; Nicholas McGegan; and Elizabeth Matheson. Gurganus's eulogy for Millard is also included.	
Nagano, Paul, 1976, 1978	Box 59
Newspaper clippings, 1993-1999	Box 67
Scope and Contents	
Includes clippings related to Doug Marlette, Ellen Spiro, and Bruce Weber.	
Riner, Ed, undated	Box 59

Sapp, Daniel, 1998	Box 59
Sapp, Daniel, 1998	Box 67
Scope and Contents	
Includes Sapp's obituary.	
Simpson, Mona, 1990	Box 59
Toler, Charlotte Wilkinson, 1995	Box 59
Vereano, David, undated	Box 59

Financial, Legal, 1975-2014, undated

Access Restrictions:

Collection contains potentially sensitive information. Contact Research Services for Access.

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes financial and legal records related to Gurganus's writing, and legal affairs, and is arranged chronologically.

Edward Thayer Draper-Savage will, 1975	Box 64
Payments and royalties, 1990-2005	Box 64
Scope and Contents	
Includes royalty payments for <i>The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All</i> , and <i>The Practical Heart</i> .	
Writing agreements, 1990, 2005	Box 64
Scope and Contents	
Includes agreements with Random House; American Scholar; and Algonquin Books.	
Writing Agreements, 1996-2014	Box 75
Arts Council gift, 1991	Box 64
Spada vs. Eatman, legal documents, 1991-1992	Box 64

Physical Description: 2 folders

Ethel Gurganus trust, legal documents, 1996-1997	Box 64
Expenses, 1996, 1999, undated	Box 64
Duke Special Collections, 1997	Box 64
Llanos Florencia's Legal Documents, 2001	Box 75

Academics, Gurganus as Student, 1968-2011, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes materials from Gurganus's time as a student at Sarah Lawrence College.

Applications, reports, 1968-1975	Box 63
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Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus's reports from Sarah Lawrence College; teaching assistantship application; application for graduate Writers' Workshop at University of Iowa; and letter reporting passage of Master of Fine Arts examination.

Sarah Lawrence Alumni Magazine, 1973	Box 63
Sarah Lawrence College, course evaluations, 1979	Box 63
Sarah Lawrence College correspondence, 1983-2011, undated	Box 63
Sarah Lawrence magazine, 1990	Box 63

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Academics, Gurganus as Teacher, 1980-2010, undated

Access Restrictions:

Access restricted. This subseries includes student materials. In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended, Duke University permits students to inspect their education records and limits the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records. Contact Research Services for more information.

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes Gurganus's work as a teacher at Sarah Lawrence College; and the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Sarah Lawrence College, faculty report on students, 1980 Box 63

Access Restrictions:

FERPA information restricted until 2055.

Sarah Lawrence College, administrative correspondence, 1981-1982 Box 63

Grace Paley Scholarship Fund, 1990, 2000 Box 63

Student letters, 2002 Box 63

Writers' Workshop evaluations, 2010 Box 63

Reading samples, undated Box 63

Teaching notes, undated Box 63

Photographs, 1953-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

This subseries includes family and professional photographs of Gurganus, and is arranged chronologically where dates are available.

Gurganus family, 1953-1965, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes wedding; infant; and childhood photographs, as well as Scottish ancestors.

Gurganus family, oversized, 1966 Box 67

Portraits, Allan Gurganus, 1963-1975 Box 65

Portrait, Allan Gurganus, oversized, 1990 Box 67

Portraits, Allan Gurganus, 1989-1994 Box 65

Art, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus's paintings; and drawings of leather men by Etienne aka Dom Orejudos.

Gurganus, home, 1988, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus's home and garden.

Gurganus, home, oversized, undated Box 67

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus's home and garden.

Individuals, 1986-1988, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs of Heather Lewis, Tim Miller, and unidentified individuals.

Groups, 1983-1998, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs of Gurganus and friends; unidentified groups; and John Irving and family.

Events, 1989, 1992, 2014-2017, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs of Gurganus at readings, and other unidentified events.

Teaching at Club Boulevard Elementary School, 2000 Mar 19 Box 65

Confederate Widow Tells All, undated Box 65

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs of Gurganus in costume on film set of a television mini-series.

Photographs and portraits digital materials Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0003

Physical Description: 6 files; approximately 10 megabytes.

Scope and Contents

Contains still image files.

Portraits, circa 1940s-2010s	Box 75
Portraits, oversize, circa 1970s-1990s	Box 76
Portraits, 2003	Digital-materials RL11748-SET-0005

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Artwork, 1963-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

This Series includes Gurganus's doodles, drawings, paintings, and sketches, and are arranged by materials and approximate date of creation. Instances included may be related to Gurganus titles. The early work dates from first grade, then progresses through grade school and senior high school. Sketchbooks and loose drawings reflect Gurganus's use of pencil; pen and ink; watercolors; and collage through 2018. Many of the works are undated.

Sketchbooks - pencil; pen and ink; watercolor, 1963-1965, undated Box 50

Physical Description: 7 items

Scope and Contents

Sketchbooks may include loose sketches and drawings.

Sketchbooks - pencil; pen and ink; watercolor, 1966-1972, undated Box 51

Physical Description: 8 items

Scope and Contents

Sketchbooks may include loose sketches and drawings.

Sketchbooks - pencil; pen and ink; watercolor, 1968, 1984, undated Box 68

Physical Description: 6 items

Scope and Contents

Sketchbooks may include loose sketches and drawings.

Drawings - pen and ink; watercolor; colored pencil, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 12 items	
<hr/>	
Drawings - watercolor; pen and ink, 1964, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 2 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Angels No. 2; and City Study.	
<hr/>	
Drawings - book illustrations, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 13 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes sheet music for Blessed Assurance.	
<hr/>	
Sketches, and titled, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 9 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes American Condiments Aspiring to the Condition of a Morandi; Fresh Air, Moderate Breeze; Madame Bovary Steps Out!; American Icon: "I Pledge Allegiance..."; sketches; and wings sketches.	
<hr/>	
Pen and ink; watercolor; block print, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 17 items	
<hr/>	
Sketches, and titled, 2004, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 7 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Lehman Brady Lecture illustrations; My Credentials, Sir; Pittsburgh Pirates; Mother and sons, Fairview Road, 1946-1986; Vision in Copenhagen; Belated valentine's greetings; and illustrations, home.	
<hr/>	
Drawings - charcoal, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 2 items	
<hr/>	
Titled; pen and ink, 1970, undated	Box 52
Physical Description: 8 items	

Scope and Contents

Includes Woman Bearing the Weight of Her Whimsy; Minstrels All; and Pope Becoming Object.

Block print on handmade paper, undated Box 52

Physical Description: 5 items

Collage, Music, 1964 Box 52

Early work - watercolor; charcoal, 1967, undated Box 52

Physical Description: 4 items

Scope and Contents

Includes Gurganus's eighth grade work.

Early work - pencil; pen and ink, 1971, undated Box 52

Physical Description: 6 items

Scope and Contents

Includes 2 Cows + 2 Goats.

Early work - watercolor; pen and ink, 1964, undated Box 52

Physical Description: 10 items

Scope and Contents

Includes Sax; If and When; and Bar.

Early work - first grade, undated Box 69

Early work - pencil; pen and ink, undated Box 69

Physical Description: 20 items

Early work - paintings, undated Box 69

Physical Description: 11 items

Line drawing prints, undated Box 69

Physical Description: 4 items

Scope and Contents

Includes a Rembrandt reproduction.

Pen and ink, and titled, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 16 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes art from Blessed Assurance; and History is Lunch.	
<hr/>	
Sketches and fragments, and titled - pen and ink, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 20 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes found art, Power's Poultry for Profit!.	
<hr/>	
Sketches, and titled - pen and ink, 1968, 1993, 1999, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 9 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Literacy Through Photography certificate; Dare to be Different; Between Sentences; Affections to Leonardo + Bruegel + Orozco; Allegory of California; and To Allen.	
<hr/>	
Collages, mixed media, 2018, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 5 items	
<hr/>	
Watercolors, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 6 items	
Scope and Contents	
Includes Proposed Postcard with Emphasis on the Attractions of Swimming.	
<hr/>	
Sketches - pen and ink, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 20 items	
<hr/>	
Sketches - brown ink, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 11 items	
<hr/>	
Sketches - pen and ink, undated	Box 69
Physical Description: 13 items	
<hr/>	
After Venice: Sketchbook, 2002	Box 75
<hr/>	
Misc. Drawings, circa 1970s-2010s	Box 76

Sketchbook, 1970 Box 76

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Others' Works, 1976-2020, undated

Scope and Contents

This Series includes manuscripts, typescripts, and articles written by others, and arranged alphabetically by the author's last name.

Bishop, Elizabeth, 1976 Box 70

Scope and Contents

Crusoe in England

Bonner, J.W., 2004 Box 70

Scope and Contents

Allan Gurganus DLB

Bram, Christopher, undated Box 70

Scope and Contents

Can Straight Men Still Write

Buford, Byron, 1988 Box 70

Scope and Contents

And the Lord Knows What

Cerquone, Joe, 1992 Box 70

Scope and Contents

Includes an article on Gurganus's Reassurance

Chaucer, Geoffrey, undated Box 70

Scope and Contents

Chaucer's Retraction

Eatman, E. Randolph, circa 1990s-2010s Box 75

Flowers, Linda, undated Box 70

Scope and Contents untitled	
Frazer, Luke, circa 2000s-2010s	Box 75
Scope and Contents Animal Poems	
Giraldi, William, 2012	Box 70
Scope and Contents The Searing: On the Fiction of Allan Gurganus	
Giraldi, William, circa 1990s-2010s	Box 75
Scope and Contents Allan Gurganus: Return of the Storyteller: Draft	
Halloran, Amy, 1995	Box 70
Scope and Contents The Sky	
Hillman, Brenda, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents Rhopalic Aubade	
Holbert, Bruce, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents Hawk Creek Trilogy with included correspondence	
Jones, Paul, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents The Coldest Night in Years	
Lewis, Heather, 1995	Box 70
Scope and Contents untitled	

Marlette, Doug, 1991, 2001	Box 70
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Scope and Contents	
Marlette '91; and The Bridge, with included correspondence.	
<hr/>	
Meschery, Joanne, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents	
A Gentleman's Guide to the Frontier	
<hr/>	
Moose, Ruth, 1989	Box 22
Scope and Contents	
The Wreath Ribbon Quilt and Other Stories, with an inscription from Ruth Moose to Gurganus.	
<hr/>	
Own, Norton, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents	
A Certain Place: The Jacob's Pillow Story, includes inscription.	
<hr/>	
Raphael, Clifton, circa 1970s-1990s	Box 75
<hr/>	
Rogers, Frank D., undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents	
Confessions of an Undertaker 1900	
<hr/>	
Sanford, Mary Pettis, undated	Box 70
Scope and Contents	
A Quiet Paradise	
<hr/>	
Schneebaum, Tobias, 1999	Box 75
Scope and Contents	
My Mother and I	
<hr/>	
Seymour, Robert, 1991	Box 22

Scope and Contents

Whites Only: A Pastor's Retrospective on Signs of the New South, with inscription to Gurganus.

Shapiro, Alan, undated Box 70

Scope and Contents

Poetry

Simpson, Mona, 2000-2001, undated Box 70

Physical Description: 4 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes Off Keck Road, with notes and correspondence from Gurganus; and Anywhere But Here party invitation.

Spencer, Elizabeth, undated Box 70

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

The Boy in the Tree; Blackie, with Gurganus correspondence; and On the Hill.

Spiro, Ellen, undated Box 70

Scope and Contents

Roam Sweet Home

Taylor, Paul, 2013 Box 22

Scope and Contents

Facts and Fancies, with a note to Gurganus.

Welty, Eudora, 1998 Box 70

Scope and Contents

untitled

Vernon, Zackary, 2012 Dec Box 70

Scope and Contents

Halloween's Herald of Democracy: Allan Gurganus and the Horror Show of American Politics

Others' writings digital materials

Digital-materials RL11748-
SET-0003

Physical Description: 3 files; less than 1 megabyte.

Scope and Contents

Contains document files.

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