

MS 1/204 Belfast Creative Writing Group Manuscripts

About the Collection:

MS 1/204 is a collection of typescripts in a folder marked "Complete file: Belfast Creative Writing Group 1963-6". A note on the folder states that the contributions were acquired as a "Gift of Mr. Hobsbaum, creator of C.W.G."

Philip Hobsbaum (1932-2005) was a lecturer in the Faculty of Arts at Queen's University Belfast from 1962 to 1966. During that period, he established the Belfast Creative Writing Group, or "The Group". Members included James Simmons, Stewart Parker, Bernard MacLaverty, Michael Longley and Seamus Heaney.

The collection contains 67 discrete items, and all but one are typescripts by 29 different authors. Although this collection is comprised mostly of poetry, it also contains plays, short stories, prose pieces and book chapters including submissions from high profile contributors.

MS 1/204 Belfast Creative Writing Group 1963-6 Manuscripts

MS 1/204 is broken down into subsections **MS 1/204/1 – MS 1/204/30** and consists of contributions by 29 different authors. All of the subsections are by different authors except for **MS 1/204/2** which is a cutting from a publication containing contributions by John Bond and James Simmons. There is also a handwritten 'List of Contents' enclosed with **MS 1/204/1**.

MS 1/204/1 Ashton, Victor, 8 Poems, Typescript 3pp.

1. n.d. 'Beyond the Pale (A Syrian Tribune Speaking)'
2. n.d. 'Invoking the Muses'
3. n.d. 'Down to Basics (From the Ivan Turgenov (sic) Novel, 'Smoke)'
4. n.d. 'The Fighting Cock'
5. n.d. 'Sense and Sensibility'
6. n.d. 'The House Off the Road'
7. n.d. 'The Outsider'
8. n.d. 'Running Through Windy Gap'

MS 1/204/2 Cutting from Unidentified Publication, Printed 4pp.

1. n.d. Bond, John, Short Story, 'David Gallacher'
2. n.d. Simmons, James, 3 Poems, 'That Sailor', 'American Settler's Soliloquy' and

'Confession'

MS 1/204/3

Bond, John, 3 Short Stories

1. n.d. Untitled short story, Typescript 2pp.
2. n.d. 'Domus A Nun', Typescript 2pp.
3. n.d. 'Sick Visiting', Typescript 2pp.

MS 1/204/4

Bredin, Hugh T., 3 Short Stories

1. n.d. 'The Kingdom of Heaven', Typescript 4pp.
2. n.d. 'Wolf', Typescript 2pp.
3. n.d. 'Ordination Day', Typescript 7pp.

MS 1/204/5

Bull, Iris, 13 Poems: Typescript 1, 3pp; Typescript 2, 2pp.

1. n.d. 'A Childhood'
2. n.d. 'Circe'
3. n.d. 'The Visit'
4. n.d. 'Baby'
5. n.d. 'Death of an Uncle'
6. n.d. 'Hospital'
7. n.d. 'The Fairground'
8. n.d. 'The Drowned Man'
9. n.d. 'Remnants'
10. n.d. 'A Literary Pilgrimage'
11. n.d. 'The New Creation'
12. n.d. 'Leah and Rachel'
13. n.d. 'The Old Man'

MS 1/204/6

Buller, Norman, 8 Poems, Typescript 3pp.

1. n.d. 'A Professor Asleep'
2. n.d. 'Conscripts'
3. n.d. 'The Mortal Cold'
4. n.d. 'The Ignorant Desire'
5. n.d. 'The Aboriginal'
6. n.d. 'Aubade'
7. n.d. 'Passion Flowers'
8. n.d. 'Tchaikowski's Mistress'

MS 1/204/7 Brophy, Michael, 7 Poems, Typescript 2pp.

1. n.d. 'Morning Paper'
2. n.d. 'Home from the Holidays'
3. n.d. 'Grey Ashes'
4. n.d. 'The Virgin'
5. n.d. 'Motive for Murder'
6. n.d. 'The Last Bus'
7. n.d. 'This Is Your Life'

MS 1/204/8 Croskery, Lynette M., 3 Short Stories, Typescript 3pp.

1. n.d. 'The Dress'
2. 12/04/1966 'The Telegram'
3. 22/03/1966 'The Daisy Chain'

MS 1/204/9 Dugdale, Norman, 7 Poems, Typescript 4pp.

1. n.d. 'The New Men'
2. n.d. 'Laertes'
3. n.d. 'Reasons of State'
4. n.d. 'Frontier Incident'
5. n.d. 'To Venus'
6. n.d. 'Dublin'
7. n.d. 'The Disposition of the Weather'

MS 1/204/10 Foster, Rodney, 1 Poem, Typescript 4pp.

- n.d. Untitled

MS 1/204/11 Gallagher, Maurice: 1 Play, 3 Short Stories.

1. n.d. *The Ship: A One Act Play*, Typescript 13pp.
2. n.d. 'Tragrainey', Typescript 2pp.
3. 08/1965-09/1965 Untitled, Typescript 4pp.
4. n.d. Untitled, Typescript 2pp.

MS 1/204/12 Harvey, W. J., 7 Poems, Typescript 2pp.

1. n.d. 'The Poem in October'
2. n.d. 'Reading Drayton in October'



3. n.d. 'Hart Crane'
4. n.d. 'Sea-Side Song'
5. n.d. 'Leni Riefenstahl's Olympiad: 1936'
6. n.d. 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'
7. n.d. 'Arriving at Larne: Seasick'

MS 1/204/13 Heaney, Seamus, 49 Poems: Typescript 1, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 3, 6 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 4, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 5, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 6, 7 Poems 3pp.; Typescript 7, 8 Poems 2pp.

1. n.d. 'Digging'
2. n.d. 'Death of a Naturalist'
3. n.d. 'Storm on the Island'
4. n.d. 'Soliloquy for an Old Resident'
5. n.d. 'Writer and Teacher'
6. n.d. 'Young Bachelor'
7. n.d. 'Scaffolding'
8. n.d. 'Taking Stock: 5/4/'64'
9. n.d. 'Twice Shy'
10. n.d. 'The Early Purges'
11. n.d. 'In Glenelly Valley'
12. n.d. 'Ex-Champ'
13. n.d. 'The Evangelist'
14. n.d. 'Men's Confessions'
15. n.d. 'Dockers'
16. n.d. 'An Advancement of Learning'
17. n.d. 'Fisher'
18. n.d. 'Amputation'
18. n.d. 'National Trust'
19. n.d. 'A Cistercian Speaks'
20. n.d. 'Oh Brave New Bull...'
21. n.d. 'Mid-Term Break'
22. n.d. 'A Pillar of the Community'
23. n.d. 'McKenna's Saturday Night'
24. n.d. 'Turkeys Observed'
25. n.d. 'The Indomitable Irishry'
26. n.d. 'Obituary'
27. n.d. 'The Diviner'



28. n.d. 'Gravities'
29. n.d. 'Ancestral Photograph'
30. n.d. 'For the Commander of "The Eliza"'
31. n.d. 'Personal Helicon (For Michael Longley)'
32. n.d. 'Girls Bathing'
33. n.d. 'Galway 1965'
34. n.d. 'The Salmon Fisher to the Salmon'
35. n.d. 'Boy Driving His Father to Confession'
36. n.d. 'To a Wine Jar'
37. n.d. 'On Hogarth's Engraving "Pit Ticket for the Royal Sport"'
38. n.d. 'Synge on Aran'
39. n.d. 'Blackberry-Picking'
40. n.d. 'Saint Francis and the Birds'
41. n.d. 'At a Potato Digging'
42. n.d. 'Elegy for an Unborn Child'
43. n.d. 'Triptych for the Easter Battlers'
44. n.d. 'Homage to Pieter Breughel'
45. n.d. 'Persephone'
46. n.d. 'Rookery'
47. n.d. 'Requiem for the Irish Rebels (Wexford, 1798)'
48. n.d. 'The Peninsula'
49. n.d. 'Orange Drums, Tyrone 1966'

MS 1/204/14 Hobsbaum, Hannah, 1 Play, Typescript 8pp.
 n.d. *When Rebecca Comes*

MS 1/204/15 Hobsbaum, Philip, 10 Poems: Typescript 1, 1 Poem 3pp.; Typescript 2, 1 Poem 5pp.; Typescript 3, 1 Poem 6pp.; Typescript 4, 7 Poems 2pp.

1. n.d. 'In Retreat'
2. n.d. 'K.1'
3. n.d. 'Study in a Minor Key'
4. n.d. 'Dead End'
5. n.d. 'Derry City'
6. n.d. 'The Riding-Mistress'
7. n.d. 'A False Martyr'
8. n.d. 'Undergraduate Party'
9. n.d. 'Stout Person's Meditation on Sex'

10. n.d. 'Cock of the Walk'

MS 1/204/16 Johnston, J. K., 6 Poems, Typescript 2pp.

1. n.d. 'The Park'
2. n.d. 'On Being Pushed Over the Edge of a Cliff'
3. n.d. 'The Eyes'
4. n.d. 'Songs of a Drunken Street'
5. n.d. 'Prostitutes'
6. n.d. 'Violent Progression'

MS 1/204/17 Longley, Michael, 27 Poems: Typescript 1, 7 Poems 2pp. (2 Copies); Typescript 2, 6 Poems 3pp.;
Typescript 3, 7 Poems 3pp.; Typescript 4, 7 Poems 3pp.

1. n.d. 'Dr. Johnson on the Hebrides'
2. n.d. 'Leaving Inishmore'
3. n.d. 'Camouflage'
4. n.d. 'Persephone'
5. n.d. 'To Derek Mahon'
6. n.d. 'A Working Holiday (For Colin Middleton)'
7. n.d. 'Words for Jazz Perhaps (For Solly Lipsitz)'
8. 22/11/1964 'No Continuing City'
9. 22/11/1964 'A Slight Adultery'
10. 22/11/1964 'The Journey'
11. 22/11/1964 'To Edna'
12. 22/11/1964 'Her Mime of the Lame Seagull'
13. 22/11/1964 'The Hebrides (For Eavan Boland)'
14. n.d. 'In Memoriam'
15. n.d. 'Christopher at Birth'
16. n.d. 'Freeze-Up'
17. n.d. 'Saint Francis to the Birds (With Apologies to S. Heaney Esq.)'
18. n.d. 'Elegy for Fats Waller'
19. n.d. 'Epithalamion'
20. n.d. 'En Route'
21. n.d. 'Circe'
22. n.d. 'The Ornithological Section'
23. n.d. 'Orpheus'
24. n.d. 'A Personal Statement'
25. n.d. 'The Centaurs'

26. n.d. 'The Housewife's Testament'
 27. n.d. 'Christopher at Birth'

MS 1/204/18 MacLavery, Bernard, 3 Short Stories and 1 Play

1. n.d. 'Jim Scroggy', Typescript 4pp.
 2. n.d. 'The Choice', Typescript 2pp.
 3. n.d. 'Wiglaf the Viking', Typescript 4pp.
 4. n.d. *The Interview*, Typescript 8pp.

MS 1/204/19 McEldowney, Eugene, 1 Book Chapter, 1 Short Story

1. n.d. 'A Voice Among the Many', Chapter 1, Typescript 3pp.
 2. n.d. 'The Old Man and the Young', Typescript 2pp.

MS 1/204/20 Mitchell, Michael, 7 Poems, Typescript 2pp.

1. n.d. 'The Morning Went Bang'
 2. n.d. 'Mr. Celebrity'
 3. n.d. 'Notes on Mechanical Christmas Cards'
 4. n.d. 'Prometheus'
 5. n.d. 'Fisherwoman'
 6. n.d. 'The Cold Equations'
 7. n.d. 'I Do No Love Thee Dr. Snell'

MS 1/204/21 Pakenham, John, 7 Poems, Typescript 2pp.

1. n.d. 'Ecstatic Love Poem'
 2. n.d. 'I Remember You Said'
 3. n.d. 'January 63'
 4. n.d. 'Can You Remember?'
 5. n.d. 'Two Ways of Living'
 6. n.d. 'A Warm Day June 63'
 7. n.d. 'Thoughts on a 25th Birthday'

MS 1/204/22 Parker, Stewart, 12 Poems, 6 Prose Pieces: Typescript 1, 5 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 1 Poem 3pp.; Typescript 3, 5 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 4, 6 Prose Pieces 3pp.

1. n.d. 'Paddy Dies'
 2. n.d. 'Valediction for Hammy from Hangoveria'
 3. n.d. 'Inside a Home for the Old'

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| 4. | n.d. | 'The Broken Lives' |
| 6. | n.d. | 'Coming Out' |
| 7. | n.d. | 'The Casualty Meditates Upon His Journey' |
| 8. | n.d. | 5 untitled poems |
| 9. | n.d. | 6 untitled prose pieces |

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Robson, Bryan, 12 Poems: Typescript 1, 6 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 6 Poems 3pp.

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| 1. | n.d. | 'The Great Aunts' |
| 2. | n.d. | 'Confession Out of Term' |
| 3. | n.d. | Untitled |
| 4. | n.d. | 'Shakespear (sic) in Drag' |
| 5. | n.d. | 'A Fever in Summer' |
| 6. | n.d. | 'Mr. S. Beckett at Campbell College' |
| 7. | n.d. | 'Keats' |
| 8. | n.d. | Untitled |
| 9. | n.d. | 'Homage à Samuel Beckett' |
| 10. | n.d. | 'Talking of Dragons' |
| 11. | n.d. | 'Four Poems from a Durham Childhood' |
| 12. | n.d. | 'On Sleah Head' |

MS 1/204/24

Scott, Brian, 9 Poems: Typescript 1, 4 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 5 Poems 2pp.

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| 1. | n.d. | Untitled |
| 2. | n.d. | 'Last Night I Wrote a Poem of Love' |
| 3. | n.d. | 'Because I Have Pact with the Maker' |
| 4. | n.d. | 'Miracle' |
| 5. | n.d. | Untitled |
| 6. | n.d. | Untitled |
| 7. | n.d. | 'University Tulips' |
| 8. | n.d. | 'After a Disturbance' |
| 9. | n.d. | 'Fragments' |
| 10. | n.d. | 'Blind Man' |

MS 1/204/25

Simmons, James, 12 Poems: Typescript 1, 6 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 6 Poems 2pp.

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| 1. | n.d. | 'Sonnets for the Class of 58' |
| 2. | n.d. | 'One Man – Two Voices' |
| 3. | n.d. | 'On Gardens' |
| 4. | n.d. | 'At Cordelia's Grave (France Speaks)' |

5. n.d. 'Singing at a Coffee Party'
6. n.d. 'Soliloquy for a Ghost (Leeds. Saturday Afternoon. October)'
7. n.d. 'Drinker's Blues'
8. n.d. 'Fahan Strand'
9. n.d. 'Old Lady's Song'
10. n.d. 'Ramble Away'
11. n.d. 'The Young Airforce Men'
12. n.d. 'The Ulster Soldier Boy'

MS 1/204/26 Smyth, Paul, 3 Short Stories

1. n.d. Untitled, Typescript 2pp.
2. n.d. Untitled, Typescript 2pp.
3. n.d. Untitled, Typescript 2pp.

MS 1/204/27 Stronge, Marilyn, 6 Poems, Typescript 1p.

1. n.d. 'To and Fro'
2. n.d. 'Night Falls'
3. n.d. 'Green-Grey to the Ocean'
4. n.d. 'The Sea'
5. n.d. 'Hour of Light and Dark'
6. n.d. 'Night Falling'

MS 1/204/28 Sullivan, Ronald: 2 Prose Pieces, Typescript 3pp; 7 Poems and Extracts from a Diary, Typescript 3pp.

1. n.d. 'Notes on 'Reflections''
2. n.d. 'Image One'
3. n.d. 7 Untitled Poems and Extracts from a Diary

MS 1/204/29 Terry, Arthur 10 Poems/Translations: Typescript 1, 5 Poems/Translations 3pp.; Typescript 2, 1 Poems/Translation 1p.; Typescript 3, 4 Poems/Translations 2pp.

1. n.d. 'A Small War (from the Catalan of Gabriel Ferrater)'
2. n.d. 'The Appointment (from the Catalan of Pete Quart)'
3. n.d. 'The Sisters (from the Catalan of Salvador Espriu)'
4. n.d. 'Told After Brueghel (from the Catalan of Salvador Espriu)'
5. n.d. 'Caesar (from the Spanish of Luis Cernuda)'
6. n.d. 'By Natural Piety (from the Catalan of Gabriel Ferrater)'

7. n.d. 'Beginnings (from the Catalan of Gabriel Ferrater)'
8. n.d. 'Untitled (from the Catalan of Miquel Bauçà)'
9. n.d. 'Time Was (from the Catalan of Gabriel Ferrater)'
10. n.d. 'My Skeleton (from the Catalan of Pere Quart)'

MS 1/204/30 Watton, Joan, 20 Poems: Typescript 1, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 2, 7 Poems 2pp.; Typescript 3, 6 Poems 2pp.

1. n.d. 'Betrayal'
2. n.d. 'Glennyre Children's Home'
3. n.d. 'An Old Man in the Fish Shop'
4. n.d. 'Worm'
5. n.d. 'Nightmare'
6. n.d. 'A Lone, Middle-Aged, Unmarried Woman Relates'
7. n.d. 'Boyhood Memory'
8. n.d. 'Aunt Alice'
9. n.d. 'Spinster'
10. n.d. 'The Hangover'
11. n.d. 'Detachment'
12. n.d. 'Maggie'
13. n.d. 'Letters from the Island'
14. n.d. 'Wakening'
15. n.d. 'Requim (sic) of a War-Baby'
16. n.d. 'A Fly's Belsen'
17. n.d. 'Without Preliminaries'
18. n.d. 'The Industrials'
19. n.d. 'Ian'
20. n.d. 'Camp Memories'

