Handlist of John Bird’s collection of Percy Grainger related printed books, and books related to music and musicians connected to Grainger. These items were deposited with the archive material in MS865 but have been moved into our book store as a named Bird/Grainger book collection. These books will be catalogued and given book classmarks at a later date.

John Bird’s contributions are acknowledged in many of the books.

Currently arranged into four sections:

Books / articles about Percy Grainger (includes one about Rose Grainger, Percy’s mother)

Books /articles about music and musicians (not Grainger)

Books by friends of Percy Grainger

General books, some contain inscriptions at the front from Grainger to his wife
Books / articles about Percy Grainger

List arranged by publication date.


Photos of Rose Grainger, by Percy Grainger. Published 1923. [Depositor states this had a limited print run]

The Running Pianist, by Robert Lewis Taylor. Published 1950. Dedication at the front.


The Percy Grainger Companion. Edited by Lewis Foreman, published 1981. 2 copies, one signed by the author, the other is signed from John [Bird] as a gift to his parents.

Percy Grainger, by John Bird. Published 1982, Faber and Faber. Signed by the author.


Percy Grainger, The Pictorial Biography, by Robert Simon. 1983. (Also includes a second copy, revision 1987) 2 items

Grainger’s Collection of Music by Other Composers, Phil Clifford. Percy Grainger Music Collection part 2. Grainger Museum catalogue 2. Published 1983

The Grainger English Folk Song Collections, by Jane O’Brien. Published 1985

The Farthest North of Humanness. Letters of Percy Grainger 1901-14. Edited by Kay Dreyfus. Published 1985. (Sections have been highlighted by [John Bird])


Percy Grainger, by William Mellers. Published 1992


Percy Aldridge Grainger. List of Published Works. Verzeichnis Der Veröffentlichten Werke. Published 1996

Talking Grainger. Edited by Kate Darian-Smith and Alessandro Servadei. 1998.

Percy Grainger, by John Bird. Published 1999. Signed by the author. Published by Oxford University Press.

Grainger on Music, edited by Malcolm Gillies and Bruce Clunies Ross. Published 1999. (Sections highlighted by [John Bird])


Portrait of Percy Grainger, by Malcolm Gillies and David Pear. Published 2002

The New Percy Grainger Companion, edited by Penelope Thwaites. Published 2010

**Books about music and musicians (not Grainger)**

*Arranged by publication date*

Some mention Percy Grainger, or have a contribution written by him.

*The Philosophy of Modernism (In Its Connection with Music).* By Cyril Scott. Published [1917].

*Cyril Scott. Composer, Poet and Philosopher.* By A. Eaglefield Hull. Published 1918

*My Years of Indiscretion,* by Cyril Scott. Published 1924

*The Story of a Thousand Concert (1887-1927),* by W. S. Meadmore. [Date published unknown]


*Who’s Who in Music.* Published 1937

*The Band’s Music,* by Richard Franko Goldman. Published 1939. Forward by Percy Grainger

*Queen’s Hall 1893-1941,* by Robert Elkin, with a foreword by Dr Malcolm Sargent. Published [1940s]

*Norman O’Neill. A life of music,* by Derek Hudson. 1945

*Overture and Beginners. A Musical Autobiography,* by Eugene Goossens. Published 1951

*Music. Its Secret Influence Throughout The Ages.* By Cyril Scott. Published 8th impression 1955

*Septuagesima. Reminiscences of the Plainsong & Mediaeval Music Society, and of Other Things, Personal and Musical.* By Dom Anselm Hughes. Published 1959. Also included is a pamphlet from The Plainsong & Mediaeval Music Society

*The English Musical Renaissance,* by Frank Howes. Published 1966

*Australia’s Music. Themes for a New Society.* By Roger Covell. Published 1967

*Folk Song in England.* By A. L. Lloyd. Published 1967. Inserted are a few newscuttings and flyers, 1997-1998. (Some text highlighted)

*Bone of contention. The autobiography of Cyril Scott.* Published 1969

*The Road to Samarkand. Frederick Delius and His Music.* By Gloria Jahoda. Published 1969

Das Hoch’sche Konservatorium 1878-1978, by Peter Cahn. Published 1979

Ratbags. By Keith Dunstan with a foreword. By Barry Humphries. Published 1979

Fur Augen Und Ohren. Von der Spieluhr zum akustischen Environment. Published 1980


Sensibility and the English Song, volumes 1 and 2. By Stephen Banfield. Published 1985

Mothers. A celebration in prose, poetry, and photographs of mothers and childhood. Edited by Alexandra Towle. Published 1988


Article ‘Grieg and Grainger: Background to a friendship, by Lionel Carley


Books by friends of Percy Grainger

Printed book ‘The woman and the fiddler’, a play in three acts, by Arne Norrevang. Translated from the Norwegian by Mrs Herman Sandby. [Note from the depositor states Mrs Sandby was the wife of Percy Grainger’s closest male friend]. 1911

Printed book ‘Artist-Comrades’, a play in three acts, by Alf Sand. [Note from the depositor states Alf Sands was the pen name of Alfhild Sandby, wife of Percy’s best male friend]. 1940

General books not about Grainger

‘Deeds that won the empire’ by Rev. W. H. Fitchett. Published 1899. [The depositor John Bird stated this was an important, well-loved book by Percy Grainger]

Printed book ‘The auction of souls’, by Aurora Mardiganian [20th century]

Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman. Published 1900. Includes an inscription at the front to Ella from Percy [Grainger], Dec 1926
Geschlecht und Charakter. Eine Prinzipielle Untersuchung von Otto Weininger. Published 1917 [In German]

My Life by Isadora Duncan. Published 1928 Includes an inscription at the front to Ella from Percy [Grainger], April 1928

Florid Victorian Ornament, by Karl Klimsch. Published 1977. [Karl Klimsch was Grainger’s composition teacher]

2,100 Victorian Monograms, by Karl Klimsch. Published 1994. [Karl Klimsch was Grainger’s composition teacher]