

Patric
Dickinson
Manuscripts

Reference: PD

Patric Dickinson Manuscripts

PD

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1944-1971

A collection of material reflecting the varied work of Patric Dickinson as a broadcaster, poet, translator and writer. Much of the material relates to Dickinson's translations of Ancient Greek and Roman drama, particularly the comic plays of Aristophanes. The collection also includes manuscripts of broadcasts made by Dickinson, original works of poetry and signed printed works by the author.

Patric Thomas Dickinson, 1914-1994, was born in Nasirabad, India and studied at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge. Between 1936 and 1939 he was a schoolmaster and in the first year of the war, he served with the Artists' Rifles before working with the BBC. He was renowned as a translator into English of the Greek and Latin Classics as well as being a playwright and poet in his own right. He was very productive during his time working for the BBC from 1942-1948, most notably his broadcasts for the Third Programme which later went on to become Radio 3. In 1973 he received the Cholmondeley Award alongside Philip Larkin.

4 boxes

Open

Access to all registered researchers

Permission to make any published use of any material from the collection must be sought in advance in writing from the University Archivist, Special Collections. Identification of copyright holders of unpublished material is often difficult. Special Collections will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material.

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Language: English

Dickinson, Patric Thomas, 1914-1994,
poet and playwright

This collection was purchased in 1979

Special Collections also hold a number of letters, cards and presentation copies of published works by Patric Dickinson within the Godward Collection (ref. MS 68) and two letters to John Hammond within the Modern Poetry Collection.

Material relating to Patric Dickinson can be found at various repositories including Leeds University Special Collections; British Library; John Rylands Library Manchester; Edinburgh University Special Collections, and elsewhere.

PD/1	Broadcasts	1942-1973
	Broadcasts of works written, translated or produced by Patric Dickinson, primarily for the BBC Third Programme.	
	10 items	
	Open	
PD/1/1	The Return of Odysseus	1942
	Typescript play written in verse for radio. Noted by Patric Dickinson as 'the first version of my first radio play'.	
	1 folder	
	Open	
	Bound in a fascicule with PD/9-12	
PD/1/2	Pseudolus	1952
	Translation into English verse by Patric Dickinson of T. Macci Plauti's comedy 'Pseudolus', broadcast on the BBC Third Programme but unpublished.	
	1 folder	

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	Open	
	Pages bound in a fascicule with PD/4.	
PD/1/3	Lui	1955
	Manuscript of 'Lui' the original of which was written by Alfred Savoir but translated and adapted for broadcasting for the BBC Third Programme by Patric Dickinson.	
	1 volume	
	Open	
PD/1/4	The Beauty from Samos	1956
	Manuscript of a translation from the French of 'La Belle de Samos' written by Charles Cordier and based on fragments of 'The Samian Woman' by Menander. Translated by Patric Dickinson and Joanna Richardson for broadcast on the BBC Third Programme.	
	1 volume	
	Open	
PD/1/5	Mademoiselle Jaire	1958
	Corrected typescript translation of Michel de Chelderode's work broadcast on the Third Programme.	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/1/6	Just as I am, without one Plea	1970
	Manuscript of a broadcast 'Just as I am, without one plea. Hymns A & M: a reminiscence', presumably about the hymns' author Charlotte Elliott.	
	1 folder	
	Open	

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- Bound in a fascicule with PD/8, 10-12.
- PD/1/7 In the British Museum 1970
- Broadcast manuscript of Patric Dickinson's discussion of Thomas Hardy's poem of that name and other poems inspired by artefacts housed within the British Museum.
- 1 folder
- Open
- Bound in a fascicule with PD/8-9, 11-12.
- PD/1/8 Troubles of the Day: an anthology 1970
- Broadcast manuscript of Patric Dickinson's discussion of poems by Thomas Hardy, John Keats, W.H. Auden, Charles Tennyson Turner, Thomas Hood, Alfred Tennyson, Siegfried Sassoon and William Barnes.
- 1 folder
- Open
- Bound in a fascicule with PD/8-10, 12.
- PD/1/9 Chosen Companions 1970
- Typescript of a broadcast written by Patric Dickinson on the author and poet John Masefield.
- 1 folder
- Open
- Bound in a fascicule with PD/8-11.
- PD/1/10 A Memory of Dylan Thomas 1973
- Manuscript and typescript of a broadcast written by Patric Dickinson and spoken by Sir Michael Redgrave.
- 1 folder
- Open

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	Bound in a fascicule with PD/8-11.	
PD/2	Poetry	1939-1972
	Original poetry in various stages of development written by Patric Dickinson.	
	6 fascicules	
	Open	
PD/2/1	Typescripts of poems	1939-1940
	Typescripts of poems bound in a fascicule with a note written by Patric Dickinson stating that they had been 'read and some chosen by Walter de la Mare whilst the author was very ill. Some published in The Observer [newspaper] none published in book form'.	
	There are approximately 10 poems simply named 'poem' however the following titled poems are also included, a few with dates noted: 'Thirty civilians, including women and children, were killed...' ; 'Sonnet: Per Ardua ad Astra' (To Flying Officer Gordon Potter) [published in The Observer]; 'Sonnet: The Soldier 1939' [published in The Observer]; 'Sonnet for the fallen' [published in The Observer]; 'The Magi' [published in The Observer]; 'Poem' [published in The Observer]; 'Adam Turn - (for Mickey)'; 'World Without End' [published in The Observer]; 'Meeting In Dream'; 'Poem'; 'Haunted'; 'Poem: Testament'; 'Sonnet written in the time of depression'; 'Sonnet in the time of war (to Vincent Hollom); 'A Memory. W.A.K.D'; 'Theseus and the Minotaur'; 'Epigram. The Atheist'; 'From a Wartime Sickbed'; 'Refugee Casualties'; 'Barton Cliffs: a valediction' [dated Jan 1940]; 'Reconcilement'; 'Atlantic'; 'Poem' [dated June 1940]; 'Stonehenge. A Dialogue'; 'Two Variations. The Trees'; 'Sonnet: Contrasts'; 'August for the people' [dated Aug 1939]; 'On Stone Down'; 'Poem for a Confirmation'; 'The Young Woman in Wartime'; 'Two Sonnets'; 'The Crippled Athlete'; 'The Pensive Prisoner'; 'The	

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	Kestrel'; 'Doubt'.	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/2/2	Manuscripts of poems	1965-1970
	Fascicule consisting of manuscript drafts of seemingly finished and incomplete poems and parodies noted in Patric Dickinson's hand 'mostly unpublished'. Many of these writings are on scraps of paper such as the back of an envelope or letter. The following verse are titled: 'Incantation'; 'Five of us'; 'Plymouth Hoe' [dated Nov 29 1965]; 'Definition (or comfort to scholars); 'April 7 1971'; 'Medocation in the Medoc'.	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/2/3	Manuscripts of poems in draft	1970-1972
	25 poems in various stages of draft form	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/2/4	Manuscripts and typescripts of poems	1970-1971
	Fascicule noted in Patric Dickinson's hand as containing '32 new and unpublished poems in various drafts'. Dickinson has included a list of the titled poems with the number of drafts completed and included for each one. The following poems are contained, some with multiple drafts: 'Near South Harting'; 'Absence'; 'Inquest'; 'Maniola'; 'Time is'; 'Roman Palace'; 'History'; 'The Wild Sea-banks'; 'Speckled Woods'; 'First Day'; 'Not Always'; 'The Plain'; 'Cosmonauts'; 'Fledgling'; 'May Races'; 'Nihil'; 'In Arcadia Ambo'; 'As if'; 'Nature Ramble'; 'Civilisation'; 'Taken for Granted'; 'Sea'; 'Dandelion'; 'Centaur'; 'Rye/Rye Harbour'; 'Nodboy'; 'How to Live with a Poet'; 'A Russian Ship'; 'Snow'; 'Oxford	

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- Revisited'; 'Plato's Cave'; 'Autumn Frost at Night'.
1 fascicule
Open
- PD/2/5 Manuscripts and typescripts of poems 1971
15 manuscript and typescript poems in draft form and final versions bound together in a fascicule. Dickinson has inserted a list of the poems contained: 'Stillness'; 'M.B.'; 'The River Brede'; 'Trinity'; 'Hornets and Adders'; 'Buzzards'; 'Jack Merricks'; 'Birds'; 'Moths'; 'A Meteor'; 'The Illusion'; 'At Night'; 'Oxford Revisited'; 'Forgiveness'. Also included is an order of service for the memorial to Jack Simmons Merricks, dated September 1970.
1 fascicule
Open
- PD/3 Translations of works c. 1952 - c.1970
Translations of works by Aristophanes
4 fascicules
Open
- PD/3/1 The Birds of Aristophanes c. 1952
Typescript translation of The Birds of Aristophanes by Patric Dickinson.
103 pages
Open
Bound in a fascicule.
- PD/3/2 The Frogs of Aristophanes 1968
Manuscript translation into English verse by Patric Dickinson of 'The Frogs of Aristophanes' dated November 8 1968.
73 pages

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	Open	
	Bound in a fascicule.	
PD/3/3	Typescript preface	1970
	Typescript preface with manuscript corrections to the 'Plays of Aristophanes' by Patric Dickinson.	
	3 pages	
	Open	
	Bound in a fascicule with PD/3.	
PD/3/4	Thesmophoriazusaie	c.1970
	Typescript translation by Patric Dickinson of the work by Aristophanes.	
	58 pages	
	Open	
	Bound in a fascicule.	
PD/4	Other original writings	1956-1972
	5 fascicules	
	Open	
PD/4/1	The Knuckle Duster: a study of T.E. Hulme	1956
	Typescript with manuscript corrections of a study on the poet and philosopher Thomas Ernest Hulme (1883–1917).	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/4/2	Henry Newbolt study	1967-1970
	Manuscript of a biographical study on the poet and author Henry Newbolt (1862-1938).	
	Bound in 2 fascicules	

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	Open	
PD/4/3	The Miller's Secret	1972
	Draft manuscript of an opera libretto.	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/4/4	Creation	1972
	Manuscript draft of libretto of an oratorio for Ely Cathedral.	
	1 fascicule	
	Open	
PD/5	Printed works	1944-1971
	Published works by Patric Dickinson.	
	14 volumes	
	Open	
PD/5/1	The Seven Days of Jericho	1944
	Inscribed 'my first published work. Written during the Blitz' published by Andrew Dakers Limited, London, 1944.	
	1 item	
	Open	
PD/5/2	New Saxon Pamphlets	c. 1944
	Pamphlet containing 'The Trial of A Stranger' by Patric Dickinson, Tribune Publications, London.	
	1 item	
	Open	
PD/5/3	Theseus and the Minotaur	1946
	A collection of poems published by Jonathan Cape, London, 1946.	

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- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/4 Stone in the Midst and Poems 1948
A collection of poems published Methuen, London, 1948.
- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/5 The Sailing Race and other poems 1952
Volume of poetry, published Chatto and Windus, London, 1952.
- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/6 The Scale of Things 1955
A collection of published poems, Chatto and Windus, London, 1955.
- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/7 Poetry Supplement 1958
Pamphlet edited by Patric Dickinson for the Poetry Book Society, Christmas 1958.
- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/8 A Durable Fire 1962
Published play 'A Durable Fire', Chatto and Windus, London, 1962.
- 1 item
Open
- PD/5/9 Festival of Poetry 1963
Souvenir programme of a festival directed

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by and featuring Patric Dickinson.

1 item

Open

PD/5/10

The Good Minute

1965

'The Good Minute: Autobiography of a poet golfer', published Gollancz, London, 1965.

1 item

Open

PD/5/11

The Divine Comedy in English

c.1966

Chapter 10 of the 'BBC Composite Version' for which Patric Dickinson translated Inferno XX.

1 item

Open

PD/5/12

More Than Time

1970

Volume of poetry 'More Than Time', Chatto and Windus, London, 1970.

1 item

Open

PD/5/13

Aristophanes

1970

Published plays of Aristophanes translated by Patric Dickinson in 2 volumes both Oxford University Press, 1970:

'Aristophanes Plays:1' containing 'Acharnians'; 'Knights'; 'Clouds'; 'Wasps'; 'Peace'

'Aristophanes Plays:2' containing 'Birds'; 'Lysistrata'; 'Thesmophoriazusai'; 'Frogs'; 'Ecclesiazusai'; 'Plutos'

2 volumes

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	Open	
PD/5/14	Encounter	1971
	Journal published September 1971, London containing a review of a new translation of Aristophanes with reference to Patric Dickinson's work.	
	1 item	
	Open	