

CABINET 14: JESUS & THE WHITE GODDESS

Robert Graves, *King Jesus*. 6th ed. London: Cassell, 1962. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 K5 1962
_____, *The White Goddess: A Historical Grammar of Poetic Myth*. New York: Creative Age Press, 1948. Special Collections: PN 1077. GS12 1948a
_____, *The White Goddess: A Historical Grammar of Poetic Myth*. 3rd ed. amended. London: Faber and Faber, 1952. Brasch: PN 1077. GS12 1952
Robert Graves and Joshua Podro, *The Nazarene Gospel Restored*. London: Cassell, 1953. Special Collections: BS 2555.2.GS12
Robert Graves, *Seven Days in New Crete*. London: Cassell, 1949. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 S4 1949

CABINET 15: TRANSLATIONS

Apuleius, *The Transformations of Lucius, otherwise known as The Golden Ass*. London: The Folio Society, 1960. Special Collections: PA 6209.M3 GS11
Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*. Harmondsworth, England: Penguin, 1957. Special Collections: DG 277.S7 T5 1957
Manuel de Jesús Galván, *The Cross and the Sword*. London: Gollancz, 1956. Special Collections: PQ 7409.G3 C7
George Sand, *Winter in Majorca*. Mallorca: Valldemosa Edition, 1956. Special Collections: DP 302.B27 S594
Robert Graves, *The Greek Myths*. Harmondsworth, England: Penguin, 1957. Brasch: BL 781.GS12 1957
The Song of Songs. New York: Clarkson. N. Potter, 1973. Special Collections: BS 1485.2.GS12

CABINET 16: LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN

Robert Graves, *The Penny Fiddle: Poems for Children*. London: Cassell, 1960. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 P4
_____, *Ann at Highwood Hall: Poems for Children*. London: Cassell, 1964. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A77 1964.
_____, *The Big Green Book*. New York: Crowell-Collier, 1962. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 B47
_____, *Two Wise Children*. New York: Harlin Quist, 1966. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 T96

CABINET 17: HOME RUN

Robert Graves, *Homer's Daughter*. London: Cassell, 1955. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 H6
_____, *They Hanged My Sainly Billy*. London: Cassell, 1957. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 T53
_____, *On Poetry: Collected Talks and Essays*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1969. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 O6
_____, *Difficult Questions, Easy Answers*. London: Cassell, 1972. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 D54

CABINET 18: POETRY

Robert Graves, *Poems (1914-26)*. London: William Heinemann, 1927. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A17 1927
_____, *Poems about Love*. London: Cassell, 1969. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A17 1969
_____, *Poems, 1938-1945*. London: Cassell, 1946. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A17 1946
_____, *Poems and Satires, 1951*. London: Cassell, 1951. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 P63
_____, *Poems, 1953*. London: Cassell, 1953. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A17 1953
_____, *New Poems, 1962*. London: Cassell, 1962. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 A17 1962
_____, *Love Respelt*. London: Cassell, 1965. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 L6
_____, *The Green-sailed Vessel: Poems*. London: Privately Printed, 1971. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 G74
_____, *Poems about Love*. London: Cassell, 1969. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 A17 1969
_____, *Collected Poems, 1975*. London: Cassell, 1975. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 A17 1975
_____, *Poems*. New York: Limited Editions Club, 1980. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 A17 1980

VITRINES:

- 1. Occupation – Writer**
Copy of Robert Graves's certificate for the degree of Bachelor of Letters, Oxford University, 19 June 1925; a photograph of Robert Graves, from *Good-bye to All That* (1929); Graves's hands
- 2. Poetry**
Photograph of Graves talking at the Hebrew University, Israel, 1959; a portrait of Graves from *Collected Poems* (1961)
- 3. Children's books and illustrated editions**
Photograph of Graves carrying groceries, from *Poems 1968-1970* (1971); Aemilia Laraçuen's sketch of Graves from *Love Respelt* (1966)
- 4. Collaboration and contributions**
Photograph of Robert Graves leaning on olive trees; Graves perusing manuscript in his study at Deyá
Thanks to William Graves, and the St John's College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford for the above photographs.

WALLS:

Photographs: Robert Graves in uniform, 1915; Robert Graves and Nancy Nicholson at Maesyneuardd, near Harlech, June 1918; New Zealander Len Lye and Robert Graves, Deyá, c.1960; Beryl Graves née Pritchard, 1938; Laura Riding; Judith Bledsoe; Margot Callas, 1961-62; Aemilia Laraçuen (Cindy Lee); Juli Simon, 1968.
Thanks to William Graves, and the St John's College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford

REFERENCES:

Charles Brasch, 'Robert Graves', in *The Universal Dance*. Dunedin: University of Otago Press, 1981
Richard Perceval Graves, *Robert Graves. The Assault Heroic, 1895-1926; The Years with Laura Riding, 1926-1940; and The White Goddess, 1940-1985*. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1986, 1990, & 1995
F. H. Higginson and William P. Williams, *Robert Graves. A Bibliography*. 2nd ed. Hampshire: St Paul's Bibliographies, 1987
In Broken Image: Selected Letters of Robert Graves 1914-1946. Edited by Paul O'Prey. London: Hutchinson, 1982
Frank L. Kersnowski, *The Early Poetry of Robert Graves*. Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 2002
'Robert von Ranke Graves' www.oxforddnb.com
The St John's College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford
Miranda Seymour, *Robert Graves. Life on the Edge*. London: Doubleday, 1995

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FORGING A MAGICAL LANDSCAPE:

The Works of Robert Graves, Poet

Exhibition | 1 April to 17 June 2011

Exhibition List



FORGING A MAGICAL LANDSCAPE:

The Works of Robert Graves, Poet

*There is no now for us but always,
Nor any I but we -
Who have loved only and love only
From the hilltops to the sea
In our long turbulence of nights and days:
A calendar from which no lover strays
In proud perversity.*

Envoi. (Collected Poems, 1975)

On the headstone that marks his grave at Deyá, Marjorca, there is the simple: ‘Robert Graves Poeta 1895-1985’. And it was this aspect that attracted Charles Brasch, editor, patron and poet, to the works of Graves, calling him ‘among the finest English poets of our time, one of the few who is likely to be remembered as a poet.’ Indeed, not only did Brasch collect his own first editions volumes written by Graves, but he encouraged the University of Otago Library to buy more. Thanks to Brasch, Special Collections at the University of Otago now has an extensive collection of works (poetry, novels, essays, children’s books) by him.

Born at Wimbledon in 1895, Graves had an Irish father, a German mother, an English upbringing, and a classical education. Enlisting in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, Graves faced the horrors of World War I. He was wounded by shrapnel, left for dead and later able to read his own obituary in *The London Times*. In 1929, he penned *Goodbye to All That*, his war-time autobiography which gave him success and fame. And aside from his regular output of poetry books, he wrote historical novels such as *I Claudius* (1934) and *Claudius the God* (1934), *The White Goddess* (1948), the heady study on matriarchal worship and poetry that in the sixties became a source book for readers of the *Whole Earth Catalog*, and the very successful *The Greek Myths* (1955). By 1975, effectively the end of his writing career, he had written a total of some 135 books, including *The Golden Fleece* (1944), *Seven Days in New Crete* (1949), his critical *The Crowning Privilege* (1956) and *Oxford Addresses on Poetry* (1964), and *Collected Poems of 1975*. If nothing else is claimed for him, this unkempt (thick curly hair, broken nose, an irregular face), honest, independent, sometimes truculent, unorthodox romantic wrote for a living and to support himself as a poet.

The exhibition ‘**Forging a Magical Landscape: The Works of Robert Graves, Poet**’ is based on the holdings in Special Collections. First and second editions, signed limited publications, reprints, illustrative editions - all reveal the scope and range of topics that Graves covered as well as his sheer industry. One moves from the trenches, Roman bath-houses and the American War of Independence, to life with John Milton, Jesus, and the poisoner Dr William Palmer. Translations, contributions to the work of others, and children’s books feature as too do early influences and friends such as Edward Marsh, Siegfried Sassoon, and T. E. Lawrence. And then there is the all-important poetry, at first about the war, then to the three loves of his life: Nancy Nicholson, Beryl Pritchard, and Laura Riding, and finally fuelled by his devotion to the Muse - or Muses. The works of (and critical analysis by) Laura Riding, the American poet, and his collaborator for 13 years, are important here.

Some might consider Robert Graves and his works are out of fashion. Given television adaptations and continuous reprints, this is not so. His books will always reflect an independent, unorthodox romantic spirit that make for stimulating reading. It is hoped that this exhibition rejuvenates interest in him and promotes further study on his works, especially here at the University of Otago.

Items on Display

CABINET 1: WORLD WAR I

Robert Graves, *Good-bye to All That*. 2nd ed. (revised). Garden City, New York: Doubleday Anchor Books; Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1957. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 Z5 A3 1957
_____, *Good-bye to All That*. 4th English ed. (revised). London: The Folio Society, 1981. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 Z5 A16 1981
_____, *Good-bye to All That*. Penguin Modern Classics reprint edition. London: Penguin, 1975. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 Z5 A3 1957a
_____, *Fairies and Fusiliers*. 1st ed. London: William Heinemann, 1917. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 F3
The Great War... ‘I was there!’ Undying Memories of 1914-1918. Edited by Sir John Hammerton. Vol. I. London: The Amalgamated Press Ltd, [1938]. Central: D 640 A2 GS48
The First World War. A Photographic History. Edited by Laurence Stallings. London: William Heinemann, 1934. Central: D 521 SS32
‘Situation Western front’, Map 6, *Military Operations France and Belgium, 1915*. Compiled by J. E. Edmonds and G. C. Wynne. London: Macmillan, 1927-1928. Central: D 521.MM336

CABINET 2: FAMILY BACKGROUND

Red Branch House, Wimbledon. Photograph with kind permission from The St John’s College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford
The Graves family in September 1908. Photograph with kind permission from The St John’s College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford
Alfred Perceval Graves, *Songs of Killarney*. Delhi: Pranava Books, 2008. Special Collections: PR 4728 G17 S66 2008
_____, *Welsh Poetry Old and New*. London: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1912. Special Collections: PR 8955 GS11
Heinrich von Ranke. Photograph with kind permission from The St John’s College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford

CABINET 3: FIRST OFFERINGS

Robert Graves, *Over the Brazier*. 1st ed. London: Poetry Bookshop, 1916. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 O9 1916
_____, *Goliath and David*. London: Chiswick Press, 1917. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 G65
_____, *Treasure Box*. [London]: Privately printed, 1919. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 T74
_____, *Country Sentiment*. London: Martin Secker, 1920. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 C69
_____, *On English Poetry*. London: William Heinemann, 1922. Special Collections: PR 502 GS12

CABINET 4: INFLUENCES

The Holy Bible. London: Thomas Nelson, 1952. Brasch: BS 191.A1 1952
H. L. R. Edwards, *Skelton: The Life and Times of an Early Tudor Poet*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1949. Brasch: PR 2348.E82
Algernon Charles Swinburne, *Songs before Sunrise*. London: Published for the Florence Press by Chatto & Windus, 1909. Special Collections: PR 5506 .S52 1909

CABINET 5: INFLUENCES

John Masefield, *Salt-water Ballads*. London: Elkin Mathews, 1924. Brasch: PR 6025.A77 S2 1924
Samuel Butler, *Erewhon, or, Over the Range*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1923. Special Collections: PR 4349.B7 E6 1923
Edward Marsh, editor, *Georgian Poetry, 1911-1912*. London: Poetry Bookshop, 1917. Special Collections: PR 1225.GA97

CABINET 6: ADVANCES IN POETRY

Robert Graves, *Whipperginny*. London: William Heinemann, 1923. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 W45
_____, *The Feather Bed*. Richmond: Printed and published by Leonard & Virginia Woolf at the Hogarth Press, Hogarth House, Richmond, 1923. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 F4 1923
_____, *My Head! My Head! Being the History of Elisha and the Shunamite Woman*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1925. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 M9 1925
_____, *Mock Beggar Hall*. London: Published by Leonard & Virginia Woolf at the Hogarth Press, 52 Tavistock Square, 1924. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 M6
_____, *Poetic Unreason and Other Studies*. London: Cecil Palmer, 1925. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 P64

CABINET 7: T. E. LAWRENCE

Robert Graves, *Lawrence and the Arabs*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1927. Special Collections: D 568.4.L45 GS11
_____, *The Pier-Glass*. London: Martin Secker, 1921. Special Collections: PR 6013 R35 P54
T. E. Lawrence to his Biographers Robert Graves and Liddell Hart. London: Cassell, 1963. Special Collections: D 568.4.L45 A424
R. G. Sims, *The Sayings & Doings of T. E. Lawrence*. Wakefield, West Yorkshire: Fleece Press, 1994. Special Collections: D 568.4.L45 SL16
The Odyssey of Homer. Translated by T. E. Shaw (Colonel T. E. Lawrence). London: Oxford University Press, 1935. Brasch: PA 4025.A5 LD43 1935

CABINET 8: EGYPT AND SEIZIN PRESS

Robert Graves, *Contemporary Techniques of Poetry: A Political Analogy*. London: Published by Leonard & Virginia Woolf at The Hogarth Press, 1925. Special Collections: PR 605.T4 GS11
Egypt and the Sudan: Handbook for Travellers. Leipzig: Karl Baedeker, 1929. Brasch: DT 45.B351 1929
Robert Graves, *The Shout*. London: E. Mathews & Marrot, 1929. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 S44
Laura Riding, *Love as Love, Death as Death*. London: Seizin Press, 1928. Special Collections: PS 3519.A363 L68 1928
Robert Graves, *To Whom Else? Deyá, Majorca: Seizin Press, 1931*. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 T6

CABINET 9: SIEGFRIED SASSOON

Siegfried Sassoon, *The War Poems*. London: Heinemann, 1919. Brasch: PR 6037.A86 W3 1920
The Great War... ‘I was there!’ Undying Memories of 1914-1918. Edited by Sir John Hammerton. Vol. II. 4 July 1916 to 22 October 1917. London: The Amalgamated Press Ltd, [1938]. Central: D 640 A2 GS48
[Siegfried Sassoon], *Memoirs of an Infantry Officer*. London: Faber & Faber, 1930. Brasch: D 640.S752

CABINET 10: LAURA RIDING

Laura Riding, *Epilogue: A Critical Summary*. Vol. I. Deyá, Majorca: Seizin Press; London: Constable, 1936. Special Collections: PN 81 .E64
Laura Riding and Robert Graves, *A Survey of Modernist Poetry*. London: Heinemann, 1927. Special Collections: PN 1271.RH75
Laura Riding, *Collected Poems*. London: Cassell, 1938. Brasch: PS 3535.I43627 A17 1938
_____, *Anarchism is not enough*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co., 1928. Special Collections: PS 3519.A363 A68 1928

CABINET 11: GOOD-BYE TO ALL THAT

Robert Graves, *Good-bye to All That: An Autobiography*. 1st issue, 1st ed. London: Jonathan Cape, 1929. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 Z5 A3
_____, *Good-bye to All That: An Autobiography*. 2nd issue, 1st ed. London: Jonathan Cape, 1929. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 Z5 A3
_____, *Goodbye to All That*. London: Cassell, 1957. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 Z5 A33 1957
_____, *But It Still Goes On: An Accumulation*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1930. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 B8
Alfred Perceval Graves, *To Return to All That: An Autobiography*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1930. Special Collections: PR 4728.G17 Z5 A37

CABINET 12: ROMAN TO AMERICAN TALES

Robert Graves, *I Claudius: From the Autobiography of Tiberius Claudius*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1953. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 I23 1953
_____, *Claudius the God and His Wife Messalina*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1954. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 C62 1954
_____, *Antigua, Penny, Puce*. Deyá, Majorca: Seizin Press; London: Constable, 1936. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 A68
_____, *Count Belisarius*. 4th ed. London: Cassell, 1962. Brasch: PR 6013.R35 C68 1962
_____, *Proceed, Sergeant Lamb*. London: Methuen, 1941. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 P76

CABINET 13: ALAN HODGE & MR MILTON

Robert Graves and Alan Hodge, *The Reader over your Shoulder: A Handbook for Writers of English Prose*. New York: Random House, 1979. Special Collections: PR 751.GS11 1979
_____, *The Long Week-end: A Social History of Great Britain, 1918-1939*. London: Reader’s Union, 1941. Special Collections: DA 566.4.GS11
Robert Graves, *The Story of Marie Powell, Wife to Mr. Milton*. London: Cassell, 1943. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 S86
_____, *The Golden Fleece*. London: Folio Society, 2003. Special Collections: PR 6013.R35 G6 2003