

JONES (DAVID) PAPERS

Manuscript
Collection
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Correspondence chiefly between Rene Hague and David Jones; drafts and typescripts and René Hague's books on David Jones; typescript of Henry Summerfield's book on David Jones. 1928-ca. 1979.

Extent: 4 boxes. 2. linear ft.

Gift to the Fisher Rare Book Library in August 1981 from Professor William Blissett. Professor Blissett acquired the David Jones correspondence from René Hague in 1977. The typescript of Hague's Commentary on The Anathemata was a subsequent gift from the author. The remainder of the material was given to Professor Blissett by Patrick Gilligan Hackett. In 1984 Professor Blissett made a further gift to the Library of letters he had received from David Jones.

The copyright and literary rights to the writings of David Jones reside with his estate; those to material by Rene Hague with his estate.

K. Martyn
Oct. 1981
April 1982
Feb. 1986

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

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The English painter, engraver, and poet, David Jones, was born in 1895 to James and Alice Jones at Brockley, Kent. He studied art at the Camberwell Art School from 1909 to 1914 and then in 1915 enlisted as a private in the Royal Welch Fusiliers. He fought in the trenches on the Western Front throughout the War, being wounded in 1916. In 1918 he was posted to Ireland. After demobilization in 1919, Jones attended the Westminster School of Art until 1921. In 1921 he was received into the Roman Catholic Church. From 1922 to 1924 he lived in Eric Gill's community of artists and craftsmen at Ditchling, Sussex, where he learnt the art of wood engraving, and joined the Ditchling Guild of St. Joseph and St. Dominic, founded in 1919 by Hilary Pepler and Eric Gill. When Eric Gill moved from Ditchling in 1924 Jones followed him to his new quarters at Capel-y-ffn in South Wales where he first met René Hague, then a young member of the community at Capel.

Jones spent several long periods at Capel during the next four years, interspersed with visits to the Benedictine monastery on Caldey Island off Tenby, Wales. In 1924 he became engaged to Gill's daughter, Petra, but the engagement lapsed after a number of years. In 1925 Jones provided the engravings for the first of several Golden Cockerel books he was to illustrate--Gulliver's Travels. In 1927 a joint exhibition of his work and that of Eric Gill was held at St. George's Gallery in London. In 1928 he began work on In Parenthesis.

In 1929 Jones followed the Gill family to Pigotts in Buckinghamshire where they had moved in 1928. Here he shared quarters with René Hague, and after Hague married Eric Gill's daughter, Joan, lived with the couple in a small cottage at Pigotts. Jones suffered a nervous breakdown in 1932 and spent the following year recuperating and travelling to Egypt and Palestine. On his return to England in 1935 he began to spend periods of time at Rock Hall, near Alnwick in Northumberland, the home of his friend and patron, Helen Sutherland, and at the Fort Hotel in Sidmouth, Devon where another close friend, Prudence Pelham, visited him.

In 1937 In Parenthesis was published. In 1940-41 the Tate Gallery acquired several of his paintings. Jones moved to London in 1940 and remained there until he suffered another breakdown in 1946. He spent the next year under psychiatric care at Bowden House, in Harrow-on-the-Hill, where he continued to write and paint. By the end of 1947 he was able to move to his own quarters at Northwick Lodge in Harrow, the town in which he was to spend the remainder of his life.

In 1952 The Anathemata (first conceived when he visited Jerusalem in 1933) was published and in 1959 Epoch and Artist appeared. From 1966 on he worked on a series of poems eventually published in 1974 in a collection entitled The Sleeping Lord and other Fragments. In 1970 he suffered a stroke and a fall and was admitted to the Calvary Nursing Home in Harrow where he lived until his death in Oct. 1974.

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David Jones' friendship with the printer and author René Hague (b. 1905) goes back to their first meeting in 1924 at Eric Gill's community at Capel. Hague lived at Capel until 1928, moved to Pigotts in 1929, and began operating a printing press there with Eric Gill. In 1930 Hague married Eric Gill's daughter, Joan and moved into a small cottage at Pigotts which was shared for several years with David Jones. The friendship continued throughout Jones' life. René Hague continued to work as a printer and in 1952 he printed In Parenthesis. René Hague is also the author of three works on David Jones: David Jones (University of Wales Press, 1975); A Commentary on 'The Anathemata' of David Jones (Christopher Skelton, 1977); and Dai Greatcoat; a self-portrait of David Jones in his letters (Faber, 1980)

SCOPE

The René Hague correspondence falls into two sections. The early letters date from 1931 to 1936, when Jones and Hague were intimate friends, frequently sharing the same living quarters. Many of these letters have drawings and sketches. These are followed by a gap of twenty-four years when only three letters have been preserved, and then by a group of letters beginning in 1960 and increasing in frequency by the 1970's. The later correspondence, from 1973 and 1974, consists of very lengthy letters containing reminiscences of Jones' past experience and discussing questions raised by René Hague in the course of writing his Commentary on The Anathemata. René Hague used portions from the correspondence in this collection in his book Dai Greatcoat; but much material still remains unpublished.

The letters to William Blissett, 1954 to 1973, have all been published in his A long conversation (Oxford, 1981), a memoir of David Jones.

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CONTAINER LIST

Box 1 Letters and notes from David Jones to René and Joan Hague. 1928-1974. 113 A.L.S.

Arranged chronologically. See appended Itemized Listing for details. Portions of thirty-three letters have been published in Dai Greatcoat; a self-portrait of David Jones in his letters (Faber, 1980).

Box 2 Letters and typescripts by René Hague. 1973-1977.

Letters to David Jones. 1973-1974. 5 T.L.

Review of The Sleeping Lord and other Fragments. 1974. Corrected typescript.

David Jones. ca. 1974-1975. Manuscript draft; typescripts; proofs. Published by University of Wales Press, 1975.

A Commentary on The Anathemata of David Jones. ca. 1974. Manuscript, typescript, xerox. Extensive annotation by David Jones. Published by C. Skelton, 1977. With a letter from C. Skelton to René Hague, July 16, 1977, re publication.

Additional material. 1974-1977.

Letter from "Mike" to René Hague, Nov. 1974, describing David Jones' funeral.

Letter from "James" to René Hague, Jan. 11, 1977, re translation of a Latin text.

Box 3 Typescript by Henry Summerfield. ca. 1979.

An Introductory Guide to The Anathemata and The Sleeping Lord Sequence of David Jones. ca. 1979. Corrected typescript. Published by Sono Nis Press, 1979.

Box 4 Letters from David Jones to William Blissett. 1954-1973. 13 A.L.S.

Arranged chronologically. See appended itemized listing for details.

Published in William Blissett's The long conversation (Oxford: 1981)

Letters from David Jones to Rex Nan Kivell. 1942; 1949.

2 A.L.S. Given to William Blissett at the Redfern Gallery. London, 1959.

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ITEMIZED LISTING

196	Letters from David Jones to René and Joan Hague. 1931-1974. 113 A.L.S.
Box I	Undated A.L. Folder 1 leaf. Translates Latin 'Requiescat ...' into English and Welsh.
	Holy Saturday, 1928. Brockley. To Joan Gill. A.L.S. 1 leaf includes 6 line inscription.
	July 23, 1931 Pigotts. A.L.S. 2p. Drawing of dog on first page of letter.
	Holy Saturday, 1932 [Mar. 26] Brockley. A.L.S. Folder 1 leaf. On front page of folder, full page inscription, lettered by DJ. With letter is leaf containing extract from Augustine in Latin and English in DJ's hand and an undated postcard from DJ to RH.
	[193-?] A.L. 1 leaf. Note appended by René Hague suggesting date and context.
	May Day, 1933. Rock. A.L.S. 2 p. Drawing of bull on first page.
	Dec. 22, 1933. Brockley. A.L.S. 2 p. Small drawing on second page.
	Oct. 4, 1934. Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 4 p.
	St. Luke's Day, 1934. [Oct. 18?] Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 4 p.
	Nov. 22, 1934. Westridge Farm, Streatley, Berks. A.L.S. 6 p.
	Jan. 5, 1935. Quay Hotel, Hartland, N. Devon. A.L.S. 8 p.
	Jan. 18, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 4 p. Drawing of dog on p. 4.
	Shrove Tuesday, 1935. [Mar. 5] Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p.
	March 10, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p.
	March 14, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 3 p.
	March 28, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p. Drawing of Hitler on p. 2.
	April 2, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 4 p.
	April 15, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 6 p.
	April 29, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 5 p.
	April 29, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. To Prudence [Pelham]. A.L.S. 2 p. Drawing of a Victorian junior army officer "a bit like René."
	May 16, 1935. Fort. A.L.S. 2 p.

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Box I

13.06. hrs. 6.35.
 [June] Sidmouth Post. No. 2 Sap. A.L.S. 1 leaf. Newspaper clipping converted with pen and coloured ink onto a portrait of Mr. O'Doule at bottom of page.

June 3, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 6 p.

July 2, 1935. Hartlington Hall, Skipton. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.

July 10, 1935. Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 4 p.

Aug. 2, 1935. Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 6 p. Drawing of a hawk on p. 5.

Aug. 16, 1935. Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 2 p.

Aug. 24, 1935. Barmoor Castle, Lowick, Northumberland. A.L.S. 4 p.

Sept. 17, 1935. Rock Hall, Alnwick. A.L.S. 4 p. Drawing of a cat on p. 4.

Sept. 23, 1935. Rock Hall, Alnwick. To Joan [Hague] A.L.S. 3 p.

Oct. 7, 1935. Barmoor Castle, Lowick. A.L.S. 6 p. Drawing of hearth on p. 2. Drawing of harbour on p. 4.

Oct. 8, 1935. Schooner Hotel, Alnmouth. A.L.S. 3 p. With newspaper clipping.

Nov. 7, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.

Nov. 12, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p.

Dec. 2, 1935. Fort. A.L.S. 2 p.

Dec. 3, 1935. Fort. A.L.S. 1 p.

Dec. 6, 1935. The Marina, Sidmouth. A.N.S. 2 p.

Dec. 14, 1935. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 3 p.

Dec. 23, 1935. The Fort, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

Christmas Eve 1935. Fort. A.N.S. 1 leaf.

Feb. 5, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. Sketch of dog on p. 4.

Feb. 11, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.

Feb. 18, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p.

Feb. 24, 1936. Exeter. A.N.S. Postcard.

Feb. 25, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

St. David's Day, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. Folder 3 p.
 [Mar. 1]

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Box I

- Mar. 5, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p.
- Easter, 1936. Fort Hotel. A.L.S. 2 p. Drawing of a dancing girl takes up most of p. 1.
- March 23, 1936. Fort Hotel, Sidmouth. A.L.S. 2 p. Sketch of figure holding Memorandum & Articles of Tablet Publishing Co.
- April 2, 1936. Fort Hotel. A.N.S. Note on both sides of a printed invitation to a private view of watercolours by Jones and others at the Redfern Gallery, London.
- May 8, 1937 Fort Hotel. A.L.S. 12 p.
- April 23, 1946. A.L.S. 2 p. Three line inscription lettered in coloured inks at head of letter.
- Jan. 1955. A.L.S. 8 p. Three line inscription in black and red ink at head of letter.
- June 2, 1955. Northwick Lodge, Harrow-on-the-Hill. A.L.S. 2 p.
- Eve of St. David, [Feb. 29] 1960. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. 6 lines inscription lettered in coloured inks on p. 4.
- April 9, 1960. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. Folder 6 p. With this is a part of another letter (p. 5-8) with the heading: René, but beginning in mid sentence, and notes by DJ and by RH on this portion's relationship to April 9, 1960 letter.
- May 7, 1960. A.L. Folder 1 leaf. Unfinished letter. Unsigned.
- May 20, 1960. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.
- June 1, 1960. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 1 leaf.
- Sept. 16, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 4 p. With this a 2 p. unfinished letter dated Sept. 14.
- Sept. 27, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 10 p.
- Oct. 10, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 6 p.
- Oct. 21, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 8 p.
- Oct. 27, 1963. A.L.S. 2 p.
- Oct. 29, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 1 leaf.
- Nov. 7, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 6 p.
- Dec. 13, 1963. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 6 p. Four line inscription in coloured inks on p. 6.
- Mar. 6, 1964. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 4 p.
- April 27, 1964. Monksdene Hotel, Harrow. A.L.S. 4 p. Map of Harrow drawn in coloured inks on p. 2.

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Box I

Aug. 12, 1964. Monksdene. A.L.S. 4 p.

Nov. 5, 1964. Monksdene Hotel. A.L.S. 6 p. Written on outside paper.

Jan. 6, 1965. Monksdene. A.L.S. 4 p. Written on outside paper.

May 18, 1965. 2 Northwick Park Rd., Harrow. A.L.S. 2 p.

April 29, 1966. Monksdene. A.L.S. 6 p.

June 8, 1966. 2 Northwick Park Rd., Harrow. A.L.S. 20 p.

June 19, 1967. Monksdene. A.L.S. 6 p.

August 15, 1967. Monksdene. A.L.S. 4 p.

April 16, 1970. Harrow Hospital. A.L.S. 4 p.

May 2, 1970. Bethanie Convent, 12 Hornsey Lane, London. A.L.S. 4 p. With envelope.

Monday, June 14, 1970. At the Company of Mary Nursing Home, Sudbury Hill, Harrow on the Hill. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

Tues. June 14, 1970. At the Nursing Home of the Sisters of the Company of Mary, Sudbury Hill, Harrow on the Hill. A.L.S. 10 p.

July 6 [1970] At the Nursing Home of Sisters of Mary. 'Calvary', Sudbury Hill. A.L.S. 29 p.

August 29, 1971. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 4 p.

Feb. 23, 1972. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 2 p.

Dec. 3, 1972. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 10 p.

[Jan. 1] 1973. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 5 p.

Jan. 19, 1973. A.L.S. 10 p.

Mar. 8, 1973. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 2 p.

April 3, 1973. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

April 6, 1973. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

April 15, 1973. A.L.S. 6 p.

July 9 to July 15, 1973. A.L.S. 22 p. Accompanying folder has extensive notes by RH.

Dec. 1973. A.L.S. 6 p. Accompanying folder has annotations by RH.

Feb. 26, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 4 p.

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Mar. 4, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 4 p.

May 4, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 6 p. Encloses 8 p. of unfinished letter of same date.

May 18, 1974. A.L. 2 p. Unfinished letter.

May 28, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L. 6 p.

June 9-11, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 4 p.

June 19, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. To Joan [Hague] A.L.S. 4 p.

June 24, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L. 4 p.

Aug. 3, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 10 p.

Aug. 11, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 6 p.

Aug. 15 [1974] Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 6 p.

Aug. 18, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 10 p. Accompanied by folder with extensive annotations by RH.

Aug. 30, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 9 p. Accompanied by folder with annotations by RH.

Sept. 4, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 9 p. Accompanied by folder with annotations by RH.

Sept. 9-Sept. 11, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 6 p.

Sept. 10, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L. 10 p.

Sept. 18, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 9 p. Accompanied by folder with annotations by RH.

Sept. 24, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 8 p.

Sept. 27-Sept. 30, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 7 p. Accompanied by folder with annotations by RH.

Sept. 27-Oct. [14] 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 16 p. Accompanied by folder with annotations by RH.

Oct. 22-Oct. 25, 1974. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 4 p.

Note: These letters were each enclosed in a folder of lined paper with date and occasional annotation by RH. Annotated folders have been retained and filed with the letter to which they refer.

Portions of many of these letters have been published in Dai Greatcoat; a self-portrait of David Jones in his letters. Edited by René Hague. London Faber, 1980.

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Additional material by David Jones.

Box I

- [ca. 1974] Notes and sketchmap of Cornwall. A.Df. 2 p.
- [ca. 1974] Notes on René Hague's draft of A Commentary on The Anathemata.
A.Df. 2 p.
- 1948/49 }
 1949 } 4 Photographs of inscriptions by D.J. used by him as Christmas
 1950 } cards, with his notes on verso and greeting to René and Joan
 1961 } Hague.
- 1962 Printed Christmas card with drawing and inscription by D.J.
Signed and sent by him as Easter card to René and Joan Hague.

Box 4

David Jones to William Blissett. 1954-1973.

- Nov. 21, 1954. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- July 11, 1955. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- Jan. 11, 1959. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 1 leaf. Envelope.
- [Jan. 6] 1960. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 1 leaf. Inscription in coloured inks.
- Dec. 11, 1961. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- Mar. 29, 1962. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- Nov. 10, 1964. Monksdene Residential Hotel, Harrow. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- May 16, 1967. Monksdene Hotel. A.L.S. 4p. Envelope.
- June 11, 1967. Monksdene Hotel. A.L.S. 4p. Envelope.
- [Oct. 2, 1970] A.N. 2p. "Prickly Pear. Re p.6 of Mr. Dilworth's typescript".
Note given to W. Blissett on a visit. Refers to M.A. thesis
by Thomas Dilworth.
- June [1971] Calvary Nursing Home, Harrow. A.L.S. 10p. Envelope.
- April 18, 1972. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- Jan. 9, 1973. Calvary Nursing Home. A.L.S. 2p. Envelope.
- 1971 Notes by DJ, holograph, for Blissett. 1 p.
- David Jones to Rex Nan Kivell. 1942; 1949. 2 A.L.S.
- March 16, 1942. Campden Hill. A.L.S. 1 leaf.
- May 8, 1949. Northwick Lodge. A.L.S. 1 leaf.