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Summary Information

Repository:	C. V. Starr East Asian Library
Creator:	Anagarika Govinda, Lama (Ernst Lothar), 1898-1985
Creator:	Winkler, Ken
Title:	Lama Anagarika Govinda papers
ID:	10940645
Date [inclusive]:	1945-1993
Physical Description:	1.25 Linear Feet 5 boxes
Language of the Material:	English , German .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Lama Anagarika Govinda papers; Box and Folder; C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Lama Anagarika Govinda (1898-1985), born Ernst Lothar Hoffmann, was the founder of the order of the Arya Maitreya Mandala and a teacher of Buddhist meditation, as well as a painter and poet.

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Scope and Contents

The Lama Anagarika Govinda Papers contain biographical materials, correspondence, articles and book publications, photos and interviews related to Lama Govinda. These were collected primarily by biographer Ken Winkler. The letters include correspondence written to and by

Lama Govinda, as well as letters to the biographer by personal friends and certain institutions who offer details regarding the teacher's life.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Processing Information

Processed by Tenzin Yewong Dongchung, 2017.

Processing Information

Finding aid drafted by Tenzin Yewong Dongchung and Lauran Hartley, 2017. Finding aid finalized by graduate intern Catherine Tsuji, 2021.

Conditions Governing Use

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Certain books have been removed from the archival collection and cataloged into the circulating collection. These books can be found in [CLIO](#) by searching "Lama Anagarika Govinda Papers".

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Controlled Access Headings

- Buddhism
- Anagarika Govinda, Lama (Ernst Lothar), 1898-1985
- Sangharakshita, Bhikshu, 1925-2018

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Ken Winkler's Correspondence Files

Sub-Series 1: Individuals

Title/Description	Instances	
Ashish, Sri Mahadeva, 1985-08-13-1986-11-02	box 1	folder 1
Bandula, Reverend T., Maha Bodhi Society of India, 1985-07-01	box 1	folder 1
Berthold Roland, Reverend, 1985-12-13	box 1	folder 1
Bharati, Agahananda, 1986-06-29-1986-09-04	box 1	folder 1
Biernath, Irmgard, 1993-1996	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
includes rich detail on early life of Lama Govinda		
Blevins, Louis, 1985-05-27	box 1	folder 1

Scope and Contents

handwritten

Blofeld, John, 1986-08-12-1986-10-20	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
four postcard items		
Broughton, James, 1987-03-09	box 1	folder 1
Costello, Ruth, 1986-06-18-1986-10-30	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
includes postcards		
Drikung Chetsang Rinpoche ('bri gung che tshang 07 bstan 'dzin 'phrin las lhun grub), 1980-03-27-1987-05-10	box 1	folder 1
Easwaran, Eknath, Blue Mountain Center of Meditation, 1985-06-01	box 1	folder 1
Glessing, Martha, 1985-11-21	box 1	folder 1
Green, Phyllis, 1985-09-28	box 1	folder 1
Guenther, Herbert, 1985-10-24-1986-02-14	box 1	folder 1
Harding, Marion, National Army Museum, 1985-07-23	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
not in this file		
Harrer, Heinrich, 1986-04-10	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
contains two photocopies of handwritten letter		
Harrison, G.F., 1987-03-04	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
handwritten		
Katrak, Kersy, 1986-10-04-1986-10-20	box 1	folder 1
Kestler, Mario, 2002-03-07-2004-04-22	box 1	folder 1
Lee, Mary, 1979-02-22	box 1	folder 1
Matthiessen, Peter, 1979-1988	box 1	folder 1
Mitchell, Stephen, 1986-01-23	box 1	folder 1
Nyanaponika, Mahathera, 1985-12-06-1987-04-11	box 1	folder 1
O'Neill, Ken, 1986-02-03	box 1	folder 1

Oppliger, Pierre, 1987-06-11	box 1	folder 1
Palmer, W.J., 1987-02-03	box 1	folder 1
Rand, Yvonne, 1991-03-04	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents contains two copies		
Richardson, Hugh, 1986-06-12	box 1	folder 1
Samdup, T.T., 1980-12-03	box 1	folder 1
Sangharakshita, 1992-06-25	box 1	folder 1
Schumann, Wolfgang, 1986-06-08	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents along with two works of Dr. Schumann		
Shapiro, Robert, 1986-04-15-1986-12-30	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents along with handwritten notes		
Snyder, Gary and Masa, 1985-08-13-1988-02-17	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents also includes undated correspondence		
Staal, Frits, 1986-10-20	box 1	folder 1
Sunyabhai, (Sorensen Alfred), 1981	box 1	folder 1
Tenduf, PL, 1987-03-22	box 1	folder 1
Tarthang, Tulku, Tibetan Nyingmapa Meditation Center and Dharma Publications, 1985-07-12-1985-07-31	box 1	folder 1
Wangyal, Tsering, Tibetan Review, 1985-05-28-1987-08-13	box 1	folder 1
Wuerfel, Alfred, 1986-12-07	box 1	folder 1
Miscellaneous	box 1	folder 1

Sub-Series 2: Organizations

Title/Description	Instances	
Botschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (H. Hofmann), 1987-03-17	box 1	folder 2
Buddhist Society (John Snelling), 1986-12-02-1988-11-26	box 1	folder 2
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany (K. Grohman, Vice Consul), 1986-03-04	box 1	folder 2

Deutsches, Archaeologisches Institut Rome (Richard Neudecker), 1986-05-22	box 1	folder 2
Fondation Alexandra David Neel Centre Culturel Tibetain, 1985-12-09	box 1	folder 2
Imperial War Museum (Stephen Brooks), 1986-09-10	box 1	folder 2
Krankenbuchlager Berlin (Elste), 1986-06-11	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents		
written in German		
Libraries and Archives, 1986-03-25-1987-02-16	box 1	folder 2
Nicholas Roerich Museum (Daniel Entin), 1985-05-17-1986-03-08	box 1	folder 2
Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama (Tempa Tsering), 1985-08-30	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents		
contains receipts of Tibetan Review purchase		
Office of the Western Buddhist Order (Dharmachari Kovida), 1985-07-30-1992-06-25	box 1	folder 2
Order Arya Maitreya Mandala (K.H. Gottmann, K.H.), 1985-05-14-1987-09-05	box 1	folder 2
Wisdom Publications, UK (Nick Ribush), 1985-11-08	box 1	folder 2

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Series 2: Ken Winker's Research Files

Sub-Series 1: Subject Files

Title/Description	Instances	
Evans-Wentz, Walter, (See also Evans-Wentz letters to Govinda in Series 3)	box 1	folder 3
Gotami, Li	box 1	folder 4
Scope and Contents		
See also Tsaparang and Tholing. Contains a transcript of her talk on Tibetan art, some copies of her biography, correspondence with Kersy Katrak, Sangharakshita, Gertrude and her sister Coomie, and reprints of her art		
Tsaparang and Tholing (Mtho lding), 1951	box 1	folder 5

Scope and Contents

Gotami, Li, "The Tsaparang Expedition" published serially in Illustrated Weekly of India, 1951

World War II and Internment of Govinda	box 1	folder 6
Abbot, S.E., 1986-12-05	box 1	folder 6
Costain, Corps of Royal Military Police, 1987-02-20	box 1	folder 6
Creek, E.G., 1987-01-19	box 1	folder 6
Envelopes without letters	box 1	folder 6
Gordon, C.H., 1987-01-20-1987-02-16	box 1	folder 6
John, R.S.T., 1987-02-03	box 1	folder 6
Public Record Office, 1986-08-09	box 1	folder 6
Rogers, T.E., 1987-02-10	box 1	folder 6
Ross, Robin, 1987-04-12	box 1	folder 6
Royal Military Police Museum, 1986-09-17-1987-02-25	box 1	folder 6
Saumarez Smith, W.H., 1987-01-29	box 1	folder 6
Sellon, Emily, 1986-12-08	box 1	folder 6
Walker, G.E.D, Indian Police (U.K.) Association, 1987-03-27	box 1	folder 6
Webb, Russell, 1985-07-06	box 1	folder 6
Youmie, Dorothy, 1987-02-17	box 1	folder 6

Sub-Series 2: Research Notes

Title/Description	Instances	
Biographical information on Lama Govinda	box 1	folder 7
Set of questions for Li Gotami	box 1	folder 7
Two sets of diaries	box 1	folder 7

Sub-Series 3: Administrative Files

Title/Description	Instances	
Editorial and other feedback	box 1	folder 8
Cooper, Roshan, 1988-01-25	box 1	folder 8
Elbert, Mian Reverend, Secretary to Roshi Kennett, Shasta Abbey, 1982-09-12	box 1	folder 8

Scope and Contents

Missing

Petty, Marcia, 1988-01-08-1988-03-01	box 1	folder 8
Ponti, Louis J., 1992-10-05	box 1	folder 8
Raine, Doctor Kathleen, 1981-01-26	box 1	folder 8

Scope and Contents

Missing

Wilson, Annie, Element Books Ltd, 1991-04-17	box 1	folder 8
Publicity	box 1	folder 9
Book signing poster A Thousand Journeys at Shambhala Booksellers	box 1	folder 9
Poster of upcoming events including Ken Winkler's book, A Thousand Journeys advertisement, at the Mandala Bookstore	box 1	folder 9
A Thousand Journeys advertisement, The New Humanity Journal, 1991-12-1992-01	box 1	folder 9

Sub-Series 4: InterviewsPhysical Description: 2 audiocassettes

Title/Description	Instances
Lama Govinda and Yvonne Rand, 1986-10-26 <u>Digital Object:</u> Lama Govinda and Yvonne Rand, 1986-10-26	box 4
Audio account by Ken Winkler of interview with Li Gotami Govinda, 1985-08 <u>Digital Object:</u> Li Gotami Govinda note, 1985-08	box 4

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Series 3: Lama Govinda****Sub-Series 1: Auto/biographical Materials and Personal Documents****Scope and Contents**

See also correspondence: Biernath, Irmgard

Title/Description	Instances
Certificate of Naturalization, 1938-09-09	box 2 folder 1

Scope and Contents

2 photocopies

Family Tree of Lama Govinda <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 pages	box 2	folder 1
Scope and Contents photocopy, hand-drawn		
"Lama Govinda," Biography by Yvonne Reed	box 2	folder 1
Der Kreis, Informationsblatt des Ordens Ārya Maitreya Mandala: Zweig für Westeuropa, Nummer 174, 1985-01-1985-03	box 2	folder 1
Lama Govinda's biography, English translation of excerpt from Wege Zur Ganzheit <u>Physical Description</u> : 8 pages	box 2	folder 1
"Recollections about Lama Govinda," Nyanaponika Mahathera	box 2	folder 1
Obituary published in Middle Way Buddhist Society of Great Britain, 1985-08	box 2	folder 2
Interview by Karl Ray, The Shambhala Review Vol. 4 No. 4, 1975-11	box 2	folder 3
"More German Buddhists", Interview in The Ceylon Independent, 1929-01-11	box 2	folder 3

Sub-Series 2. Correspondence (Letters to and by Govinda), 1954-1985

Title/Description	Instances	
Al, 1979-08-03	box 2	folder 4
Coomie, 1977-08-10-1977-12-21	box 2	folder 4
Dee Dee, 1979-08-25	box 2	folder 4
Gertrude, 1977-11-22-1979-10-22	box 2	folder 4
Peterson, Merrill, 1977-06-18	box 2	folder 4
Ross, 1979-11-11	box 2	folder 4
Sangharakshita, Reverend [Friends of the Western Buddhist Order], 1954-1985	box 2	folder 5
Scope and Contents photocopies		
Sonam Tibeti and Guru Lama Rigdsin Kunsang, 1980	box 2	folder 6
Walter, Evans-Wentz, 1954-10-07-1964-02-05	box 2	folder 6

Winkler, Ken, 1978-07-21-1980-09-13	box 2	folder 6
Zara, 1979-04-13	box 2	folder 6
Author Unknown, 1977	box 2	folder 6

Sub-Series 3: Photographs and Prints

Scope and Contents

Photo album contains pictures of Lama Govinda at various stages of his life; also includes pictures of family members, his partner Li Gotami, and acquaintances, as well as print of painting of Milarepa by Lama Govinda. Housed in Box 3.

Digitized photos are available at Digital Library Collections: https://dlc.library.columbia.edu/catalog?f%5Blib_collection_sim%5D%5B%5D=Collection+on+Lama+Govinda

Sub-Series 4: Public Events

Title/Description	Instances	
The Alan Watts Society for Comparative Philosophy, Inc.	box 2	folder 7
Blaisdell Institute, Claremont, 1972	box 2	folder 7
International Buddhist Union	box 2	folder 7
Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, 1972	box 2	folder 7

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Series 4: Printed Materials

Sub-Series 1. Articles by Lama Govinda, 1960-1986

Title/Description	Instances	
"Buddhism as Actuality: Beyond Pessimism and Optimism," The American Theosophist, Fall issue, 1983	box 2	folder 8
"Consciousness Expansion and Disintegration versus Concentration and Spiritual Regeneration," The Middle Way, 1971	box 2	folder 8
"The Enlightenment of Buddha Sakyamuni," The Middle Way, 1981	box 2	folder 8
"H.V. Guenther as Interpreter of Buddha Sakyamuni," Essays in Honor of Herbert V. Guenther on his Sixtieth Birthday, 1977		

Scope and Contents

Published in Buddhist Thought and Asian Civilization, Ed. Keith Scott, Dharma Publications

"The Importance of Prayer in Buddhism,"The Middle Way, 1964	box 2	folder 8
"Logic and Symbol in the Multi-Dimensional Conception of the Universe," The Middle Way, 1962	box 2	folder 8
"Logic and Symbol in the Multi-Dimensional Conception of the Universe," Main Currents in the Multidimensional Conception of the Universe, Main Currents in Modern Thought, Volume 25 Number 3, 1969-01-1969-02	box 2	folder 8
"Mantra as Primordial Sound and as Archetypal Word Symbol," The American Theosophist, Spring Issue, 1985	box 2	folder 8
"Masters of the mystic path," Wind Bell, Volume XVIII, Number 1 Spring, 1984	box 2	folder 8
"Meaning of the Mantric Seed-Syllable "Hrîh"," The Middle Way, 1960	box 2	folder 8
"On Right Translation of Buddhist Terms," Wind Bell, Summer, 1985	box 2	folder 8
Origins and Aims of the Order Ārya Maitreya Mandala, Kasar Devi Ashram Publication, 1966	box 2	folder 8
"The Relativity of Perfection," The Middle Way, 1960	box 2	folder 8
"Symbols of Transformation," Main Currents in Modern Thought, Volume 32, No. 1, 1975-09-1975-10	box 2	folder 8
"Symbols of Transformation," The American Theosophist, Spring, 1986		

Sub-Series 2. Monographs

Scope and Contents

Monographs received with the collection are shelved for circulation. They can be located by searching in CLIO for the phrase "Lama Anagarika Govinda Papers".

Title/Description	Instances
Govinda, Lama Anagarika. Bilder Aus Indien Und Tibet. Haldenwang : Irisiana Verlag., 1978	box 2
Scope and Contents Second copy of monograph shelved for circulation. https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/9704960	
Govinda, Lama Anagarika. Foundations of Tibetan Mysticism. New York: Samuel Weiser., 1960	box 2

Scope and Contents

Second copy of monograph shelved for circulation.
<https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/533089>

Govinda, Lama Anagarika. The Way of the White Clouds.
 Woodstock: Overlook Press., 1960

Scope and Contents

Monograph shelved for circulation. <https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/5496174>

Govinda, Lama Anagarika. Wege zur Ganzheit : Festschrift zum 75. Geburtstag von Lama Anagarika Govinda / von seinen Freunden und Schülern. Almora: Kasar-Devi-Ashram-Publication, 1973

Scope and Contents

Monograph shelved for circulation. <https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/10940357>

Sub-Series 3. Other

Title/Description	Instances
Govinda, Li Gotami. Tibetan Fantasies: Paintings, poems and music. Emeryville, California: Dharma Publishing, 1976 Scope and Contents Monograph shelved for circulation. https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/10940660	
Winkler, Ken. Pilgrim of the Clear Light. Berkeley, California: Dawnfire Books, 1982 Scope and Contents Second copy of monograph shelved for circulation. https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/10950474	box 2

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Series 5. Miscellaneous

Title/Description	Instances
"Mi phyed pa," pen and ink drawing by Dolpo Wangyal (Dolpo Dbang rgyal), 1978-05-12 Digital Object: "Mi phyed pa," pen and ink drawing by Dolpo Wangyal (Dolpo Dbang rgyal), 1978-05-12	box 5

Scope and Contents

Offered to Lama Govinda. Drawing measures 12 x 35 cm.

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