

Gregory Corso papers 4078654

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Corso, Gregory
Title:	Gregory Corso papers
ID:	4078654
ID:	MS#0285
Date [inclusive]:	1949-1996
Physical Description:	5 linear feet 10 boxes and 7 oversized folders
Language of the Material:	EnglishItalianCzech
Abstract:	Includes published and unpublished writings, artwork, correspondence, and sound recordings created by or related to the Beat poet Gregory Corso.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Gregory Corso papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Gregory Nunzio Corso, born to very young Italian immigrants in New York's Greenwich Village, had a troubled childhood. His mother left Corso's father and her son within a year of Gregory's birth, and he spent most of his youth moving between different foster homes and orphanages or living on the street. As a teenager, he landed briefly in jail and spent three months under psychiatric evaluation at Bellevue, but it was his three years incarcerated in New York's Clinton State Prison (as a repeat offender for theft) that proved to be transformative for Corso. In the prison library he discovered Rimbaud and Percy Shelley and it was during this stint in jail that he began to write poetry.

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Biographical / Historical

In 1950, upon his release from prison, Corso again began to frequent the bars and cafés of Greenwich Village. It was here that he met Allen Ginsberg who introduced the young poet to Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs, Neal Cassady, and the rest of the original members of the Beat Generation. Corso's commitment to creating spontaneous poetry fit in well with the beats' "New Vision" for American poetry and Corso was quickly integrated into the group of friends, traveling with them to give poetry readings in San Francisco and collaborating with them on various creative projects.

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Biographical / Historical

Corso's first book of poetry, *The Vestal Lady on Brattle* was published in 1955 and gained Corso some critical acclaim and enough money to fund his travels through abroad. He traveled through Europe and set up residence in the Paris boarding house later christened the Beat Hotel and, along with Ginsberg, Orlovsky, and Kerouac, traveled to Tangier to help William Burroughs edit the *Naked Lunch* manuscript.

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Biographical / Historical

Corso returned to New York in 1958 in time to see his book of poetry, *Gasoline*, published as part of City Lights' Pocket Poet series. Though he did write some plays and some prose, most notably the novel *The American Express*, his prime focus was always on his poetry and he published a number of books of poetry throughout his career and lectured on creative writing and poetry.

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Biographical / Historical

Gregory Corso died of complications from prostate cancer in 2001. He was 70 years old.

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Summary

The Gregory Corso Papers contains correspondence, artwork, and published and unpublished writings, as well as photographs and sound recordings of Corso and fellow beat writers. Many of the items in the collection include explanatory notes or annotations that Corso added when preparing to sell these papers.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 6 series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

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rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Revision Description

File created. xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-11-12 2009-11-24 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Method of acquisition--Purchase (26312E; 28027E; 09853F; 637912; 297-5/9/80); Date of acquisition--1980. Accession number--M-80.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Typescript and galley proofs of MINDFIELDS: Source of acquisition--Gotham Book Mart. Method of acquisition--293 (Gen); Date of acquisition--10/02/89. Accession number--M-89-10-02.

Processing Information

Cataloged 05/09/89 Christina Hilton Fenn

Processing Information

Typescript and galley proofs of MINDFIELDS. Processed 01/12/90 PL

Processing Information

Collection processed October 2009 by Carrie Hintz

Processing Information

Finding Aid written November 2009 by Carrie Hintz

Conditions Governing Access

Unique time-based media items have been reformatted and are available onsite via links in the container list. Commercial materials are not routinely digitized. Email rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Related Material-- At Columbia

[Reminiscences of Gregory Nunzio Corso](#): Oral History, Columbia University Oral History Research Office

Related Material-- At Columbia

[Allen Ginsberg Papers, 1943-1991](#) Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Gregory Corso Collection, 1890-1978](#), Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Beats (Persons)
- American literature -- 20th century
- Bohemianism -- United States
- Poets, American -- 20th century
- Poems
- Drawings (visual works)
- Galley proofs

- Journals
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Notebooks
- Paintings (visual works)
- Poets, American
- Corso, Gregory
- Ferlinghetti, Lawrence
- Ginsberg, Allen, 1926-1997
- Olson, Charles, 1910-1970
- Orlovsky, Peter, 1933-2010
- Soyer, Raphael, 1899-1987
- Biderman, Peggy

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, 1955-1979, Undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains correspondence written to Corso as well as letters and notes written by Corso to others. The material is arranged alphabetically by correspondent's last name, and then chronologically within each correspondent. Letters written by Corso that remain in the collection are generally items that were written but never posted, rather than carbons of outgoing correspondence.

Title/Description	Instances	
Ansen, Allen to Corso, 1969 January	box 1	folder 1
Biderman, Peggy to Jonathan Robbins, 1977 March 14	box 1	folder 2
Corso, Gregory		
Unaddressed, July 25	box 1	folder 3
Unaddressed, undated	box 1	folder 4
Scope and Contents		
(Postscript from letter- notes on Egyptian hieroglyphics)		
To Peggy Biderman, undated <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 1	folder 5 to 8
To Lenore Kandel Fritsch, undated	box 1	folder 9
To Allen Ginsberg and Peter Orlovsky, undated	box 1	folder 10
To Michael Horowitz, undated	box 1	folder 11
To James Laughlin, undated	box 1	folder 12 to 13

Physical Description: (2 Folders)

To Rosie, undated	box 1	folder 14
To Stephen Spender, et.al., undated	box 1	folder 15
To Ted Wilentz, circa, 1955	box 1	folder 16
To Michael Horowitz, 1959 October 8	box 1	folder 17
To Jack Kerouac, 1960	box 1	folder 18
To William Burroughs, 1961	box 1	folder 19
To Michael Horowitz, 1963 June 15	box 1	folder 20
To Allen Ginsberg, 1964	box 1	folder 21
To James Laughlin, 1965 October 15	box 1	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
(incomplete)		
Unaddressed, 1965 November 2	box 1	folder 23
To Ettore Sottsass and Fernanda Sottsass Pivano, December, 1965	box 1	folder 24
To Allen Ginsberg and Peter Orlovsky, 1966 June 3	box 1	folder 25
To Allen Ginsberg, 1966 August 25	box 1	folder 26
To Andreas Brown, 1969	box 1	folder 27 to 28
<u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)		
To Andreas Brown, 1969	box 1	folder 29
Scope and Contents		
(sent with "Elegaic Feelings American")		
To The Government, 1969	box 1	folder 30
To "Cher Lawyer,", 1969 January 23	box 1	folder 31
To Peggy Biderman		
197-	box 1	folder 32
1974 March 23	box 1	folder 33
1975 May 17	box 1	folder 34
1975 October 9	box 1	folder 35
1975 December 9	box 1	folder 36
1976 January 19	box 1	folder 37
1976 March 9	box 1	folder 38

1976 April	box 1	folder 39
1976 April 16	box 1	folder 40
Scope and Contents		
(includes birth announcement for Corso's son Orfeo)		
1977 August 8	box 1	folder 42
1978	box 1	folder 43
1978 March 10	box 1	folder 44
1978 October 1	box 1	folder 45
1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 1	folder 46 to 47
1979 October 18	box 1	folder 48
1979 November 9	box 1	folder 49
1979 December 8	box 1	folder 50
Unaddressed, 1977 April 4	box 1	folder 41
Crawford, Cheryl to Corso, 1965 September 9	box 1	folder 51
Dobell, Byron to Corso, 1965 July 19	box 1	folder 52
Eberhart, Richard to Corso, 1971 November 2	box 1	folder 53
Ferlinghetti, Lawrence		
To Corso, 1958 October 13	box 1	folder 54
To Andreas Brown		
1969 January 28	box 1	folder 55
1970 January 27	box 1	folder 56
1970 February 17	box 1	folder 57
To Corso, 1973 April 14	box 1	folder 58
Ginsberg Allen, to Corso		
1968 October 29	box 1	folder 59
1969 January 28	box 1	folder 60
1969 April 15	box 1	folder 61
1969 June 12	box 2	folder 1
1973 August 15	box 2	folder 2
1974 September 9	box 2	folder 3

Scope and Contents

(with enclosed photographs)

1974 September 13	box 2	folder 4
Ginsberg Allen, to John Robbins, 1977 February 17	box 2	folder 5
Laughlin, James to Corso, 1966 March 1	box 2	folder 6
Orlovsky, Peter to Gregory Corso, 1965 July 9	box 2	folder 7
Randall, Margaret and Robert David Cohen to "Dear Friends", 1968 October	box 2	folder 8
Rogers, Mary to Corso, Undated	box 2	folder 9
Soyer, Raphael to Gregory Corso, 1966	box 2	folder 10

Scope and Contents

(written in catalog for Soyer's April 1966 exhibition at the Forum Gallery which included a portrait of Corso)

Tortoria, Vincent to Corso, 1966	box 2	folder 11
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1965-1969	box 2	folder 12

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Series II: Photographs, 1962-1967, Undated****Scope and Contents**

This series contains a small number of photographs, professional portraits as well as snapshots, of Corso and his friends and associates. There are also a small number of photographs in the correspondence series that were enclosures in letters and remain in their original context; this is noted in the finding aid.

Title/Description	Instances	
Gregory Corso, Undated	box 2	folder 13
Scope and Contents (signed by Corso)		
Gregory Corso, 1973	box 2	folder 14
Scope and Contents (signed by Corso)		
Gregory Corso and Peggy Biderman reading "The Body Electric", 1973	box 2	folder 15

Scope and Contents

(inscribed to Biderman, signed by Corso and Tony Leonardi)

Gregory Corso, Peggy Biderman, etc., 1973	box 2	folder 16
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Scope and Contents

(signed by Corso)

Gregory Corso in New York City, by Elsa Dorfman, undated	box 2	folder 17
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Scope and Contents

(signed by Elsa Dorfman and Gregory Corso)

Miscellaneous photos of Corso and Associates (including William S. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg), 1962-1967, undated, 1962-1967, undated	box 2	folder 18
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Series III: Writings, 1949-1996, Undated

Scope and Contents

The writings series, the largest in the collection, is primarily comprised of poetry, with some prose writing. The items in this series are listed individually by title, if supplied, or by the first line of the poem. Also included in this series are a number of notebooks containing poems, poetry fragments, notes, and sketches.

Title/Description

Instances

General Writings and Documents

Committee on Poetry's Statement on LeRoi Jones' Trial, 1968 January 6	box 2	folder 19
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Contemporary Poets of the English Language Questionnaire, 1968	box 2	folder 20
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Corso's Statement about his Refusal to Sign a Loyalty Oath, 1969	box 2	folder 21
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Scope and Contents

(with copy of oath)

Ginsberg, Allen-- "The Old Man Sings at His White Hair" and Corso-- "Snaked Arms and Bleeding Legs"	box 2	folder 22
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Marcel Proust Questionnaire-- filled out by Corso, 1967 April 9	box 2	folder 23
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Questionnaire for Doubleday & Co., undated	box 2	folder 24
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Syndicate Plan, undated

	box 2	folder 25
Poems-- by Corso		
"10 Times a Poem", December, 1967	box 2	folder 26
Scope and Contents		
(limited edition collection of poetry)		
"1964 Thoughts on God"	box 2	folder 57
Scope and Contents		
(multiple drafts)		
"Academically Speaking"	box 2	folder 28
"Agents are cleaning their pistols..."	box 2	folder 29
"Ahead... 50 miles ahead..."	box 2	folder 30
"All Hallows Eve in Cleveland"	box 2	folder 31
"Ah but I feel I know O so and..."	box 2	folder 32
"An Eversion of Mischance"	box 2	folder 33
"The Anarchiad"	box 2	folder 34
"And as expanded nine billion celled brain..."	box 2	folder 35
"And she droned such silences..."	box 2	folder 36
"And when 12 belled no one happied..."	box 2	folder 37
"The Angel of Old"	box 2	folder 38
"Army"	box 2	folder 39
"Augments"	box 2	folder 40
[Autobiography]		
Draft Fragments	box 2	folder 41
Corrected Proof	box 2	folder 42
"Away One Year"	box 2	folder 43
"Back to Space"	box 2	folder 44
"Battersea Power House"	box 2	folder 45
"Between star and quasar wheeling swiftly..."	box 2	folder 46
"Between two points I span..."	box 2	folder 47
"Birthday Poem", 1973 March 26	box 2	folder 48
"Bomb"	box 2	folder 49

Scope and Contents

(multiple drafts-- including first draft and multiple variant page layouts)

"Burn your convention young child..."	box 2	folder 50
"The businessman in all his dignity..."	box 2	folder 51
"But I Do Not Need Kindness!"	box 2	folder 52
"In Honor of Those the Negroes are Revolting Against"	box 2	folder 53
"Church on the Guidecca, Venice"	box 2	folder 54
"Circ the circle full- the wooden sun..."	box 2	folder 55
"Colleges of the 60's, you are young America..."	box 2	folder 56
"Composite 2"	box 2	folder 57
"Continental Images"	box 2	folder 58
"Crashing down time..."	box 2	folder 59
"Dear Villon Dear Milarepa"	box 2	folder 60
"December"	box 2	folder 61
"Dedication Poem: For Hope, My Angel, My Sura, The Only Girl I Ever Loved"	box 2	folder 62

Scope and Contents

(two drafts)

"Dialogue"	box 2	folder 63
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Scope and Contents

(multiple drafts)

"Dream of Dreams"	box 2	folder 64
"Doll Poem"	box 2	folder 65
'Early Morning Poetry"	box 3	folder 1
" <i>Ecce Homo</i> "	box 3	folder 2

Ecce Homo "Elegiac Feelings American"

"Elegiac Feelings American-- for the Dear Memory of John Kerouac," 1969	box 3	folder 3
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Scope and Contents

(original manuscript with corrections)

Draft Material not Included in Final Poem, 1969	box 3	folder 4
Drafts-- titled "Gregorian Rants" and "Four"	box 3	folder 5

Draft titled "Spontaneous Requiem for an American" <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 3	folder 6 to 7
Draft titled "Spontaneous Requiem for a Beautiful American"	box 3	folder 8
<i>Ramparts Magazine</i> March, 1970 Scope and Contents (contains "Spontaneous Requiem" an early published version of "Elegiac Feelings American")	box 3	folder 9
"For Harry's Viva Budgie"	box 3	folder 10
"Encounter" Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)	box 3	folder 11
"The Eye is Cause of the Sight"	box 3	folder 12
"First Impression of Florence"	box 3	folder 13
"Flight"	box 3	folder 14
"Florida 6"	box 3	folder 15
"The Flower Peddler"	box 3	folder 16
"For K.R. Who Killed Himself in Charles St. Jail", 1957 Scope and Contents (also includes draft titled "In Memory of K.R.")	box 3	folder 17
"For My Pregnant Wife, Be it Girl or Boy"	box 3	folder 18
"For the Love of Words- for Wm. Shakespeare's 400th Happy Birthday" Scope and Contents (multiple drafts including alternate title: For the Poet Who Had a Virgin Language")	box 3	folder 19
"Four years I have faced my brow's center..."	box 3	folder 20
"Fragment from Novel Prologue-2" and "Fragment from Novel Prologue-3"	box 3	folder 21
"From Hell..."	box 3	folder 22
"Further Reflections"	box 3	folder 23
"The genes of the spirit apparitionate..."	box 3	folder 24
"The God I knew to be..."	box 3	folder 25
"G.O.P. Convention"		

	box 3	folder 26
"The greatest discovery a man can make..."	box 3	folder 27
Scope and Contents		
(multiple drafts)		
"Heed me well, embryonic scout..."	box 3	folder 28
"Hello..."	box 3	folder 29
"High-heeled poverty..."	box 3	folder 30
"Hoooooooooooo Like a Zoomy Slip of Gold I Go"	box 3	folder 31
"How fantastic the soft rocket's lift-off..."	box 3	folder 32
"How haunts us the buffaloes earthtight will..."	box 3	folder 33
"How so suddenly in a snap like wham..."	box 3	folder 34
"How sweetly fast..."	box 3	folder 35
"I am a drawn mouse..."	box 3	folder 36
Scope and Contents		
(with sketch of mouse)		
"I am no longer I..."	box 3	folder 37
"I am not together..."	box 3	folder 38
"I am not that I of face..."	box 3	folder 39
"I damned both the sword and victim..."	box 3	folder 40
"I do not know"	box 3	folder 41
"I Held a Shelley Manuscript," 1955	box 3	folder 42
"I know all there is to know..."	box 3	folder 43
"I long for the time of great Cybele..."	box 3	folder 44
"I saw these years of life..."	box 3	folder 45
"I sit near my body sleeping..."	box 3	folder 46
"I would a tinkler of portents be..."	box 3	folder 47
"If a Hollywood star is not my ego..."	box 3	folder 48
"If you are earth..."	box 3	folder 49
"I'll my marble aeroplane..."	box 3	folder 50
"I'll remember earth..."	box 3	folder 51
"In a lurid clay vision..."	box 3	folder 52
"In Central Park"	box 3	folder 53

"In dreams of reality..."	box 3	folder 54
"In moving space moves time and change..."	box 3	folder 55
Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)		
"In the middle of the night negroes play..."	box 3	folder 56
"In solar camp exiled to a dead star..."	box 3	folder 57
"In time there are the elements solitary and undisturbed..."	box 3	folder 58
"Infinity meets itself..."	box 3	folder 59
"Instead of earth a more difficult planet..."	box 3	folder 60
"An instrument of the Muse I am not..."	box 3	folder 61
"It is snowing in the summer of my sleep..."	box 3	folder 62
"It was hell to come by..."	box 3	folder 63
"It wasn't when I lost God I lost life..."	box 3	folder 64
"It's getting late..."	box 3	folder 65
"It's not like some spy I am..."	box 3	folder 66
"The Lammergeyer"	box 3	folder 67
"Last Night I Drove a Car..."	box 3	folder 68
"Last night was night at its nightest..."	box 3	folder 69
"Let Us Inspect the Lyre"	box 3	folder 70
Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)		
"Like a snail leaving its shell..."	box 3	folder 71
Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)		
"Lines Written November 22, 23-1963-- In Discord--"	box 3	folder 72
Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)		
"Lived I in the first house..."	box 3	folder 73
<i>Long Live Man</i> (multiple drafts of various poems published in <i>Long Live Man</i>)	box 3	folder 74
"Lower East Side Puerto Rican Street"	box 4	folder 1

"The Mad Yak"	box 4	folder 2
"Mafia"	box 4	folder 3
"The Making of a Poem- At One Sitting"	box 4	folder 4
Scope and Contents (multiple drafts)		
"Many are the beginnings where legends..."	box 4	folder 5
"Masks and Attainments- for Howard Kanovitz"	box 4	folder 6
"Men should wear antlers she said..."	box 4	folder 7
"Mind is centered on the cosmosian bar..."	box 4	folder 8
"Mind lulling..."	box 4	folder 9
"Mine galactic incestry O oaken ma..."	box 4	folder 10
<i>Mindfield</i> circa, 1989		
Drafts, with manuscript annotations and corrections	box 4	folder 11
Master Galleys Scope and Contents (corrected and annotated)	mapcase 14- E-6	
Proofs <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 4	folder 12 to 14
"The Missing Link is the Birth of Spirit"	box 4	folder 15
[Music]-- prose	box 4	folder 16
"Mutation of the Spirit: A Shuffle Poem Unshuffled"	mapcase 14- E-6	
"Name Droppings"	box 4	folder 17
"Neither white-smocked in science..."	box 4	folder 18
"No Doubt What I saw,", 1957	box 4	folder 19
"No was not the Muse pinned me..."	box 4	folder 20
"None Dare Trust Another"	box 4	folder 21
"Not often have I hesitated to go beyond..."	box 4	folder 22
"Numbers of directions! Lighttime distances!..."	box 4	folder 23
"O boats O seas ye nights there..."	box 4	folder 24
"O life double me..."	box 4	folder 25
"O Mighty Tug"	box 4	folder 26

"O my guardian muse..."	box 4	folder 27
"O the beauty of all things! The beauty..."	box 4	folder 28
"Of Streets and Flowers"	box 4	folder 29
"Oh but to be received of wise and sweet..."	box 4	folder 30
"The old man of me and..."	box 4	folder 31
"On Food"	box 4	folder 32
"On Having Once Loved"	box 4	folder 33
"On Nearing My 29th Year," 1959	box 4	folder 34
"On Poetry"	box 4	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
(multiple drafts)		
"On the Death of a Chilean Poet," 1957	box 4	folder 36
"On the walls of a dull furnished room..."	box 4	folder 37
"On a street corner in ancient Cathy..."	box 4	folder 38
"1234567890..."	box 4	folder 39
"Out of fanciful disorder comes... disorder..."	box 4	folder 40
"People are afraid..."	box 4	folder 41
"Poem to Michelangelo"	box 4	folder 42
"Power"	box 4	folder 43
Prison Writings-- prose, 1949	box 4	folder 44
"A prophet walks twice during his tenure..."	box 4	folder 45
"A Rambling Poem on a Rambling Trip to Ohio"	box 4	folder 46
"Revenge the Hapless Nightmare"	box 4	folder 47
"The river runs but the riverbed is steadfast..."	box 4	folder 48
"Seated before a banquet of knowledge..."	box 4	folder 49
"Setting the Record of Absurdity Straight"	box 4	folder 50
"She says flying saucers and is no..."	box 4	folder 51
"She of the days of my heart..."	box 4	folder 52
"Space is a journey long ago taken..."	box 4	folder 53
"The Spell of Wlamtrice Park"	box 4	folder 54
"Spooning opiate the lower visibilities..."	box 4	folder 55
"Spring's Melodious Herald"	box 4	folder 56

Scope and Contents

(early draft entitled "Cythylis")

"Still Life"	box 4	folder 57
"Suburbia Mad Song"	box 4	folder 58
Sweet Jesus, swollen on my lips, I speak thy pain..."	box 4	folder 59
"The swimming lights in the black are bright pieces of air..."	box 4	folder 60
"The Tarot Poems"	box 4	folder 61
"Ten thousand million years ago the cosmos was a year old..."	box 5	folder 1
"There became so many of us..."	box 5	folder 2
"There is nothing missing..."	box 5	folder 3
"There is yet time..."	box 5	folder 4

Scope and Contents

(multiple drafts)

"These truncated troops of palsied geometrics..."	box 5	folder 5
"This poem is the mind flow of a damned..."	box 5	folder 6
"Thoughts in an Airplane"	box 5	folder 7
"Thus when by all great trismegatusian light..."	box 5	folder 8
"To be..."	box 5	folder 9
"To Bring Back the Dead"	box 5	folder 10
"To express a sorrow deep within..."	box 5	folder 11
"To hear quasars echo light's first cry..."	box 5	folder 12
"To return to my feeling-head..."	box 5	folder 13
"The truth about myself..."	box 5	folder 14
"Two stars etched on Calabrian stone..."	box 5	folder 15
"Unseen journeying in the nuances..."	box 5	folder 16
"The violet-white-blackgreen sky..."	box 5	folder 17
[Vision of Rotterdam]	box 5	folder 18
"What angel shall sharpen its white on this..."	box 5	folder 19
"What I was before I returned the antlers to the stag..."	box 5	folder 20
"What separates me from you..."	box 5	folder 21
"What to the senses seem..."		

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	box 5	folder 22
"What wonderful men...and women..."	box 5	folder 23
"When I came upon the mystery's source..."	box 5	folder 24
"When I Think to Refrain"	box 5	folder 25
"When sweet terror thrills..."	box 5	folder 26
"Where by god the time comes to stop..."	box 5	folder 27
"Who sees the wind sees..."	box 5	folder 28
"Who'll believe what I have seen..."	box 5	folder 29
"Who unto themselves are none other..."	box 5	folder 30
"Wisdom it was made me so happy..."	box 5	folder 31
"With oaken ears..."	box 5	folder 32
"Woman Seated in Park"	box 5	folder 33
"Written While Watching Lenny Bruce Obscenity Trial"	box 5	folder 34
"Yesterday where I live..."	box 5	folder 35
"You know my present..."	box 5	folder 36
"You too shall be known..."	box 5	folder 37
Miscellaneous Poems		
Drafts and Notes- General	box 5	folder 38
Notebooks		
Paris, 1965	box 5	folder 39
Athens, 1966 February-March	box 5	folder 40
San Francisco, 1968 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 5	folder 41 to 4
San Francisco, 1968 February	box 6	folder 1
San Francisco, 1969	box 6	folder 2
San Francisco, February, 1969 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 6	folder 3 to 4
San Francisco, May, 1969	box 6	folder 5
Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1972	box 6	folder 6
1986-1992	box 6	folder 7
Undated <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 6	folder 8 to 11

Poems-- by Others

Heliczzer, Piero-- <i>The Soap Opera</i> circa, 1966 Scope and Contents (copy, with manuscript corrections)	box 6	folder 12
Hollander, John-- "Another for Gregory," undated	box 6	folder 13
Olsen, Charles-- "A Maximus Written to Answer Allen Ginsberg and Gregory Corso," undated	box 6	folder 14
Schenck, Stephen-- "Sweety-bar in time and space...", undated Scope and Contents (carbon copy with corrections)	box 6	folder 15

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Series IV: Artwork, 1954-1977, Undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains artwork, mostly sketches and drawings done by Corso, as well as a very few items created by others. There are some larger format items, including oil paintings done by Corso and a large oil portrait of the poet in this series as well. The Robert LaVigne Papers contain some sketches of LaVigne done by Corso, as well as portraits of Corso by LaVigne and Jack Kerouac.

Title/Description	Instances	
Abraham and His Tribe Leaving Ur <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 1
[Animals] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 2
[Angel] <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 3
[Angel] <u>Physical Description</u> : pencil and wash	box 7	folder 4
[Angel and stamped portrait of Corso]	box 7	folder 5
[Angel with trumpet] <u>Physical Description</u> : charcoal sketch	box 7	folder 6
[Birds] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 7
[Birds] <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 8
[Black and red design]		

<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 9
[Black, red, and green sketch] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 10
[Branch and ivory seal] <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink Scope and Contents (signed Nunzio)	box 7	folder 11
A China Man and Family <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 12
Cityscape [Athenian Agora?] <u>Physical Description</u> : oil on wood	mapcase 14- E-6	
[Collage], 1974	box 7	folder 13
Contemporary Glyph <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 14
[Cowboy and Horse] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	mapcase 14- E-6	
Cunt with Testicles <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 15
[Demonic signature] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 16
[Design] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 17
[Eagle] <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 18
[Face] <u>Physical Description</u> : ballpoint pen	box 7	folder 19
[Face] <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink <u>Physical Description</u> : (2 Folders)	box 7	folder 20 to 21
[Face and plant] <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 22
[Face in brown ink]	box 7	folder 23

<u>Physical Description:</u> ink wash)		
A Good Boy! <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink	box 7	folder 24
Harry Smith <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink	box 7	folder 25
[Head of Christ] <u>Physical Description:</u> crayon drawing	box 7	folder 26
Judy Chicago <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink	box 7	folder 27
[Man and duck] <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink on cocktail napkin	box 7	folder 28
[Mechanical design] <u>Physical Description:</u> ink sketch	box 7	folder 29
Milton <u>Physical Description:</u> pencil sketch	box 7	folder 30
[Musician] <u>Physical Description:</u> ink sketch	box 7	
[Nine figures] <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 7	folder 31 to 32
On a Cave Wall at Trois Freres Shaman with Antler Headgear <u>Physical Description:</u> ink sketch	box 7	folder 33
Onomatopoeia <u>Physical Description:</u> pencil sketch	box 7	folder 34
Percy B. Shelley <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink	box 7	folder 35
Portrait of A. Ginsberg, Salem, MA, 1973 <u>Physical Description:</u> oil on canvas board	mapcase 14- E-6	
Portrait of Peggy Biderman <u>Physical Description:</u> pencil drawing	box 7	folder 36
The Rebel <u>Physical Description:</u> pen and ink	box 7	folder 37
[Renaissance prince]	box 7	folder 38

Physical Description: pencil and pastel

[Seal]	box 7	folder 39
<u>Physical Description</u> : sketch		
[Self-portrait]	mapcase 14-	
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
Self-portrait, 1962	box 7	folder 40
[Seven figures] Milan, 1965	box 7	folder 41
[Six figures]	box 7	folder 42
<u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink		
[Sketches on graph paper], 1977	box 7	folder 43
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Peggy Biderman)		
The Sorrow of Saturn	box 7	folder 44
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
Spring Ram and Lamb	box 7	folder 45
<u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink		
[Stylized figure]	box 7	folder 46
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
[Three figures]	box 7	folder 47
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
[Three Figures] and [Four Knights in Armor]	box 7	folder 48
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
To the Most Beautiful Pegasus	box 7	folder 49
<u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink		
[Tree Stump]	box 7	folder 50
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
[Trees and sun] and [Face]	box 7	folder 51
[Two figures and a cat]	box 7	folder 52
[Two figures holding the world]	box 7	folder 53
[Two figures in one]	box 7	folder 54
<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
[Untitled]	box 7	folder 55
<u>Physical Description</u> : paint on paper		
[Vase, flowers and books]	box 7	folder 56

<u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch		
Weeping Spring <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 57
Where Did Everyone Go? <u>Physical Description</u> : pen and ink	box 7	folder 58
Wilde <u>Physical Description</u> : ink sketch	box 7	folder 59
Miscellaneous Drawings	box 8	folder 1
Painting of Gregory Corso-- by G. Waldas, 1954 <u>Physical Description</u> : oil on cardboard	mapcase 14- E-6	
Sketch of Gregory Corso-- by Larry Rivers	box 8	folder 2
Pencil sketch of Gregory Corso-- by Lafcadio Orlovsky, 1956	mapcase 14- E-6	
Sketchbooks		
1968 Scope and Contents (contains drawings and poetry)	box 8	folder 3
March, 1969 Scope and Contents (contains drawings and paintings)	box 8	folder 4
Undated <u>Physical Description</u> : (2 volumes) Scope and Contents (contains drawings and poetry)	box 8	folder 5 to 6

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Series V: Printed Material, 1958-1972

Scope and Contents

The printed material series includes editions of Corso's printed work, including work published in literary journals or magazines as well as anthologies and books of Corso's poetry in translation. Additionally, the series contains several books, journals, and independent literary magazines from Corso's collection including a large number that originally belonged to the San Francisco poet Lenore Kandel. These

literary magazines are of particular interest to the researcher studying San Francisco's underground poetry scene in the 1950s and 1960s.

Title/Description	Instances
Anthologies	
<i>Americans Today</i> 1969	box 9
Scope and Contents	
(contains "Spontaneous Requiem for the American Indian")	
<i>New American Poetry</i> Grove Press, 1960	box 9
Scope and Contents	
(includes 11 poems by Corso)	
<i>New Directions</i> 1964	box 9
<i>Reflections on A Gift of Watermelon Pickle and Other Modern Verse</i> 1966	box 9
Scope and Contents	
(contains "Poets Hitchhiking on the Highway")	
<i>War Poems</i> (contains "The Winds of Babylon")	box 9
Books of Poetry	
<i>Earth Egg and Unmuzzled Ox</i> 2nd Edition, 1974	box 9
Scope and Contents	
(two copies- one inscribed to Peggy Biderman)	
<i>Elegiac Feelings American</i> New Directions, 1970	box 9
<i>Gasoline</i> Pocket Poets Series no. 8, City Lights,, 1958	box 9
<i>The Happy Birthday of Death</i> New Directions, 1960	box 9
<i>Long Live Man</i> New Directions, 1962	box 9
Translations	
<i>Benzina</i>	box 9
Scope and Contents	
dual edition of <i>Gasoline</i> in both Italian and English	
<i>Sl Mokre More</i>	box 9

Scope and Contents

slightly abridged versions of *Gasoline* and *Happy Birthday of Death* translated into Czech, 1964

Zmrtvychvstanie Smrti

box 9

Scope and Contents

Czech language version of *Happy Birthday of Death* Czech version, 1963

Ephemeral Printed Materials

Miscellaneous, 1962-1967 and undated, 1962-1967, undated

box 8

folder 7

Scope and Contents

(includes reviews, pamphlets, literary magazines and ephemera)

Metropolitan Review 1971 December 14

box 8

folder 8

Recipes (Tufts University Literary Magazine), 1972

box 8

folder 9

Scope and Contents

(contains Corso poem "By Your Wish")

Literary Journals

The Archive Spring, 1971

box 9

Scope and Contents

(contains "Poem")

Big Table 1, Spring, 1959

box 9

Scope and Contents

(contains the complete contents of the suppressed Winter 1959 *Chicago Review* as well as three poems by Gregory Corso)

City Lights Journal no. 3, 1966

box 9

Scope and Contents

(contains "Mutation of the Spirit")

Jeopardy: A Magazine of Creative Arts Spring, 1968

box 9

Northwest Review Fall, 1963

box 9

Books from Corso's Library

Books

<i>The Dark Kingdom</i> Kenneth Patchen, 1942	box 9	folder 10
<i>Fertig</i> , 1966	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Lenore Kandel and Bill Fritz)		
<i>For Julessa</i> Bill Bathurst, 1967	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Corso)		
<i>I Want You Wild and Leap</i> Ron Forbes and Irene Baker,, 1961	box 9	
<i>The Road to Oblivion: Poem as a Scenario</i> , Louis W. Roddewig, 1966, 1968, 1966, 1968	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Lenore Kandel)		
<i>Square Sun Square Moon: A Collection of Sweet and Sour Essays</i> , 1967	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Lenore Kandel and William Fritz)		
<i>Star River</i> Myron Ruderman, 1968	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Lenore Kandel)		
<i>Takuboku: Poems to Eat, Selected Tanka</i>	box 9	
<i>Taylor Mead: Excerpts from the Anonymous Diary of a New York Youth</i> , 1961	box 9	
Scope and Contents		
(inscribed to Lenore Kandel)		
<i>Ubu Roi</i> Alfred Jarry, 1961	box 9	
Journals and Literary Magazines		
<i>Balls</i> (inscribed to Bill Fritz and Lenore Kandel by Robert Branaman)	box 9	
<i>The Black Cat</i> November, 1907	box 9	
<i>Contact: The San Francisco Journal of New Writing, Art and Ideas</i> no. 1, 1958	box 9	
<i>Dedicated to All Who Helped</i>	box 9	
<i>The Floating Bear Newsletter</i> , 1964	box 9	

Scope and Contents

(edited by Diane Di Prima)

The Founding Pig, Aymon de Roussy de Sales box 9**Scope and Contents**

(inscribed to Corso)

Nexus: The San Francisco Literary Magazine, vol. 2 no.5, October, 1965 box 9

Notes from Underground no. 11, 1966 box 9

Or no. 1, 1966 box 9

Out of Sight: A Magazine of Literature vol. 1 no. 1,, 1966 box 9**Scope and Contents**

(inscribed to Lenore Kandel from editor Gino Clays)

Residu vol. 1 no. 1. Spring, 1965 box 9

Sun no. 3, 1961 box 9

The, no. 2 box 9

Untitled Literary Magazine box 9

Yeah no. 5, 1962 box 9

Zeitgeist vol. II no. 4, 1969 box 9[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Series VI: Sound Recordings, 1966, Undated****Scope and Contents**

The sound recordings series is comprised of 5 reels of audio tape containing readings by Corso as well as his associates such as Ezra Pound, Lenore Kandel, Ken Kesey, Allen Ginsberg, and Michael McClure. Digital access copies are available at the library.

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Unique time-based media items have been reformatted and are available onsite via links in the container list. Commercial materials are not routinely digitized. Email rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Title/Description**Instances**

Corso and Ezra Pound reading at Spoleto, 1966 July 16 (2 reels), 1966 July 16 box 8

Digital Object: [Corso and Ezra Pound reading at Spoleto, 1966 July 16 \(2 reels\), 1966 July 16](#)

Grogan, Ginsberg, Kesey McClure, etc.

box 8

Digital Object: [Grogan, Ginsberg, Kesey McClure, etc.](#)

Lenore Kandel reading "Poem for Perverts"

Digital Object: [Lenore Kandel reading "Poem for Perverts"](#)

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