James Marshall Frank

Biographical Note

A member of the Fugitive literary group and a brother-in-law of Sidney Mttron Hirsch, James Marshall Frank was a successful manufacturer with an interest in literature and education. Born in Marshall County, Tennessee in 1866, James Marshall Frank spent most of his life in Nashville. An 1885 graduate of George Peabody College, he taught for several years. Financial responsibilities caused him to change careers, and he accepted employment with Frank and Company, a local shirt manufacturer, where he worked for the next 50 years. He married Rose Hirsch, the sister of Sidney Hirsch on November 5, 1902, and they had a daughter Helen, who is the donor of this collection. Many of the meetings of the Fugitive poets were held at his home on Whitland Avenue in Nashville. He died in Nashville on November 21, 1944.

Scope and Content Note

These papers consist primarily of correspondence and manuscript material that Fugitive poet James Marshall Frank collected. Also included here are items that came from him and other Fugitive poets and which were donated to Special Collections by his daughter Helen Frank. Donald Davidson, Laura Riding Gottshcalk, Sidney Hirsch, Merrill Moore, Allen Tate, and Robert Penn Warren are among the Fugitive poets whose work is represented, and there are also letters to and from various members of the Frank and Hirsch families. Frank’s collected issues of Skyline and The Archive feature poems by Frank and other Fugitive poets. The collection is .417 linear feet.

Container list

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence from Helen Frank

1 June 4, 1928 - June, 1964

June 4, 1928 to family
August 7, 1934 to Mrs. James Frank
June, 1964 to Louise Davis

Outgoing Correspondence from Sidney Hirsch

2 August 29, 1913 - November 22, 1918

August 29, 1913 to Helen
May 2, 1914 to Jess
September 14, 1914 to Jim Frank
January 7, 1917 to Rose
February 2, 1918; February 7, 1918 to My dear family
March 14, 1918; April 18, 1918; November 22, 1918 to Jim

3 February 8, 1925 - July 14, 1925

February 8, 1925; February 15, 1925 to All
February 17, 1925 to Elsie
February 26, 1925 to All
March 6, 1925 to Jim
March 22, 1925; July 14, 1925 to All

4 November 17, 1925 - October 20, 1936

November 17, 1925 to Jim
May 14, 1926
April 30, 1926 to All
June 1, 1926 to All
June 1926
October 20, 1936 to Rose, Jim, Helen

5 Incomplete dates

6 Incomplete dates

Outgoing Correspondence from Merrill Moore

7 August 26, 1929 - December 13, 1938

August 26, 1929 to Miss Rose
November 10, 1929 to Hirsch - Franks
June 8, 1930 to Miss Rose
November 7, 1932 to Helen
December 31, 1933 to Miss Rose
April 20, 1937 to Miss Rose
May 11, 1938 to Mrs. Rose
June 30, 1938 to Rose
December 13, 1938 to Rose

8 February 3, 1939 - September 1, 1950

February 3, 1939 to Helen
October 20, 1939 to Mr. Jim and Miss Rose
March 1, 1940 to Miss Rose
March 1, 1941 to Mr. Jim
December, 1943 to Miss Rose
Thanksgiving 1944 to Rose, Jim, Elsie, Helen
January 7, 1948 to Helen
September 1, 1950 to Rose

9 September 11, 1957 - July/August 1948

Incoming Correspondence to Helen Frank

10 Brittingham, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas - n.d.
Brittingham, Mrs. Thomas (Dotsy) - January 23, 1981
Bynner, Witter - November 5, 1921
Cheney, Frances Neel (Fannie) - August 10, 1956
Dahl – Wolfe, Louise - May 18, 1972
Davis, Louise - June 10, 1964
Frank, Lois (Mrs. Morris) - December 30, 1977

11 Gottschalk, Laura Riding - December 3, 1924; April 30, 1925; June 3, 1925;
August 5, 1925; August 31, 1925
Gottschalk, Laura and Louis - n.d.; April 30, 19?

12 Nasse, Paquerette - March 6, 1966
Stewart, John L. - June 19, 1964

Incoming Correspondence to James Marshall Frank

13 Earnest, D.L. - April 24, 19?
Hume, Alfred - April 24, 1922
Stuart, Jesse - October 24, 1934
Tate, Allen - October 14, 1927
Witcover, H.W. - December 12, 1924; February 21, 1928

Incoming Correspondence to Rose Hirsch Frank (Mrs. James)

14 Frank, Jim - June 30, 1934
Nauen - October 16, 1936
Starr, Milton - July 8, 1928
Tate, Allen - November 30, 1944
Untermeyer, Jean Starr - April 12, 1930
Yum, Helen - October 20, 1936; August 1, 1940
Zener, Karl - June 3, 1928

Incoming Correspondence to Sidney Hirsch

15 Hal - December 31, 1921
Ralph - September 29, 1916

Poems - Manuscripts - James Marshall Frank
16  Mirrors (2 handwritten copies)
    Two Sonnets
    11 The Book of How
    Garden Waters

17  Croesus in Autumn
    Pro Sua Vita
    San Francisco Night Windows
    Lines with No Title

18  Cora is Dead (4 copies)
    I proffered you a mountain chain of love . . .
    The Wind
    To R.H.F. (4 copies)
    To R—

19  The Terrible
    Stranger Guest
    Silhouette
    Pegasus at the County Fair (2 copies)

20  On My Birthday (April 16, 1929; 2 copies)
    Muses (Singing) (a dramatic poem; 4 pages)

21  Husband Betrayed
    The Helmeted Minerva
    Genealogy
    For Example (3 copies)

22  Esperance

23  Complexity
    Coils
    Buddy II
    August

24  But when he is put up for sale . . . (2 copies)
    From the point the circle drawn . . . (2 copies)
    A soldier once went valiantly to fight . . .
    Plucked from a pristinate garden . . .

25  Miscellaneous manuscripts

Poems - manuscripts - other authors
26 **Davidson, Donald**  
A little eye against a brain  
Crabbed Youth and Age  
**Gottschalk, Laura Riding**  
Address to Shelley

27 **Moore, Merrill**  
Certain Room  
Naked and Drenched  
Oh, Mariner, oh Master Mariner  
*Notes in Defense of Ecstasy:*  
Physiology  
Relativity  
Conflict  
Thought, Distraught  
Meeting in a Garden  
Epithalamion of a Peach  
Swine, Wine  
L’Etat C’Est Moi  
Misanthropy  
Vain Protestations  
Tones and Comparisons  
Disappointment of a Thrall  
In Bed, Not Dead  
Primer of Science  
Fait Accompli  
**Pilcher, Cobb**  
Purpose

28 **Tate, Allen**  
Shadow and Shade  
The Mediterranean (2 copies)  
**Warren, Robert Penn**  
Old Man One Hour Before Dawn

**Plays - manuscripts - James Marshall Frank**

29 *Potophor’s Wife* (12 Pencil Manuscript Papers)  
30 *Savonarola* (pencil manuscripts in notebook)  
31 *Sudaveh - Queen of Persia* (drama in 5 Acts)  
32 Scraps of handwritten manuscripts

**Articles and clippings**
Photocopies:
“Cora Leventhal Martin: A Tribute from a Girlhood Friend” by Rose Hirsch Frank
“Member of Associated Retailers Welcomes Visitors to State Fair”
“The Fugitive” (1923)
“New York Woman and Massachusetts Man Win $100 Nashville Poetry Contest” (1923 - 1924)
“New Fugitive is Published”
“Nashville Poets Will Read Saturday”
“Nashville Poets Read Originals Before Poetry Society Meeting”
“The Phoenix Nest” from Saturday Review of Literature (February 16, 1929)
“The December Issue of The Fugitive is an Unusually Interesting Number,” by George Bond
“The World of Letters: Ransom Comment on Books and Bookmen” from Review of Books
“The Outland Piper,” by Donald Davidson, Has Lyrical Passion,” by Hilton R. Greer
“Integrity, Patience, Discipline” A review of John Crowe Ransom’s Selected Poems
From the New York Times, July 8, 1945
“Grant Brings No Obligation: Robert Penn Warren Nabs $300,000 Prize” by Carey Winfrey
“Fugitives’ Regroup to Study, Be Studied on Beginnings, Literary Contributions” by Ralph Morrissey
“Literary Group Meets at VU to Study Fugitive Poets” by Bruce Williams from The Nashville Banner, May 3, 1956
“Fugitive Meetings Recorded: Poets Themselves May Pen Versions of Rare Sessions” by Ralph Morrissey from The Tennessean, May 6, 1956
“Fugitive Sampling” - short poems by nine of the Fugitive poets
“Literary Leaders to Meet at VU for 3 - Day Parley of Fugitive Poets” from the Nashville Banner, May 1, 1956
“Assignment, Nashville: Fugitive Thoughts on ‘Fugitive’ by Eddie Jones
“Fugitive Stumped by Reunion Purpose”
“Fugitives’ Hark Back 30 Years to Capture Spirit of Fine Poetry” by John Seigenthaler from The Nashville Tennessean, May 3, 1956
“Our Girl Friday says: Parties, Poetry Mixes for VU Fugitive Group” from The Nashville Tennessean, May 4, 1956
“Spirit of Fugitives Flare Up Anew” by John Seigenthaler from The Nashville Banner, May 5, 1956

Publications
Skyline, a college literary magazine, published at the Cleveland College of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio:
Volume 1, no. 3, January 1929
Volume 2, no. 1, May 1929
The Archive, a monthly publication at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina:
Volume XLI, no. 4, January 1929
Volume XLI, no. 5, February 1929
Volume XLI, no. 7, April 1929
Volume XLII, no. 6, May 1930
Volume XLII, no. 7, April 1930

Documents

36  3 Ex Libris James M. Frank bookplates by Sidney Hirsch
     3 Miscellaneous pencil drawings

     Order and Travel papers for Reconstruction Aide, Sadie Frank, February 2; 3, 1919

     Wedding Invitation of Rose Lee to James Marshall Frank, November 5, 1902

     Addressed to John P. Frank’s document of money transfer from Goldie D. and Nathaniel
     D. Hirsch to James M. Frank, July 1, 1915

     Document granting patent to Sidney M. Hirsch, June 9, 1917

     Letter to J.M. Frank about patent, June 13, 1917

Memorabilia

37  Brown leather covering of The Fugitive dedicated to “President S. Mtrton-Hirsch, 1922 -
     1925”; inscribed by Donald Davidson and Walter Clyde Curry