FRIEL, BRIAN.
Brian Friel collection, 1966-1991

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Friel, Brian.
Title: Brian Friel collection, 1966-1991
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 732
Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box) and 1 oversized papers box and 1 oversized papers folder (OP)
Abstract: Collection of materials related to Irish writer and playwright Brian Friel, including newspaper clippings, theater programs, promotional posters, photographs, and a typescript.
Language: Materials primarily in English, with a single item in Irish.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Related Materials in This Repository
Abbey Theatre collection, Peter Fallon/Gallery Press collection, Seamus Heaney papers.

Source
Gift, 2004

Custodial History
Originally received as part of the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Brian Friel collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**
Brian Friel was born Bernard Patrick Friel on January 9 or 10, 1929, in Omagh, County Tyrone, in northern Ireland. His family moved to Derry in 1939, where Friel attended the Long Tower School and, later, St. Columb's College. He then went to the National Seminary at St. Patrick's College in Maynooth before leaving in 1949 to attend a post-graduate teaching course at St. Joseph's Teacher Training College in Belfast. Friel began teaching in Derry in 1950 and retired ten years later to begin writing full-time. While he began his writing career with composing short stories, Friel is best-known as a dramatist; he is often referred to as Ireland’s greatest living playwright. Among his most well-known plays are *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (1964), *Translations* (1980), and *Dancing at Lughnasa* (1991). Importantly, Friel also co-founded the Field Day Theatre Company with Stephen Rea in 1980.

**Scope and Content Note**
The Brian Friel collection documents Friel’s work from 1966 to 1991. The collection includes a single typescript of *The Loves of Cass McGuire*, numerous articles about Friel and reviews of his plays, theater programs and promotional posters, an undated photograph of Friel, and an original cartoon of Friel by Martyn Turner for *The Irish Times*. In addition, the collection includes printed material relating to the Field Day Theatre Company and Publishing House.

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged by record type.
### Container List

#### Writings by Brian Friel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>The Loves of Cass McGuire</em>, August 1966, TS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Printed Material by Brian Friel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>&quot;Field Day: An Introduction&quot; in Field Day Theatre Company and Publishing House brochure [1987]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>&quot;The Future of Irish Drama: A Discussion Between Fergus Linehan, Hugh Leonard, John B. Keane, and Brian Friel&quot; in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 12 February 1970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Printed Material about Brian Friel -- Articles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>&quot;Brian Friel at Sixty&quot; by Richard Pine in <em>The Sunday Independent</em>, 8 January 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>&quot;Enter (Left) the Bard…&quot; [review of <em>Brian Friel</em> by George O'Brien] by Tim Harding in <em>The Sunday Press</em>, 15 April 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>&quot;Families and the Passage of Time&quot; by Fintan O'Toole in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 10 February 1990</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Field Day Theatre Company brochures, 1989, 1990</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>&quot;Friel's Day&quot; by Fintan O'Toole in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 7 January 1989</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>&quot;Friel's Sense of Conflict&quot; by Michael Sheridan in <em>The Irish Press</em>, 1 October 1986</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>&quot;Friel's Stage and Brian's Well&quot; [review of <em>Brian Friel</em> by George O'Brien] by Proinsias Ó Drisceoil in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 17 February 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>&quot;Intimate Attentions&quot; by Brian Brennan in <em>The Sunday Independent</em>, 8 January 1989 [includes &quot;A Lighting Plot&quot; by Seamus Heaney for Brian Friel]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>&quot;London Opening Night&quot; [photographs from the opening of <em>Aristocrats</em>] in <em>The Irish Post</em>, 11 June 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>&quot;Making History Himself&quot; by Richard Pine in <em>Cara</em>, January/February 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>&quot;Making History with Field Day&quot; by Jane Coyle in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 17 September 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>&quot;Neither Priest nor Politician, But Observer and Playwright&quot; by Fintan O'Toole in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 23 April 1990 [see original cartoon under Art]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Photograph of Brian Friel in <em>The Irish Times</em>, 13 March 1990 [see original photograph under Photographs]</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>&quot;Surprise Choices to Grace Seanad&quot; by Tim Hastings in <em>The Irish Press</em>, 24 April 1987</td>
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#### Printed Material about Brian Friel -- Promotional Posters and Theater Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OP1</th>
<th>Folder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Promotional poster for <em>Lovers</em>, Druid Theatre Company, 1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Promotional poster for <em>Making History</em>, Field Day Theatre Company, 1988</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Promotional poster for *Saint Oscar* by Terry Eagleton, Field Day Theatre Company

1. Theater Program: *Aristocrats*, Abbey Theatre, 1979
6. Theater Program: *Scéim Mundy* [The Mundy Scheme], Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe, 1973

**Printed Material about Brian Friel -- Reviews**

1. "Beyond Language" [review of *Dancing at Lughnasa*] by Fintan O'Toole in *The Irish Times*, 28 April 1990
3. "Dynastic Decline" [review of *Aristocrats*] by Joe Spence in the *Times Literary Supplement*, 17-23 June 1988
8. "The History Man" [review of *Making History*] by Sabine Wichert in *Fortnight*, March 1990
1  39  "A Telling Time and Motion Study for Today" [review of *Dancing at Lughnasa*] by John Peter in *The Sunday Times Review*, 21 October 1990


**Photographs**

OP1  2  Brian Friel, [1990]

**Art**

OP1  3  Turner, Martyn: Original cartoon of Brian Friel for The Irish Times, [1990]