

# MAHON, DEREK, 1941- Letters to Louis Asekoff, 1963-1988

Emory University  
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## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Mahon, Derek, 1941-  
**Title:** Letters to Louis Asekoff, 1963-1988  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1011  
**Extent:** .25 linear ft. (1 box)  
**Abstract:** Letters and postcards from Irish poet Derek Mahon to Louis Asekoff, including drafts of poetry.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## 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

[Derek Mahon papers](#) and the [Derek Mahon collection](#).

### Source

Purchahse, 2005.

### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Derek Mahon, Letters to Louis Asekoff, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

### Processing

Processed by Kathy Shoemaker, March 7, 2006.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

Irish poet Derek Mahon met Louis Asekoff in the early 1960s while they were students at Trinity College in Dublin. Louis Asekoff (1939- ), poet and educator, currently coordinates the M.F.A. Program in Poetry at Brooklyn College. His poems have appeared in many magazines, including *The New Yorker* , *Poetry* , *Tikkun* , *Salmagundi* , *Triquarterly* , and *American Poetry Review* . He has twice received The American Poetry Review Jerome Shestack Prize for Poetry. He has published two books of poetry, *Dreams of a Work* (1994) and *North Star* (1997) by Orchises Press, Washington, D.C. He has received poetry fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and The Fund for Poetry.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of letters and postcards from Derek Mahon to Louis Asekoff from 1963-1988 and reflects their close literary and personal friendship which began when both were students at Trinity College, Dublin in the early sixties. Mahon's letters include references to poets and poetry, literary ambitions, teaching plans, reading tours, personal relationships, and visits with Asekoff. The collection also includes typscripts of several of Mahon's poems.

### Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

### Correspondence

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1963 (1 letter)
1	2	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1964 (3 letters)
1	3	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1965 (2 letters)
1	4	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1967 (1 letters)
1	5	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1969 (1 letter)
1	6	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1971 (2 letters)
1	7	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1973 (4 letters)
1	8	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1974 (3 letters, 1 postcard)
1	9	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1975 (3 letters, 1 postcard)
1	10	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1977 (1 letter, 1 postcard)
1	11	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1978 (2 letters, 2 postcards)
1	12	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1979 (5 letters)
1	13	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1980 (1 postcard)
1	14	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1981 (2 letters, 3 postcards)
1	15	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1982 (6 letters)
1	16	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1983 (1 letter)
1	17	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1984 (3 letters)
1	18	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, 1986 (3 letters)
1	19	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, September 12, 1987 (2 letters)
1	20	Mahon, Derek to Asekoff, February 24, 1988 (2 letters)

### Writings by Derek Mahon

-	-	"Breakfast at 'The Edge of the World,'" TS [See letter of April 24, 1964]
1	21	"A Disused Shed in Co. Wexford (for J.G. Farrell)," TS
-	-	"In Carrowdore Churchyard (at the gave of Louis MacNeice)," TS [See letter of June 23, 1965]
-	-	"The Joycenterary Ode," [See letter of June 24, 1981]
-	-	"La Condition Ouvrière," TS [See letter of June 7, 1964]
-	-	"North City, South City," TS [See letter of June 7, 1964]
-	-	"Sisyphus," TS [See letter of June 7, 1964]
-	-	"The Snow Party," TS [See letter of May 1973]

### Printed material about Derek Mahon

1	22	"A Parisian October Notebook," Fortnight, December 1983
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