

UQFL517 Ernest Briggs Collection

Size 7 boxes, 1 parcel

Contents Manuscripts, publications, personal records and framed portrait

Biography Ernest Briggs, a fifth generation Australian, was born in Sydney in 1905. He

was descended from Captain Thomas Rowley, adjutant to Governor Phillips, and later Lieutenant Governor of Norfolk Island. Ernest Briggs was manager of Radio Station 4BK in Brisbane in the 1930s, and also wrote music and art reviews for the 'Courier Mail.' He published several books of poetry. He died in

1967.

Notes Open access

Most of the items in this collection are inscribed by Briggs. Multiple copies of the same manuscript title may have different binding and inscriptions. For further manuscript material related to Ernest Briggs, see the W B Ross Collection UQFL210 and the Ernest Briggs Collection UQFL391. See also the manuscript of his play *The clearest call*, held in the Hanger collection at H0201. A memorial lecture by Briggs on Robert Dalley-Scarlett is held in the

Robert Dalley-Scarlett Collection UQFL38.

Box 1

Bound notebooks

Briggs, Ernest, To John Burrows, typescript, 84p, 1966

Briggs, Ernest, *To John Burrows*, typescript, with newspaper cuttings and correspondence, 84p, Sep 1966

Briggs, Ernest, *The Golden Lotus: a Memorial Tribute to Jinarājadāsa*, typescript, with newspaper cuttings and handwritten notes

Briggs, Ernest, Here, is the Man!: an Easter Oratorio, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Living Christ: specially written for Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India) at the invitation of Swami Adiswarananda*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 23p, May 1966

Briggs, Ernest, Up the Bloody Creek without a Paddle and other Australiana, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Merciless Beauty*, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, Ladies and Gentlemen, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1960

Briggs, Ernest, *Here was Spring: a tribute to Edna St Vincent Millay*, typescript, inscribed 'This is the complete revised version, excinding [sic] all Millay quotes", 171p

Briggs, Ernest, A Broken Song, typescript, inscribed 'Safety copy only, fully revised 1967'

Briggs, Ernest, *Broadwater Sonnets and Poems 1954 – 56*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1956



Briggs, Ernest (translator), Poems of Rainer Maria Rilke, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, May Day Burgeoning, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, 'Arabs Desert' (title from inside front cover), handwritten

Publications [either by Briggs, or include an inscription for Briggs]

The Background of Poetry, typescript with handwritten annotations, 42p, lecture before the Brisbane Writers Group, 22 Aug 1962

Hornibrook, J H, *Bibliography of Queensland Verse with Biographical Notes*, Brisbane: Government Printer, 1953

Hadgraft, Cecil. Queensland and its Writers. Brisbane: University of Queensland Press. 1959

Briggs, Ernest, The Undving Glory, Infracombe, Devon; Arthur H Stockwell, 1954

Millay, Edna St Vincent, Aria Da Capo: a play in one act, Boston: Walter H Baker Co, n.d.

"Albo d'Oro 1965", Quaderni di Poesia, Roma 1964

"Albo d'Oro 1965", Quaderni di Poesia, 1965

Briggs, Ernest, "Capriccio All'Antica", Quaderni di Poesia, 1962

Box 2

Bound notebooks

Briggs, Ernest, Baron Ferencz von Vecsey, typescript, 1953 [many blank pages throughout]

Briggs, Ernest, Butterfly – Poetry and Wistaria – Blossoms, typescript, 1953 to 1965

Briggs, Ernest, Butterfly - Poetry and Wistaria - Blossoms, typescript, 1953 to 1967

Briggs, Ernest, The Death of the Hare, typescript with handwritten annotations, 106p

Briggs, Ernest, Broadwater Sonnets and Poems 1954/6, typescript, 1956

Briggs, Ernest, *The Peat-Fire Flame: Poems in Lallans*, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, Old Songs Re-sung: Extensions of Old Nursery Rhymes, together with original Poems for Children of All Ages, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, Up the Bloody Creek Without a Paddle and other Australiana, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Secret Listener*, The Dunrobin Edition, typescript, 1949

Briggs, Ernest, A Tribute to William Butler Yeats, typescript with handwritten annotations, 36p

Briggs, Ernest, *The Raggle-Taggle Gypsies: a Song-cycle of Lyrics*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1958

Briggs, Ernest, *Deborah: a Cantata*, music by Erich John, typescript, 1951/2

Briggs, Ernest, Cross-ways, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Watcher by the Shore: an article, specially written for Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 20p 1966



Briggs, Ernest, *Old Colonial Songs*, typescript with handwritten annotations, and 11 pages of notes, 1953

Briggs, Ernest, *The Silver Unicorn*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 20p, Nov 1966

Biggs, Ernest, *The Death of the Hare: An Elegy, and a Protest against Nuclear Radiation*, completed revised version, typescript, 123p, and 5 pages notes, 1962

Briggs, Ernest, From Far-off Hills, typescript, 1966

Briggs, Ernest, Fog in Spring, typescript, 1959

Briggs, Ernest, *Heroic-Tenor: a Tribute to the Memory of the celebrated Woman-Tenor, Ruby Helder*, typescript, with 4 newspaper cuttings, 1965

Briggs, Ernest, Hush, Briggs!, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, Here was Spring!, typescript

[Cuttings book], includes newspaper cuttings, greeting cards, sheet music, handwritten notes and music, c1952 to c1955

Publications

Meanjin Papers, vol 2 no 4, Summer 1943

Folder 1

Briggs, Ernest, An Appreciation of Chopin's 'Berceuse' as played by Teresa Carreno on an [sic] reproducing-pianoforte roll, typescript with handwritten annotations

Box 3

Bound notebooks

Briggs, Ernest, *The Death of the Hare*, typescript with handwritten annotations, includes newspaper cuttings and correspondence, 106p

Briggs, Ernest, To the Fleeting, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1956

Briggs, Ernest, Songs of the Soul, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, *What Would Columbus Say Now?*, typescript with handwritten annotations, includes correspondence with literary agent, Jan 1967

Briggs, Ernest (translator), The Song of the Bell by Friedrich von Schiller, typescript, 21p, 1956

Briggs, Ernest, Heroic-Tenor: a Tribute to the Memory of the celebrated Woman-Tenor Ruby Helder, typescript, 1965

Briggs, Ernest, *The Watcher by the Shore: an article, specially written for Prabuddah Bharata (Awakened India)*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 20p

Briggs, Ernest, *The Peat-Fire Flame*, typescript, 24p, with newspaper cuttings and handwritten notes. 1950

Briggs, Ernest, Curlew Hills, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, To John Burroughs, typescript, with revised pages stapled over, 84p, 1966



Briggs, Ernest, The Human Exclamation Mark!, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest (translator), A Selection from the Poems of the Neapolitan poet, Salvatore Di Giacomo, typescript, 1953 to 1960

Briggs, Ernest, *The Living Christ: specially written for Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India) at the invitation of Swami Adiswarananda*, typescript with handwritten annotations, pp1-3, 23

Briggs, Ernest, Out of a Childhood, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, *The Old Music-Master: a Short story, with Glossary*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 25p

Briggs, Ernest, Heroic-Tenor: a Tribute to the Memory of the celebrated Woman-Tenor, Ruby Helder, typescript, 1965

Briggs, Ernest, *Up the Bloody Creek without a Paddle!: a versified study of Australian slang, with a glossary, and Share that Amongst You!, an American G.I.'s vernacular Farewell to Brisbane,* typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, The High Ascent and other poems, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1953

Briggs, Ernest, Recuerdos de la Alhambra: an adaptation of the poet's earlier poem of the same title, extended as an Opera Libretto, revised copy, typescript with handwritten annotations, 75p, 1965

Briggs, Ernest, Hush Briggs!, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, Fog in Spring, typescript, 1959

Briggs, Ernest, Sweet Honey-Sucking Bees, typescript, 1957

Briggs, Ernest, *Hush Briggs!*, typescript, with correspondence with Swami Kirtidananda, Dec 1966 to Jan 1966

Briggs, Ernest, *Recuerdos de la Alhambra: a radio scena for two voices and thematic music*, typescript, 1964

Briggs, Ernest, Recuerdos de la Alhambra: a 30-minute radio poetry-scena for two voices and thematic music, typescript with handwritten annotations, 1964

Briggs, Ernest, *One Against the Sea*, typescript, with correspondence and newspaper cuttings, 1967

Folder 1

Briggs, Ernest, *The Secret Listener*, Dunrobin Edition, typescript, 1949

Folder 2

Briggs, Ernest, Theresa Carreno, typescript

Item 1

Framed portrait of Ernest Briggs, 21cm x 16cm



Publications

Briggs, Ernest, "The Merciless Beauty: a Poetry Sequence", *Folios of Australian Poetry*, Brisbane: Meanjin Press, 1943, with newspaper cuttings

Briggs, Ernest, *The Secret Listener*, Dunrobin Edition, Brisbane: s.n., 1949, with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, *The Timeless Flowers and the Water Carrier*, Brisbane: The Courier-Mail, 1952

Box 4

Briggs, Ernest, *Blow Away the Morning Dew*, bound photocopy of typescript, 258p, with signed photograph of Briggs

Notebook containing typescript and handwritten poems

Folder 1

"Annie Besant", in Elizabeth Longford, *Eminent Victorian Women*, London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1981, pp129–150, photocopy

Folder 2

Newspaper cuttings and photographs relating to Ernest Briggs

"God be Good to Little Ships (A Sea Prayer)", music by Jenny McFarlane, lyrics by Ernest Briggs, 1962

Bibliography of Ernest Briggs

Folder 3

Miscellaneous typescripts

Photographs of Ernest Briggs

Portrait of Ernest Briggs, in folder marked Kene St Studios



Box 5

Bound notebooks

Briggs, Ernest, *A Broken Song: A One Act Play in Three Scenes*, 'original copy', typescript with handwritten annotations, 1963

Briggs, Ernest, A Broken Song: A One Act Play in Three Scenes, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, Cryes of Olde London: Songs for Fyne Musick, Words from Old London Cries, extended by Ernest Briggs, typescript, 1964 [2 copies]

Briggs, Ernest, Australian Mosaic, 'matching copy', typescript with handwritten annotations, 127p

Briggs, Ernest, *Blow Away the Morning Dew: an autobiography of a Childhood in the Australian Bush*, typescript with handwritten annotations, 258p, 1967

Briggs, Ernest, *Ladies!*, 'Copy no. 1 1st carbon', typescript with handwritten annotations, 1963

Briggs, Ernest, *Le Rosignuolo Cinese: An Opera Libretto*, typescript with handwritten annotations, with newspaper cuttings and correspondence, 1953 to 1955

Briggs, Ernest, Curlew Hills, typescript, 1954

Briggs, Ernest, Tranquil Waters, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, Immortal Summits: a Play for T.V. and the Stage, 'final revision', typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Old Battle-Axe*, 'personal master copy', typescript with handwritten annotations, with newspaper cuttings and correspondence, 1963

Briggs, Ernest, *Immortal Summits: a Play for T.V. and the Stage*, typescript with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, A Broken Song: A One Act Play in Three Scenes, for T.V. and the Stage, typescript with handwritten annotations, 49p, 1963

Publications

Australia: a national anthem for unison voices, poem by Ernest Briggs, music by Henry Krips, Sydney: Chappel & Co. Ltd, 1964, with typescript version and correspondence

Folder 1

"Music in Poetry", talk before the Organ Society of Queensland, typescript with handwritten annotations, 14 Apr 1959



Box 6

Bound notebooks

Briggs, Ernest, Year Without Spring, typescript with handwritten annotations, 297p

Briggs, Ernest, *Sight Cannot Follow: A Memoir of Dame Clara Butt*, 'Final Version', typescript with handwritten annotations, 200p, with newspaper cutting dated 31 Oct 1933, 1964

Briggs, Ernest, *The Death of the Hare*, completed revised version, typescript with handwritten annotations, 97p, 1962

Folder 1

Signed copies of manuscripts given to Jean Gray

- To the Fleeting
- Crossways
- The Timeless Flowers
- The Timeless Flowers and The Water Carrier, Brisbane: The Courier-Mail, 1952
- The Silver Unicorn
- · The High Ascent
- Rainer Maria Rilke: Translations
- From Far-off Hills
- The Secret Listener
- The Peat-Fire Flame
- Lieder der Seele
- Stuff and Nonsense
- The Undying Glory
- The Undying Glory, Infracombe, Devon: Arthur H Stockwell Ltd, 1954
- Capriccio All' Antica
- The Dead—1939:1945 [2 copies]
- The First Christmas
- Signed photograph



Box 7

Record of military service book, Ernest Briggs, 1919 to 1923

Notebook, 'Biblewords for Birthdays', with handwritten entries

[Cuttings book], 'Ernest Briggs for[?] Bill Ross', includes newspaper cuttings, greeting cards, handwritten notes, c1933 to c1965

Christmas card

Bound notebooks

Poems by the distinguished Arab poet Miss Henekine B. Khoury, translations by Clifford Troke, typescript with handwritten annotations, with inscription from Ernest Briggs, 1962

Briggs, Ernest, Butterfly Poetry, typescript, 1953

Briggs, Ernest, The Moon-Gate, typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *The Death of the Hare*, 'unrevised version', typescript

Briggs, Ernest, *Trigged is the Wheel*, (revised as *Blow Away the Morning Dew*), typescript with handwritten annotations, 353p

Publications [all with inscriptions]

Squire, John, The Collected Poems of James Elroy Flecker, 15th ed., London: Martin Secker, 1935

Briggs, Ernest, The Undying Glory, Infracombe, Devon: Arthur H Stockwell Ltd, 1954 [2 copies]

Briggs, Ernest, "The Merciless Beauty: a Poetry Sequence", *Folios of Australian Poetry*, Brisbane: Meanjin Press, 1943, with newspaper cuttings

Briggs, Ernest, The Timeless Flowers and The Water Carrier, Brisbane: The Courier-Mail, 1952

Briggs, Ernest, "Capriccio All'Antica", Quaderni di Poesia, 1962

Briggs, Ernest, The Secret Listener,

Briggs, Ernest, *The Secret Listener*, Dunrobin Edition, Brisbane: s.n., 1949, with handwritten annotations

Briggs, Ernest, Rainer Maria Rilke: Translations, bound photocopy of typescript

Folder 1

The Unknown Margaret Ogg, typescript, 44p

Folder 2

Miscellaneous notes, biographical information and copies of publications

Parcel 1

Framed painted portrait of Ernest Briggs, 45cm x 55cm