

Announcement

Columbia University Library Establishes Haiku Collections

The L. A. Davidson Haiku Collection

The L. A. Davidson Haiku Collection has been accepted by the Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the Columbia University Library, in New York City. The library will soon begin cataloguing L. A. Davidson's extensive collection of haiku and related materials and her personal papers relating to haiku—correspondence with hundreds of poets, editors, and others involved with haiku in North America and overseas—plus a full set of minutes and other documents relating to the Haiku Society of America. Prized items in the collection include:

- full runs of most haiku magazines in English from the 1960s into 2007
- many first editions and rare books of haiku in English
- Harold G. Henderson's personal copy of his first haiku book, *The Bamboo Broom* (1934), with his hand-written annotations including many re-worked translations and passages in preparation for his famous *Introduction to Haiku* (1958)
- Davidson's correspondence with such haiku luminaries as Raymond Roseliep, Elizabeth Searle Lamb, and others, especially including officers of the Haiku Society of America
- her correspondence with editors and authors regarding the preparation of the HSA's twentieth anniversary volume, *A Haiku Path*

As was her stated wish, the Davidson collection will establish a premiere locus for scholarship in American haiku in the city where the HSA was founded, and where Davidson herself lived since 1963.

The William J. Higginson Haiku Collection

The William J. Higginson Haiku Collection will also be placed at Columbia's Rare Book and Manuscript Library, according to a recent agreement between Higginson and Library Director Michael T. Ryan.

Higginson's collection complements the Davidson collection, as it includes much material about haiku in foreign languages, particularly Japanese and other Asian and European languages. Higginson's papers will also join the collection, with manuscripts and correspondence between him and poets he published in *Haiku Magazine* and in books from his From Here Press, dating from the early 1970s to the present. These include volumes by Allen Ginsberg and Ruth Stone, noted Japanese haiku master Yatsuka Ishihara, and Elizabeth Searle Lamb, among others.

In addition to his interest in haiku, Higginson collects materials on several related genres, including tanka, senryu, haibun, international linked poetry in Japanese styles, and materials relating to the seasons and calendars. He has an extensive collection of Japanese *haikai saijiki*, or poetry almanacs, as well as similar works in other languages. As Davidson did, he also collects new books of haiku by individuals and anthologies and periodicals, whether edited by individuals or groups.

Higginson also edits "Haiku and Related Forms" pages on the Open Directory, which collects links to information on these topics as it appears on the World Wide Web and forms the main foundation for most other online directories and search engines. See these pages at http://www.dmoz.org/Arts/Literature/Poetry/Forms/Haiku_and_Related_Forms/. (Note: The URL contains three underscore characters.)

You can Help

Online Publications: To have web sites devoted to haiku and related poetries listed on the "Haiku and Related Forms" pages of the Open Directory, send a message to Higginson at wordfield@2hweb.net, with the subject "Request Open Directory Listing" and include a full URL to the relevant page. Personal and groups sites are eligible.

Physical Publications in All Media: To have a book, periodical, or material in other media included in Higginson's collection (and subsequently added to his materials at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia), send it by postal mail to W. J. Higginson, P. O. Box 1402, Summit, NJ 07902 USA. All relevant materials will be publicly acknowledged on Higginson's web site "Wordfield's Haikai Pub" at <http://haikaipub.wordpress.com>.