

 Simon Fraser University Special Collections
and Rare Books

Finding Aid - George Kuthan Collection (MsC 143)

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Language of description: English

Rules for Archival Description

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George Kuthan Collection

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	George Kuthan Collection
ID:	MsC 143
Date:	1959 (date of creation)
Physical description:	66 drawings 2 posters
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

George Kuthan was born in Bohemia, Czechoslovakia in 1916. He was a medical student at the University of Prague when the Nazis closed it in 1939. It was at this time that he turned his attention to art, which he studied at Prague's School of Decorative Arts.

In 1947 he went to Paris on a French government scholarship and attended the graphic studio at the Ecole des Beaux Arts until 1950 when he immigrated to Canada and was introduced to Robert Reid for whom he illustrated several books.

His interest in nature is one of the several aspects of his work. As a graphic artist he illustrated books, Christmas cards and other materials using printing methods such as etching, wood-engraving, and lino-cutting.

He held numerous one-man graphic shows, including at the Vancouver Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. His engravings have appeared in many publications such as Kuthan's Menagerie of Interesting Zoo Animals (1960), Vancouver: Sights and Visions (1962), Aphrodite's Cup (1964), and Scenes from Snowbound (1970).

Custodial history

The records have been in the custody of Simon Fraser University Library, Special Collections and Rare Books since 2010.

Scope and content

This collection consists of pen and brush drawings based on the flora (fungi, wildflowers, trees) and fauna (butterflies, owls, foxes, birds, and insects) of British Columbia. The representations are from different locations in B.C.: Bridge River, Williams Lake, Manning Park, and Vancouver. The records have been arranged in the following five series: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Bridge River (1959); Wildflowers of British Columbia: Williams Lake (1959); Wildflowers of British Columbia: Manning Park (1959); Wildflowers of British Columbia: Vancouver (1959); and Wildflowers of British Columbia: General (1959).

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

The records were acquired from Aquila Books (Calgary, AB) in March 2010.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the items into series provided by the archivist.

Conditions governing use

Records in this collection are under copyright. Researchers are required to secure permission from the copyright holders for use of this material, except for that covered by "fair-dealing."

Finding aids

Item list is available.

Related material

Additional records may be found in the George Kuthan fonds at the University of British Columbia Library, Rare Books and Special Collections Division.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- Publication status: published

- Level of detail: Full
- Status description: Published

Access points

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

Series descriptions

Series 1: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Bridge River

Date: Jul. 1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of three pen and watercolour drawings made by George Kuthan in 1959 portraying wildflowers of the Bridge River area

Physical description: 3 drawings : pen and watercolour

Access points:

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - Penny-cress	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
2	Item - Lichen, Douglas Fir, Ponderosa	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
3	Item - Vetch	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1

Series 2: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Williams Lake

Date: Jul.1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of sixteen pen and watercolour drawings made by George Kuthan in 1959 portraying wildflowers of the Williams Lake area

Physical description: 16 drawings : pen and watercolour

Access points:

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - Tiger Lily	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
2	Item - Red Columbine	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
3	Item - Ox-eye Daisy	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
4	Item - Strawberry Blight	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
5	Item - Arnica	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
6	Item - Twinflowers	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
7	Item - Panaeolus	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
8	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]		MsC 143 - Box 1
9	Item - Russula	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
10	Item - [Water plant]	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
11	Item - Queen's Cup	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
12	Item - [Fungus]	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
13	Item - Shelf Fungus	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
14	Item - [Fungus]	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
15	Item - Fairy Ring	May 1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
16	Item - [Fungus]	[ca.1959]		MsC 143 - Box 1

Series 3: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Manning Park

Date: Jul.1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of fifteen pen and watercolour drawings made by George Kuthan in 1959 portraying wildflowers and wild animals of the Manning Park area

Physical description: 15 drawings : pen and watercolour

Access points:

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - Scarlet Gilia	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
2	Item - White Rhododendron	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
3	Item - Orange Hawkweed	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
4	Item - Monk's Hood	[Jul.] 1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
5	Item - Snow Lily	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
6	Item - Aster	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
7	Item - Yellow Rattle	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
8	Item - Stonecrop	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
9	Item - Indian Paintbrush	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
10	Item - Pentstemon	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
11	Item - Pyrola	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
12	Item - Mountain Phlox	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
13	Item - [Purple Pentstemon]	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
14	Item - Lodgepole Pine	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1
15	Item - [Butterfly]	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 1

Series 4: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Vancouver

Date: May 1959 – Jul. 1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of ten pen and watercolour drawings made by George Kuthan in 1959 portraying wildflowers of the Vancouver area

Physical description: 10 drawings : pen and watercolour

Access points:

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - Horsetails	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
2	Item - False Dandelion	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
3	Item - Gum Flower	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
4	Item - Plantain	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
5	Item - Sea Milkwort	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
6	Item - Cinquefoil	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
7	Item - Loosestripe	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
8	Item - Mud-Disc	Jul.1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
9	Item - [Fungus]	May 1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
10	Item - [Fungus]	May 1959		MsC 143 - Box 2

Series 5: Wildflowers of British Columbia: General

Date: May 1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of twenty-two pen and watercolour drawings and two posters made by George Kuthan in 1959 portraying wildflowers and wild animals of British Columbia. The posters illustrate a short biography and the title of his collection.

Physical description: 22 drawings : pen and watercolour
2 posters

Access points:

- Kuthan, George (subject)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - White Rein Orchid	May 1959		MsC 143 - Box 2
2	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]		MsC 143 - Box 2
3	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]		MsC 143 - Box 2
4	Item - [Trees]	[ca. 1959]		MsC 143 - Box 2

5	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
6	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
7	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
8	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
9	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
10	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
11	Item - [Nest with little birds]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
12	Item - [Fungus]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
13	Item - [Wildflower]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
14	Item - [Fungus]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
15	Item - [Fungus]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
16	Item - [Fungus]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
17	Item - [Fungus]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
18	Item - [Fox]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
19	Item - [Owl]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
20	Item - [Insect]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
21	Item - [Insect]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
22	Item - [Frog]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
23	Item - [Collection poster: Wildflowers of British Columbia]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2
24	Item - [Collection poster: biography and overview of the collection]	[ca. 1959]	MsC 143 - Box 2