

# Willy Poga#ny papers, 1910-1967

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Poga#ny, Willy, 1882-1955
<b>Title</b>	Willy Poga#ny papers
<b>Dates</b>	1910-1967 (inclusive) 1910 1967
<b>Quantity</b>	4.5 linear feet, (2 containers, 74 oversize folders)
<b>Collection Number</b>	Coll 199
<b>Summary</b>	Collection comprises artwork and papers related to artist and set designer Willy Poga#ny, including correspondence with his son, Peter Poga#ny Scott. Collection includes original art for books, magazines, and motion picture and stage productions.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.</a> UO Libraries--SPC, 1299 University of Oregon Eugene OR 97403-1299 Telephone: 541-346-3068 Fax: 541-346-3485 <a href="mailto:spcarref@uoregon.edu">spcarref@uoregon.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Collection is open to the public.  Collection must be used in Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Historical Note

William "Willy" A. Poga#ny, born in Szeged, Hungary, in 1882, studied at Budapest Technical University and in Munich and Paris. His reputation as a muralist, painter and illustrator was well established in Paris, London and Munich before arriving in the United States in 1915, at the age of thirty-three. Skilled in an unusually wide range of media, he had won gold medals at exhibitions in Budapest, Leipzig, and at the Panama Pacific International Exhibition.

Among Poga#ny's many murals are those for the Heckscher Children's Theatre in New York City and the Niagara Falls Power Station. As a painter he did portraits of famous people in all walks of life. An expert on scenery design and lighting effects, Poga#ny also designed sets for ballets and operas, including "Le Coq d'Or," and for many films, such as *Modern Times* for Charlie Chaplin as well as animated cartoons based on his children's books.

Among his other artistic endeavors Poga#ny was an accomplished book illustrator. It was this phase of his career, especially as an illustrator of children's books, which gives this collection special relevance for Special Collections & University Archives at the University of Oregon Libraries. Poga#ny designed

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and illustrated more than 150 books. His illustrations include those for the *Rubaiyat* and the *Sonnets from the Portuguese*, *The Song Celestial*, *The Adventures of Odysseus*, *Gulliver's Travels*, and many others, both classic and original.

Working tirelessly right up until the end, Willy Poga#ny died in 1955. He is survived by his second wife, Elaine Poga#ny, a children's book writer, and his son, Peter Poga#ny Scott.

## Content Description

The Willy Poga#ny Papers consist of the following series: correspondence, illustrations, and memorabilia and miscellaneous.

Business letters to Poga#ny have been arranged chronologically. Of interest to the researcher is the series of letters written by Poga#ny to his son, Peter Poga#ny Scott, which span the years 1931 to 1955, the year of his death. These contain many glimpses of the artist's busy life and philosophical remarks on the contemporary American world view.

The largest segment of the Poga#ny Papers is the illustrations. Willy Poga#ny worked in a variety of media which are only partially represented in this collection. Many original illustrations for books and for the *American Weekly* supplement to the Hearst newspapers are represented both in final form and in sketches, using pencil, charcoal, ink, watercolor, gouache, and oils. Of note is the illustration of Don Quixote being visited by demons of his madness, and extraordinary watercolor and perhaps on of Poga#ny's finest efforts (folder 40). Original artwork for books, magazines and motion pictures/ stage productions is arranged alphabetically by title within each series. The remainder of the artwork consists of etchings for two titles and unidentified original works, randomly grouped by media and/or general subject matter where possible. A few tearsheets and miscellaneous photographs complete the collection.

## Use of the Collection

### Restrictions on Use

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If a researcher finds sensitive personal information in a collection, please bring it to the attention of the reading room staff.

### Preferred Citation

Willy Poga#ny papers, 1910-1967  
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv14381>

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Collection is organized into the following series:

- Correspondence
- Illustrations
  - Artwork for motion pictures or stage
  - Unidentified sketches
- Etchings
- Tearsheets
- Photographs
- Memorabilia and miscellaneous

### Processing Note

Collection processed by Richard Baer, Manuscripts Processor.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Correspondence

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
1	1 Business	1917-1936
1	2 Letters to Peter Poga#ny Scott	1931-1943
1	3 Letters to Peter Poga#ny Scott	1944-1950
1	4 Letters to Peter Poga#ny Scott	1951-1955
1	5 Correspondence with Publishers (Peter Poga#ny Scott/ Lillian Poga#ny	1940-1967
1	6 Contracts and Agreements	1917-1936

Container(s)		Description	Dates
1	7	Biographical Data	
1	8	Calendars with Pogony illustrations (3)	1912, 1914, 1916
1	9	Reproductions from <i>Light of Asia</i>	undated
1	9	"Kid Millions" Program	undated
1	9	Brass plaque by Kilenyi	1928
1	9	"Peter Pogony in 1928"	
1	9	Packet of photographs	
1	9	Letter to Ken W. Duckett	1992

## Illustrations

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Drawer	Folder		
1	1	<i>ABC Book</i> . 3 crayon drawings	undated
1	2	<i>The Adventures of Haroun al Raschid and Other Tales from the Arabian Nights</i> . Watercolor	1923
1	3	<i>The Adventures Odysseus and the Tale of Troy</i> . 4 drawings	1918
1	4	<i>Amadis de Gaul</i> . 5 watercolors	undated
1	5	<i>The Art of Hungarian Cooking</i> . Ink drawing	1954
1	6	<i>Bible Stories to Read and Tell-150 Stories from the Old Testament</i> . Psalms and 4 pencil sketches	1916
1	7	<i>Der Reine Tor; Zeitschrift fer Literatur und Swartzweiggkunst</i> . 1 ink drawing	undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1 8	<i>The Frenzied Prince-Being Historic Stories of Ancient Ireland.</i> 1 drawing, 7 watercolors	1943
1 9	<i>The Frenzied Prince-Being Historic Stories of Ancient Ireland.</i> 3 watercolors	1943
2 10	<i>The Golden Cockerel.</i> 20 ink and charcoal drawings	1938
2 11	<i>The Golden Cockerel.</i> 8 watercolors	1938
2 12	<i>Gulliver's Travels.</i> 12 ink drawings	1919
2 13	<i>The Hungarian Fairy Book.</i> Gouache	1913
2 14	<i>Hungarian Fairy Tales.</i> 1 ink drawing	1930
2 15	<i>The Kasidah of Haji Abdu.</i> 4 pencil drawings	1931
2 16	<i>The King of Ireland's Son.</i> 2 ink drawings	1916
2 17	<i>Light of Asia.</i> 9 pencil, charcoal and ink wash drawings	1932
2 18	<i>Lohengrin.</i> 3 watercolors	1913
3 19	<i>Looking out of Jimmie.</i> 2 ink drawings	1927
3 20	<i>Mankind's Miracle Men: The Friendly Fat Wolf.</i> 5 pencil sketches and 1 dummy	undated
3 21	<i>My Book of Poetry.</i> 1 pencil sketch and 3 ink drawings	undated
3 22	<i>Parsifal.</i> 1 watercolor and 2 gouache drawings	1912
3 23	<i>Peterkin.</i> 8 gouache and 27 pencil sketches	1940
3 24	<i>The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.</i> 1 watercolor	1934
4 25	<i>The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.</i> 8 pencil and ink wash drawings	1942
4 26	<i>The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.</i> 5 drawings, pencil and ink wash	1930

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4 27	<i>Song Celestial or Bhavagad-Gita</i> . 7 pencil drawings	1934
4 28	<i>Sonnets from the Portuguese</i> . 1 pencil drawing and crayon sketch	1936
4 29	<i>Stories to Tell the Littlest Ones</i> . 2 ink drawings	1916
4 30	<i>Tales of the Persian Genii</i> . 1 ink and wash on board	1917
4 31	<i>Tannhauser</i> . 3 ink drawings	1911
5 32	Willy Poga#ny's <i>The Art of Drawing</i> . 6 pencil drawings	1946
5 33	Willy Poga#ny's <i>The Art of Drawing</i> . 14 pencil drawings	1946
5 34	Willy Poga#ny's <i>Oil Painting Lessons</i> . 10 ink drawings and 1 pencil drawing	1954
5 35	Willy Poga#ny's <i>Watercolor Lessons</i> . 2 pencil drawings, 2 watercolor	1948
5 36	<i>The Wimp and the Woodle</i> . 4 watercolor sketches and 1 pencil sketch	1935
5 37	Unidentified book illustrations. 16 pencil and crayon sketches	undated
6 38	<i>Aucassin and Nicolette</i> . 6 pencil and ink wash sketches and 1 title page	undated
6 39	<i>Aucassin and Nicolette</i> . 3 watercolors	undated
6 40	<i>Don Quixote</i> . 1 watercolor	undated
6 41	<i>The Faerie Queene</i> . 6 watercolor sketches	undated
6 42	<i>Idylls of the King</i> . 2 watercolors	undated
7 43	5 illustrations	undated
7 44	<i>Jericho</i> . Watercolor sketch	undated
7 45	<i>Julius Caesar</i> . 1 watercolor	undated

Container(s)		Description	Dates
7	46	<i>King Henry IV, Part I.</i> 1 watercolor	undated
7	47	<i>King Lear.</i> 1 pencil sketch	undated
7	48	<i>Macbeth.</i> 1 watercolor	undated
8	49	<i>A Midsummer's Night's Dream.</i> 1 pencil sketch	undated
8	50	<i>Snow White and Rose Red.</i> 1 watercolor	undated
8	51	Miscellaneous plays. 5 watercolor sketches	undated
<b>Artwork for stage settings or motion pictures</b>			
Drawer	Folder		
8	52	<i>Dante's Inferno.</i> 3 pencil and charcoal drawings	undated
8	53	<i>Dante's Inferno.</i> 2 pencil and charcoal drawings	undated
8	54	<i>Modern Times.</i> 1 pencil drawing	undated
8	55	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor.</i> Costume designs and 6 gouaches	undated
8	56	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor.</i> 5 gouaches	undated
8	57	<i>The Thief of Baghdad.</i> 1 pencil drawing	undated
9	58	<i>Wonderbar.</i> 3 pencil drawings	undated
9	59	Miscellaneous - 1 pencil drawing, 3 watercolors, 2 gouaches	undated
<b>Unidentified sketches</b>			
Drawer	Folder		
9	60	4 pencil sketches	undated
9	61	Rumpelstiltskin. 1 watercolor, 4 pencil drawings	undated

Container(s)		Description	Dates
9	62	46 pencil sketches	undated
9	63	7 pencil sketches	undated
10	64	11 pencil drawings and sketches	undated
10	65	4 ink drawings and 1 ink sketch	undated
10	66	8 pencil drawings	undated
10	67	6 crayon drawings	undated
10	68	11 watercolors	undated
11	69	7 pencil drawings	undated
11	70	2 watercolors	undated

### Etchings

Drawer	Folder		
11	71	Kasidah. 7 etchings	
11	72	Song Celestial. 65 etchings	
11	73	Miscellaneous. 19 etchings and 1 woodcut	

### Tearsheets

Drawer	Folder		
11	74	Tearsheets	

## Up 433: Memorabilia and miscellaneous

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	1	St. Nicholas	April 1923



Container(s)	Description	Dates
1 2	The Baby's World	December 1910
1 2	An Illustrated List of Gift Books 1910-11	1910-1911
1 2	Books Beautiful	undated
1 2	Mainly About Books	November 1903
1 3	Pictorial Pageant of New York	undated
1 3	"Who's Who: Willy Poga#ny" Etching plate	undated
1 4	Miscellaneous	undated
1 5	Olympic Games: Official Pictorial Souvenir	1923
1 6	Miscellaneous	undated
1 6	<i>Ladies Home Journal</i>	December 1915

## Photographs (PH210), 1905-1955

1.25 linear feet  
Pogany, Willy

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
1	Prints, large	

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Artists United States  
Hungarians--United States  
Illustration of books--United States--20th century  
Illustrators United States  
Magazine illustration--United States--20th century  
Mural painting and decoration--United States--20th century  
Set designers--United States

### Personal Names :

Poga#ny, Willy, 1882-1955.

Poga#ny, Willy, 1882-1955--Correspondence

Scott, Peter Poga#ny

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Book illustrations

Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Richard Baer  
2007



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