This collection reflects LeRoi Jones's early interest in publishing new American writing. Throughout his career he has been a literary as well as a political activist, writing innovative and controversial plays, poetry and essays. He has also been the influential editor of numerous journals and anthologies which published new, young writers.

During the time that Jones published THE MODERNS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF NEW WRITING IN AMERICA (Corinth, 1963), he was also editor of YUGEN magazine, founder of the Totem Press, co-editor with Diane DiPrima of THE FLOATING BEAR newsletter, and music editor for KULCHUR magazine. His responsibilities for these various publications are apparent in many of the files in this collection.

THE MODERNS collection consists of Jones's files for publication of the anthology. Included are the manuscripts and typescripts from which material for publication was compiled. A copy of the published text is also present. Following the anthology material are Jones's correspondence files for this period, primarily 1961-1964. In alphabetical order are the letters of some 80 authors, many of whom were published either in this anthology or in one of Jones's magazines. Many letters are written out of friendship rather than business. Lengthier files include such writers as Don Allen, Robert Creeley, Edward Dorn, Allen Ginsberg, Charles Olson and Douglas Woolf.

This collection has been at Northwestern University Library since the late 1960s; it was probably purchased from a dealer.


F. 1 Typescripts, galleys, or printed text for book; table of contents and introductory material. 179 pp. Includes authors William Eastlake, Edward Dorn, Douglas Woolf and Paul Metcalf.

F. 2 John Rechy, Michael Rumaker, Robert Creeley, Fielding Dawson texts. 147 pp.

F. 3 Hubert Selby, Jr., Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs, Russell Edson; Appendix: M. Rumaker, R. Creeley, J. Kerouac, W. Burroughs texts. 84 pp.
Box 1  Correspondence

Abrams, Sam  2 TLS 1963  2 pp.
Berge, Carol  1 TLS  July 13  1 p.
Birenbaum, Bill  1 ALS 1963  1 p.
Blackburn, Paul  1 TLS 1962  1 p.
Bowering, 2 TLS 1963  4 pp. With poems
Brenser, Ray  2 TLS 1959-1960  5pp. with poems
Brodley, Jim  1 TLS 1964  1 p.
Campbell, Jim  1 ALS n.d.  1 p.
Congdon, A. Kirby  1 TLS 1963  2 pp.
Corman, Cid  1 PCS 1961  1 p.
Crews, Judson  1 TLS n.d.  2 pp.
Davis, John  1 TLS 1963  1 p.
Dawson, Fielding  1 PCS 1960  1 p.
Degener, Claire S. (for Sterling Lord Agency) 2 TLS 1963  3 pp.
    re: "The Slave" by Le Roi Jones
Dineen, Patricia (for Sterling Lord Agency) 1 TLS 1964  1 p.
    Re: Jones' "Dante"
    Also program for production of Diane DiPrima's "Murder Cake"
    March, 1963

Box 2  Correspondence

Dorn, Edward  37 ALS/TL S/PCS 1959-1964  95 pp. with poems
Eigner, Larry  1 TLS 1959  4 pp.
Finstein, Max  1 TLS 1960  1 p.
Fraser, Kathleen  1 TLS 1962  1 p.
Funn ye, Doris V.  1 TLS 1964  1 p.
    (for New York Committee on Racial Equality)
Goodell, Larry  1 TLS 1963  1 p.
Grinberg, Miguel  1 TLS 1963  1 p.
Hassinger, Andy  1 TLS 1963  2 pp.
Hollo, Anselm  1 TLS 1962  1 p.
Horovitz, Michael  1 TLS 1962  2 pp. with poems
    with 3 programs and brochures from readings
Jackrell, Tom  1 TLS 1964  3 pp. with short story
Jackson, John W.  1 ALS 1962  2 pp.
Jahn, Janheinz  1 TLS 1962  1 p.
Jones, LeRoi n.d.  3 pp.  misc.
    1 ANS to Cid [Corman]; 1 PCS to "Dean of Men, Harvard
    University, Washington, D.C." no postmark; 1 poem "Medicine
    Lady"
Kelly, Sarah  1 ALS 1963  1 p.
Kennedy, Adrienne  1 ALS 1964  1 p.
Kerouac, Jack  2 PCS 1962  2 pp. + 1 TLS from Sterling Lord
    Agency re: Kerouac's "Manhattan Sketches" (1962)
Box 2 Correspondence cont.

Keys, John 1 TLS 1964 2 pp.
Kimball, George 1 TLS 1962 2 pp.
Kivist, Erik 1 PCS 1964 1 p.
Kizer, Carolyn 1 TLS 1964 1 p.
Kluger, Richard 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
Koch, Kenneth 1 TLS 1959 1 p.
Lansing, Gerritt 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
Lennon, Florence B. 1 TLS 1964 1 p.
Lipton, Lawrence 1 TLS 1962 1 p.
Lish, Gordon 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
Loewinsohn, Ron 3 TLS 1963 9 pp. with poems
Lortel, Lucille 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
McPherson, Dolly A. 1 TLS 1963 3 pp.

from Institute of International Education on behalf of

Thomas Melone's resume

Mead, Taylor 1 TLS 1964 1 p.
Meltzer, David 1 TLS 1959 2 pp.
Mottram, Eric 1 ALS 1963 2 pp.
Moraff, Barbara poem n.d. 1 p.
Newberry, Sam 1 PCS 1963 1 p.
Newton, R. Morris 1 TLS 1964 1 p.
Paetel, Karl O. 1 TLS 1958 1 p.
Persky, Stan 1 TLS 1962 1 p.
Phillips, Waldo 1 ALS 1963 1 p. with program
Rago, Henry 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
Rech, John 1 TLS 1964 1 p.
Rivelli, Pauline 2 TLS 1963-1964 5 pp. for "Jazz";
incl. "letter to editor" from Ben S. Page
Sanders, Ed 1 PCS n.d. 1 p. (no postmark)
Snyder, Gary 1 TLS 1959 1 p.
Wakoski, Diane 1 PCS n.d. 1 p. (no postmark)
Williams, Jonathan 1 PCS 1961 1 p.
Williams, Robert 1 TLS 1963 1 p.
Zukofsky, Louis 4 ALS/PCS 1962-1963 8 pp. incl. resume

Miscellaneous - Ephemera. Includes programs, broadsides, notices, invoices, etc. 17 items

Unidentified poems and correspondence 14 items