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SAROS COWASJEE

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WITH ASSISTANCE FROM
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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Saros Cowsjee holds a unique place amongst Canadian writers. He is a teacher and a writer, like many of his colleagues, but in addition he has strong international ties to India, where he grew up, Britain, where he completed his university studies, and to the United States, where he often travels. These special ties have given him a view of the world and experiences which distinguish his writing.

Of particular note are his critical studies of the writing of Sean O’Casey, Irish playwright, and Mulk Raj Anand, Indian author. In these papers we have a continuation of the long and personal association Cowasjee has held with Anand; the first set of papers on Anand were donated to the Archives in 1981.

On the technical aspects of Cowasjee’s writing career, we have evidence of the run-ins he has had with his Indian publishers on questions of editing, proof-reading, and production of his books in general. Cowasjee’s writing about India means, however, that he cannot altogether do away with this connection. The situation makes his correspondence with his publishers in India interesting reading.

We have the early writings of Cowasjee, both his writings for such Indian magazines as “The Illustrated Weekly of India,” and his academic works on O’Casey. We have several works of fiction which Cowasjee has written during his career, and the scholarly articles, reviews, and fictional pieces which he has produced over some thirty years. Taken together with the first set of papers Cowasjee donated to the Archives, one begins to get a picture of the writer and teacher, and to a lesser extent, the man himself.

Cowasjee seems to be a careful man, a thoughtful and measured writer, one who considers his words with care before committing them to paper. This explains, no doubt, the small number of drafts; Cowasjee corrects and fine-tunes his words as he goes along. His concern that future researchers might know and understand his point of view, and might know all the details of his conflicts with publishers has led him to annotate his papers extensively. This helps us to understand where paper evidence is lacking.

All in all, these literary papers are a taste of something exotic, something foreign, and give Saskatchewan literature a new look.

NOTE ON ARRANGEMENT: Great care has been taken to follow the intricate arrangement which the creator imposed upon his papers. Some reorganization of the sections which Cowasjee created has been done to help the logical flow of the material. All annotation by the creator has been preserved.
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  Short Stories, Belles-Lettres
  Feature Articles
  Book Reviews, Letters to the Editor
Box 1  **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Curriculum Vitae – 1989

Biographical Material on Saros Cowasjee - 1964-89

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Magazine Editors, Canada - 1968-89
- Magazine Editors, U.K., Ireland - 1958-90
- Magazine, Book Editors, India - 1957-90
- Magazine Editors, France, Australia, Singapore, Fiji - 1975-86
- Requests from Editors, Translators, Requests for Bibliography - 1978-87

**WRITING BY SAROS COWASJEE - EARLY**

- Published Copies, Filmfare - 1962-63

**WRITING BY SAROS COWASJEE**

**Books**

- Contracts/Letters of Release - 1975-82
- Correspondence with S.N. Sarkar and Orient Paperbacks -1975-81
- Correspondence with Vision Books and Orient Paperbacks - 1982-88
- Author to Critic: the Letters of Mulk Raj Anand to Saros Cowasjee

- Correspondence with Writers Workshop - 1973
- Edited Copy - 1973
- Correspondence with Cedric Chivers Ltd. - 1967-72
- Correspondence with Copp Clark Publishing - 1968-71
- Correspondence with I.S. Scott Kilvert - 1966-76
- Correspondence with London Publishers - 1966-77
- "Mulk Raj Anand" by Krishna Nandan Sinha - [1968]
- Author to Critic: the Letters of Mulk Raj Anand to Saros Cowasjee - 1973

**Goodbye to Elsa**

- Contract, Correspondence with Bodley Head - 1972-74
- Correspondence with New Press - 1973-74
- Correspondence with General Publishing - 1975-78
- Correspondence, Refusals from Publishers - 1972-77

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- Correspondence - 1968-73
- Correspondence with Writers Workshop - 1974-79
- First Proofs
- Second, Third Proofs
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Essays, Chapters, etc. in Books  
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Manuscripts, Page Proofs - 1961-87  
Published Copies - 1974-89

Scholarly Articles in Journals, Magazines  
Manuscripts, Page Proofs - [1961]-90  
Published Copies - 1961-68  
Published Copies - 1969-87  
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Short Stories and Belles-lettres  
Manuscripts, Page Proofs - 1949-78  
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Published Copies, Short Stories - 1957-86

Feature Articles  
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Book Reviews, Letters to the Editor  
Manuscripts, Page Proofs - 1963-76  
Published Copies, Book Reviews - 1969-75  
Published Copies, Letters to the Editor, Academic - 1958-70  
Published Copies, Letters to the Editor, Non-Academic - 1961-90

also included are:  
WRITE-UPS, PRESS RELEASES, INTERVIEWS, BIOGRAPHICAL and other Information in Newspapers and Magazines in Canada and Abroad:


“Campus Author is O’Casey Student” Leader-Post, 6 Jan. 1964

“Wascana Review” Leader-Post, 28.2.1970

“Fellowship Granted Campus Professor” Leader-Post (?)

“A Prairie Bookshelf” Leader-Post, 28 Feb. 1970

“Saros Cowasjee” University Affairs, Ottawa, October 1975
“A Professor’s Opinion: Canadian Writing Needs, Promotion” Leader-Post, 13.8.1975
“Indian Literature In Denmark” Illustrated Weekly of India, Bombay 20.7.1975
“Best Sellers Don’t Make Money” Leader-Post 27 Mar. 1976
“English Helps Better Understanding of Life” Hindustan Times, 5 Jan. 1977
“‘Lack of Good Novels Editors Regretted’ The Indian Express, 7 Jan. 1977
“Press Has Role in Creative Writing” The Fiji Times, 8 June 1977
“Literary Awareness Lacking” The Leader-Post, 27.8.1977 (Including correspondence
“Research Awards Received” Leader-Post, 19 Jan. 1978
“Journalism is His Sweetest Sweetheart” Indian Express, 19 Jan. 1978
“Chandigarh Calling” Tribune, 24 Jan. 1978
“Little Interest Abroad in Indian Writing” The Times of India 5 Feb. 1978
“Fiction Writer Bit of an Oddity” Leader-Post 7 March 1981
“Vivid Picture of Dublin Slums Portrayed in Sean O’Casey’s Plays” Star-Phoenix, 12 Dec. 1964
“Canadians Have Nothing to Write About” Leader-Post, Sept. 1971
[includes cuttings from papers on the controversy as well as letters exchanged]

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS. INTERVIEWS IN MAGAZINES, LISTINGS IN DIRECTORIES
“An Interview with Saros Cowasjee” Imprint, April 1978
“An Interview with Saros Cowasjee” The Journal of Indian Writing, July 1987
“An Interview with Saros Cowasjee” (Typescript)
“An Interview with Saros Cowasjee” (A Hindi Magazine: original enclosed)
The Writers’ Union of Canada: A directory of Members
Who’s Who in Canadian Literature
Contemporary Authors
Who’s Who

PRESS RELEASES, NEWS STORIES, WRITE-UPS ETC. in University of Saskatchewan News, ACUTE Newsletter, Insight, etc.
Insight Feb. 1978
ACUTE Newsletter March 1981
Insight Nov. 1980
Insight Feb. 1981
Lunch Between the Lines 25 Nov. 1983
Insight Vol. 17, No.1, Spring 1984
ACUTE Newsletter March 1985; Sept. 1988
University of Regina Review December 1986
University of Regina Review Sept. 1989

ESSAYS, CHAPTERS, ETC. IN BOOKS BY SAROS COWASJEE

"An Evening with Sean O’Casey", 1974
"The Indian Writer in Exile", 1976
"Mulk Raj Anand’s Untouchable: An Appraisal", 1977
"The Problems of Teaching English in . . .", 1978
"Sean O’Casey", 1979
"Mulk Raj Anand", 1981
"The Partition in Indo-Anglian Fiction", 1983
"Mulk Raj Anand: the Hard Road to Fiction", 1987
"Mulk Raj Anand: the Fusion of History and Fiction", 1989

Magazine and Newspaper publications

ARTICLES
Indo-Anglian Fiction
Mulk Raj Anand: Princes and Proletarians
Mulk Raj Anand’s Sword and the Sickle
Sean O’Casey Seen through Holloway’s Journals
Anand’s Two Leaves and a Bud
Anand’s Princes & Proletarians
Mulk: Raj Anand: the Early Struggle of a Novelist
Mulk Raj Anand and His Critics
Mulk Raj Anand’s Coolie: An Appraisal
Mulk Raj Anand’s Confessions of a Lover
Mulk Raj Anand: The Fusion of History and Fiction
The Big Heart: A New Perspective (Published in two different journals)
The Princes in Indian Fiction (Published in two different journals)
Mulk Raj Anand’s Untouchable: An Appraisal (In two different journals)
Anand’s Literary Creed
The Juxtaposition of Tragedy and Comedy in the Plays of Sean O’Casey
Anand’s Literary Creed
The Memshib at the Writing-Table: Women Writers of the Raj
Mulk Raj Anand and the BBC
Princes and Politics
SHORT STORIES

Unfinished
A4 (Including two translations into two Indian languages)
The Sentry
What Price Bread?
The Chowkidar
The Well of the Blue Bulls
Another Train to Pakistan
The Beggar
My Shikari’s Wife
Bharat Mata Ki Jai
The General Secretary
His Father’s Medals
Staff Only
The Meeting
Nude Therapy (both in JCL and The Sun Weekly)

BELLES-LETTRES, SHORT LITERARY PIECES, ETC

A Day in Dublin
Dublin, Fare Thee Well
Sunday on a Soapbox
Boarding a French Vessel
The Road to Stardom
In a Holy Home
I Remember
What Price Bread?
The Writer
Communication with Spirits
English, Please
On Noise
Recollections
Back to School
“Caught’ [a poem]

ORIGINALS - FEATURE ARTICLES ETC.

Indians in Canada (with letters, research material, etc)
An Evening with Sean O’Casey
Mulk Raj Anand: A Profile
Meeting Menuhin
Blarney Castle (with photographs, brochure, etc)
Impressions of Crossman (A Talk)

BOOK REVIEWS

“James Joyce” Illustrated Weekly of India, Bombay
“Romance of Words” Illustrated Weekly of India, Bombay
“Disturbing Novel” Illustrated Weekly of India, Bombay
“Confession of a Lover” The Journal of Commonwealth Literature, Leeds
“A Novelist’s Insight into Human Nature” Indian and Foreign Review, Delhi
“My Days” The Sphinx, Regina
“Notes & Reviews” (Three Novel) The International Fiction Review, Fredricton
“Sean O’Casey: Selections” The Dublin Magazine, Dublin
“Critical Essays on Indian Writing” Indian Literature, New Delhi
“Azadi” Critical Quarterly, Manchester
“Not So Grateful” Encounter, London
“Critical Evaluation of Indo-Anglian Letters” Indian & Foreign Review, Delhi

CORRESPONDENCE ACADEMIC & LITERARY

“O’Casey Unfair” The Sunday Press, Dublin
“The Returning O’Casey” Evening Press, Dublin
“Correspondence” [Re: Ron Ayling] Drama Survey
“Correspondence” [Ron Ayling] The Dublin Magazine, Dublin
“Princes and Their Collaborators” Blitz, Bombay
“Mulk Raj Anand and His Critics” Banasthali Patrika, Vidhyapeth

FILM REVIEWS, FEATURE ARTICLES, ETC • DONE FOR FILMFARE WHILE ASSISTANT EDITOR
(APPROXIMATELY JULY 1962 to JULY 1964) ALL ITEMS UNSIGNED.

Films and National Integration
‘Nakli Nawab’: A Jigsaw Extravaganza
‘Professor’: Passable as a Snack
‘Prem Patra’: Bristles with Improbabilities
‘Ram Lila’: Old Wine in New Bottle
‘The Island’: Unforgettable Experience
‘Apna Banake Dekho’: Jejune
‘Yeh Rastey Hain Pyar Ke’: Fears to Face Facts
'Sehra': Glitters... But is not Gold
'Ek Raaz': Shoddy

The Bitter Taunt: (Feature article)

My Memorable Roles: Leela Chitnis (Feature Article)

Our President

'Aarti': Worthwhile Film About Values

'Bezuban': Presentation Mars Powerful Theme

'Soorat Aur Seerat': A Notable First Attempt

'Gehra Daag': Powerful Theme, Weak Exploitation

NOTE: ‘The Road to Stardom’, is included in file “Belles Short Literary Pieces”

CORRESPONDENCE NON ACADEMIC

“Deadlock Over Fast in Punjab” Yorkshire Post. Leeds

“Solving Problems at their Source” The Guardian, London


“Spiffin Taste” Blitz, Bombay

“Even Ferocious Animals Can Respond to Kindness” Leader-Post, Regina

“AGI Member Complains Against Allied Publishers, New Delhi” Indian Author, New Delhi.