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Guide to the Rudolph Altrocchi and Julia Cooley Altrocchi Papers 1912-1956



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Descriptive Summary

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| Identifier | ICU.SPCL.ALTROCCHI |
| Title | Altrocchi, Rudolph and Julia Cooley Altrocchi. Papers |
| Date | 1912-1956 |
| Size | 0.25 linear feet (1 box) |
| Repository | Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A. |
| Abstract | Rudolph Altrocchi (1882-1952), professor of Italian and writer. Julia Cooley Altrocchi (1893-1972), poet and novelist. The collection includes letters sent to Rudolph and Julia Altrocchi by University of Chicago President Harry Pratt Judson, author Henry Blake Fuller, playwright Alice Gerstenberg, artist Lorado Taft, and others. Also contained in the collection are reprints of articles by Altrocchi. |

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Altrocchi, Rudolph and Julia Cooley Altrocchi. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.

Biographical Note

Rudolph Altrocchi was born on October 31, 1882 in Florence, Italy. He attended Joseph Domenge's French School in Florence, a Swiss school, and the Prosser School of Kansas City, Missouri. He received his A.B. in 1908, his A.M. in 1909, and his Ph.D in 1914 from Harvard University.

Altrocchi taught romance languages at Columbia University from 1910-1911. He went on to University of Pennsylvania, where he taught the same subject from 1911-1912. From 1912-1915 he was an instructor in French and Italian at Harvard. Altrocchi came to the University of Chicago as an assistant professor of Italian in 1916, and became an associate professor in 1922. In 1927 he accepted the chair of Italian at Brown University, but in 1928 he became the

chairman of the Italian languages and literature department at the University of California, Berkeley. He served as chair until 1946, and remained as a professor of Italian until 1952.

Altrocchi was the Propaganda Director in Italy for the Board of War Information under President Wilson, from 1918-1919. He was a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry, and served as a liaison officer in Lyon, France. In 1921 he was awarded the title and medal of Cavaliere dell' Ordine della Corona d'Italia by the King of Italy. In 1934 he was awarded the title and medal of Officier de l'Academie de France by the French government.

Altrocchi was the founder and co-editor (1924-1928) of *Italica*, the quarterly bulletin of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. Volume XXVII(2) of June 1950 was a tribute volume dedicated to Altrocchi. He was also president of the Harvard Club of San Francisco from 1932-1938, vice president of the Associated Harvard Clubs from 1934-1941 and president of the same organization from 1942-1947, and served as president of the Philological Association of the Pacific Coast. He was a member of the Literary Club of Chicago.

Altrocchi wrote *Sleuthing in the Stacks* (1944), *Deceptive Cognates* (1935). He was co-editor of *Italian Short Stories* (1912), *Giacosa's Tristi Amori* (1921) and *Stracco's Il Piccolo Santo* (1929). He translated *Girolamo Sommi-Picenardi's Snow and Steel* (1926) and was a contributor to *The Nation*, *North American Review*, *The Drama*, *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse*, and to many other scholarly magazines and publications. He died on May 13, 1953 in Berkeley, California.

Julia Cooley Altrocchi was born in 1893 in Seymour Connecticut, to Harlan Cooley and Nellie Wooster Cooley. She graduated from the University of Chicago's University High School, and from Vassar College in 1914. She married Rudolph Altrocchi in 1920. The couple had two sons, John Cooley and Paul Hemenway. Julia Altrocchi was a poet and novelist, and wrote many works for children and adults, including *The Poems of a Child*, *The Dance of Youth*, *Snow Covered Wagons*, and *Wolves Against the Moon*. She from Chicago moved to Berkeley, California with her husband in 1928, and resided there until her death in 1972.

Scope Note

The collection includes letters sent to Rudolph and Julia Altrocchi by University of Chicago President Harry Pratt Judson, author Henry Blake Fuller, playwright Alice Gerstenberg, artists Lorado Taft and Earl H. Reed, and others. Also contained in the collection are reprints of articles by Rudolph Altrocchi *An Old Italian Version of the Legend of Saint Alexius* (1915) and *Gabriele D'Annunzio, The Poet* (1930).

The collection was previously part of the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/scrc/findingaids/topics.php>

Subject Headings

- Altrocchi, Julia Cooley, 1893-1972
- Altrocchi, Rudolph, 1882-1953
- Judson, Harry Pratt, 1849-1927
- Fuller, Henry Blake, 1857-1929.
- Gerstenberg, Alice
- Goodspeed, Edgar J, (Edgar Johnson), 1871-1962
- Lewis, Edwin Herbert, 1866-1938
- Taft, Lorado, 1860-1936
- Seymour, Flora Warren, 1888-1948
-

INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder 1

Julia Cooley Altrocchi, correspondence, 1912-1921

- Earl H. Reed to Julia Altrocchi, November 15, 1912
- Earl H. Reed to Julia Altrocchi, November 16, 1912
- Elizabeth A. Reed, October 29, 1914
- Alice Gerstenberg to Julia Altrocchi, August 20, 1918
- Henry Blake Fuller to Julia Altrocchi, January 3, 1919
- Henry Blake Fuller to Julia Altrocchi, November 3, 1920
- Henry Blake Fuller to Julia Altrocchi, October 19, 1921

Box 1

Folder 2

Julia Cooley Altrocchi, correspondence, 1922-1956

- Clara Louise Burnham to Julia Altrocchi, February 10, 1922
- Henry Blake Fuller to Julia Altrocchi, April 9, 1924
- Charles B. Reed to Julia Altrocchi, December 21, 1926
- Henry Blake Fuller to Julia Altrocchi, April 4, 1927
- Lorado Taft to Julia Altrocchi, November 18, 1930
- Lorado Taft to Julia Altrocchi, November 25, 1930
- Alice Gerstenberg to Julia Altrocchi, June 30, 1931
- Heleva Carus to Mrs. Frank Jerome, July 15, 1935
- Flora Warren Seymour to Julia Altrocchi, April 3, 1936
- UC Director of Dramatic Productions to Julia Altrocchi, August 10, 1938
- Edgar Goodspeed to Julia Altrocchi, August 27, 1956
- Mary Bradley to Julia Altrocchi, undated
- Maude Radford Warren, holiday card to Julia Altrocchi, undated

Box 1

Folder 3

Rudolph Altrocchi, correspondence, 1916-1936

- Chatfield Taylor to Rudolph Altrocchi, July 12, 1916
- Chatfield Taylor to Rudolph Altrocchi, July 15, 1916
- Henry Blake Fuller to Rudolph Altrocchi, February 23, 1917
- Henry Blake Fuller to Rudolph Altrocchi, January 13, 1920
- Harry Pratt Judson to Rudolph Altrocchi, October 7, 1921
- Henry Blake Fuller to Rudolph Altrocchi, December 27, 1922
- Harry Pratt Judson to Rudolph Altrocchi, November 26, 1924
- Harry Pratt Judson to Rudolph Altrocchi, November 30, 1924
- Edwin Herbert Lewis to Rudolph Altrocchi, March 13, 1936
- Henry Blake Fuller to Rudolph Altrocchi, undated

Box 1**Folder 4**

Offprints of articles by Rudolph Altrocchi, 1915-1930

- "An Old Italian Version of the Legend of Saint Alexius," 1915
- "Gabriele D'Annunzio, the Poet," 1930