

George Kuthan Collection – MsC 143

Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

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Fonds Description

Title

George Kuthan Collection

Creator

Kuthan, George, 1916-1966

Date(s) of creation

1959

Extent

66 drawings

2 posters

Biographical Sketch

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).

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.

Restrictions on access, use, reproduction, and publication

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 Aid

Item list is available.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Related groups of records external to the unit being described

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

Series Description

Series 1: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Bridge River

Date(s) of creation

Jul. 1959

Extent

3 drawings : pen and watercolour

Scope and content

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

Series 2: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Williams Lake

Date(s) of creation

Jul. 1959

Extent

16 drawings : pen and watercolour

Scope and content

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

Series 3: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Manning Park

Date(s) of creation

Jul. 1959

Extent

15 drawings : pen and watercolour

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

Series 4: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Vancouver

Date(s) of creation

May 1959 – Jul. 1959

Extent

10 drawings : pen and watercolour

Scope and content

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

Series 5: Wildflowers of British Columbia: General**Date(s) of creation**

May 1959

Extent

22 drawings : pen and watercolour

2 posters

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.

Item Description

Material acquired in 2010

BOX	ITEM	TITLE	DATE(S)
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Series 1: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Bridge River

1	1	Penny-cress 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 51.5 x 22.5 cm on board 54 x 24 cm	Jul. 1959
1	2	Lichen, Douglas Fir, Ponderosa 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 35 x 34 cm on board 36 x 35 cm	Jul. 1959
1	3	Vetch 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 33.5 x 28 cm on board 36.5 x 29.5 cm	Jul. 1959

Series 2: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Williams Lake

1	4	Tiger Lily 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 47 x 28.5 cm on board 48 x 29.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	5	Red Columbine 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 55 x 28.5 cm on board 58 x 29.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	6	Ox-eye Daisy 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 37 x 26.5 cm on board 38 x 27 cm	Jul. 1959
1	7	Strawberry Blight 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 36 x 22 cm on board 39 x 23 cm	Jul. 1959
1	8	Arnica 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 38 x 17.5 cm on board 40 x 18.7 cm	Jul. 1959
1	9	Twinflowers 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 17 x 36 cm on board 19 x 37 cm	Jul. 1959
1	10	Panaeolus 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 16 x 20.5 cm on board 18.5 x 22 cm	Jul. 1959
1	11	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 16.5 x 13 cm on board 17.5 x 14 cm	Jul. 1959
1	12	Russula 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 16.5 x 11.5 cm on board 21 x 15 cm	Jul. 1959
1	13	[Water plant] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 20.5 x 18.5 cm on board 23 x 19.5 cm	Jul. 1959

1	14	Queen's Cup 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 17.5 x 18 cm on board 19.5 x 18.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	15	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 14 x 17 cm on board 16.5 x 19.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	16	Shelf Fungus 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 17 x 17 cm on board 20 x 20 cm	Jul. 1959
1	17	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 12 x 10.5 cm on board 12.5 x 11 cm	Jul. 1959
1	18	Fairy Ring 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 13 x 11 cm on board 15 x 12.5 cm	May 1959
1	19	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 12 x 12 cm on board 14 x 14 cm	[ca. 1959]

Series 3: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Manning Park

1	20	Scarlet Gilia 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 55 x 37 cm on board 57 x 37.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	21	White Rhododendron 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 46 x 30 cm on board 48 x 31 cm	Jul. 1959
1	22	Orange Hawkweed 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 42.5 x 28 cm on board 44 x 30 cm	Jul. 1959
1	23	Monk's Hood 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 54.5 x 17 cm on board 56.5 x 18 cm	[Jul.] 1959
1	24	Snow Lily 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 30 x 22.5 cm on board 32 x 23 cm	Jul. 1959
1	25	Aster 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 37 x 28 cm on board 40 x 28.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	26	Yellow Rattle 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 35 x 8.5 cm on board 38 x 10.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	27	Stonecrop 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 37.5 x 26 cm on board 40 x 28 cm	Jul. 1959
1	28	Indian Paintbrush 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 36 x 24 cm on board 39 x 25 cm	Jul. 1959
1	29	Pentstemon 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 35 x 20.5 cm on board 38.5 x 22 cm	Jul. 1959

1	30	Pyrola 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 38 x 26 cm on board 40 x 26.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	31	Mountain Phlox 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 29 x 33 cm on board 32 x 36 cm	Jul. 1959
1	32	[Purple Pentstemon] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 28 x 29 cm on board 30 x 29.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	33	Lodgepole Pine 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 22.5 x 26 cm on board 24 x 26.5 cm	Jul. 1959
1	34	[Butterfly] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 12.5 x 11.5 cm on board 13 x 12 cm	Jul. 1959

Series 4: Wildflowers of British Columbia: Vancouver

2	35	Horsetails 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 70 x 42 cm on board 71 x 44 cm	Jun. 1959
2	36	False Dandelion 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 60 x 37 cm on board 62 x 38 cm	Jul. 1959
2	37	Gum Flower 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 63 x 36 cm on board 65 x 37 cm	Jul. 1959
2	38	Plantain 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 54 x 37 cm on board 56 x 38.5 cm	Jul. 1959
2	39	Sea Milkwort 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 37 x 49 cm on board 40 x 50 cm	Jul. 1959
2	40	Cinquefoil 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 35.5 x 32 cm on board 37 x 33 cm	Jul. 1959
2	41	Loosestrife 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 58 x 29 cm on board 60 x 30 cm	Jul. 1959
2	42	Mud-Disc 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 23 x 25 cm on board 26 x 27 cm	Jul. 1959
2	43	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 16 x 12 cm on board 17 x 13 cm	May 1959
2	44	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 14 x 22 cm on board 15 x 23 cm	May 1959

Series 5: Wildflowers of British Columbia: General

2	45	White Rein Orchid 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 57 x 30 cm on board 60 x 33 cm	May 1959
2	46	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 58 x 31.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	47	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 32 x 15.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	48	[Trees] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 30 x 17.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	49	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 32 x 22 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	50	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 33 x 20 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	51	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 40 x 16 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	52	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 21 x 22 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	53	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 26 x 25 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	54	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 27.5 x 10.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	55	[Nest with little birds] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 24 x 20 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	56	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 17.5 x 15 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	57	[Wildflower] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 24.5 x 22.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	58	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 13 x 20.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	59	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 15 x 12 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	60	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 14 x 15 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	61	[Fungus] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 20 x 15.5 cm	[ca. 1959]

2	62	[Fox] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 17 x 17 cm on board 18 x18 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	63	[Owl] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 21 x 16 cm on board 22 x 16.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	64	[Insect] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 8.5 x 13.5 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	65	[Insect] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 6 x 9.5 cm on board 7 x 10 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	66	[Frog] 1 drawing : pen and watercolour ; 9 x 11 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	67	[Collection poster: Wildflowers of British Columbia] 1 drawing : watercolour ; 30 x 23 cm	[ca. 1959]
2	68	[Collection poster: biography and overview of the collection] 1 drawing : watercolour ; 34 x 20 cm	[ca. 1959]