

—Robert Creeley to Ralph Stanton at Simon Fraser University (3/94)



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Ralph Stanton, Collections Librarian
Simon Fraser University Library
Burnaby, B.C.
Canada V5A 1S6

Dear Mr. Stanton,

I have just learned of Professor Ralph Maud's interest in establishing a place for his impressive Charles Olson Collection, which has been in every sense a singular achievement of his own authority. You will know of his exceptional value to contemporary Olson scholarship as well his long established ties to all of us relating, including Olson during his lifetime. I understand that Professor Maud is presently at work on an edition of a selection of Olson's letters for the University of California Press, which is the primary publisher of Olson's work. Therefore it would be indeed fitting were a commitment of the library's interest to the appropriate housing and overseeing of the materials Professor Maud has accumulated might now be made. The ground-breaking Vancouver Poetry Conference in 1963, at which Olson's was the crucial presence, was also the time as I recall that Olson was offered the presidency (or whatever its designation would be) of the then fledgling Simon Fraser College, at that time still in the planning stages. But such details you will know far better than I--yet they add particularity to why a collection specific to Charles Olson might have a pertinence in many senses. I do hope it proves possible to accommodate Professor Maud's Charles Olson Collection, making thus another decisive location for scholars and poets to find their interests recognized. If I can be of any assistance with respect to this matter, please depend upon it.

Sincerely,

Robert Creeley
Distinguished SUNY Professor
Mem. AAAL