



Cesare Pavese Collection

1931-2006 1931-1950

13 titles (2 linear feet)

Call no.: RB 037

Collection overview

Simultaneously prolific and tragic, Cesare Pavese was a major figure in 20th century Italian letters. Born in the Piedmont region in 1908 and educated in Turin, Pavese was drawn to English-language literature as a student, writing his thesis on Walt Whitman (1930). Nearly overnight, he became well known as a translator of modern American and British fiction, from Melville, Faulkner, and Steinbeck to James Joyce and Gertrude Stein, and at the same time, he began to publish his own creative work beginning with *Lavorare stanca*, a book of poetry, in 1936. Although sentenced to three years of internal exile for his anti-fascist sympathies (1938-1941), he continued to write, capped by the appearance of his first two novels in 1941 and 1942. The war's end saw Pavese blossom into an exceptionally creative period, however even as his renown grew, the effects of depression and a failed love affair with the American actress Constance Dowling led him to suicide in August 1950. Two months before he had been awarded the prestigious Strega Prize.

This collection of first and early editions by Cesare Pavese, donated by Lawrence G. Smith, includes first and early editions by Cesare Pavese, five of which are inscribed: three to Constance Dowling, one to his friend Leone Ginzburg (and later to Dowling), and the fifth to Doris and Harry. Smith also donated dozens of other volumes by and about Pavese to the Library's general collection.

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Background on Cesare Pavese

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Scope of collection

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Inventory

<i>Almanacco della Medusa</i> . Mondadori : Milan	1934	
Contents : Includes photograph of Pavese.		
Lewis, Sinclair: <i>Il nostro signor Wrenn</i> . Bempard : Firenze. Translated by Cesare Pavese	1931	
▶ Melville, Herman: <i>Moby Dick, o la balena</i> . Frassinelli : Turin	1932	
Contents : Inscribed on free front endpaper: "Offro gratis a Leone Ginzburg / 10 - Giug - '32 / Cesare Pavese / Leone died / my only friend / won't you take his / place, Connie? / 1o April '50 / Rome Ces."		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Il compagno</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1949	2nd ed.
Contents : Inscribed on free front endpaper: "To Connie / alone like / many of us / from Cesare / Turin / 15-3-50." Laid inside is a flier announcing publication of the book .		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Interpretazione della poesia di Walt Whitman</i>	1930	
Contents : Photocopy of Pavese's tesi di laurea.		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Interpretazione della poesia di Walt Whitman</i> . Einaudi Plaqueette fuori commercio, edition of 1,000 : Turin	2006	
Contents : Uncut, no. 0839, with accompanying note from Roberto Cerati of Einaudi.		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>La luna e I falò</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1950	1st ed.
Contents : Inscribed on free front endpaper: "To Doris and Harry / children of the gods / this tale of wistful / priest-ridden desperate / Italy, / from a conservative / C.P. / May 2nd 1950 / Turin."		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Moon and the Bonfires</i> . Signet paperback edition	1954	
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Paesi tuoi</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1941	1st ed., in torn d.j.
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Paesi tuoi</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1941	2nd ed.
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Paesi tuoi</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1945	3rd ed., in torn d.j.
Contents : Inscribed on free front end paper: "To Connie, glowing, laughter, from Cesare, 15-3-50."		
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Political Prisoner</i> . Mayflower Dell paperback	1956	
Pavese, Cesare: <i>Prima che il gallo canti</i> . Einaudi : Turin	1949	1st edition
Contents : Inscribed on free front end paper: "To Connie / who understands, / from Cesare / Turin / 15-3-50." Laid inside is a flier announcing publication of the book .		

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of Lawrence Smith, July 2018.

Digitized content

The inscribed volumes have been digitized and may be viewed online in **SCUA's digital repository, Credo**.

Processing Information

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Language:

English

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Search terms

Subjects

- Employers' associations--Massachusetts
- Massachusetts--Economic conditions--20th century
- Montague Farm Community (Mass.)

Contributors

- Pavese, Cesare **[main entry]**

Genres and formats

- Newsletters

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