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**Basic biographical data**

<b>Name:</b>	Sherry Mangan
<b>Other names (by-names, pseud. etc.):</b>	Benedict ; Daniel ; John Joseph Sherry Mangan ; John Niall ; Sean Niall ; Patrick O'Daniel ; Patrice ; Patrick ; Terence Phelan ; Owen Pilar ; Terry ; Van
<b>Date and place of birth:</b>	June 27, 1904, Lynn, Mass. (USA)
<b>Date and place of death:</b>	June 24, 1961, Roma (Italy)
<b>Nationality:</b>	USA
<b>Occupations, careers:</b>	Novelist, poet, journalist, translator, editor, book designer, political activist
<b>Time of activity in Trotskyist movement:</b>	1935 - 1961

**Biographical sketch**

**Note:** This biographical sketch is chiefly based on *Alan M. Wald's* biographical contributions about the life and work of Sherry Mangan [see our *Selective bibliography: Books and articles about Mangan*, below], particularly on his *The pilgrimage of Sherry Mangan : from aesthete to revolutionary socialist*, in: *Pembroke Magazine*, 1977 (8), pp. 85-98 and on his *The revolutionary imagination : the poetry and politics of John Wheelwright and Sherry Mangan*, Chapel Hill and London, 1983, XIX, 288 pp.

Sherry (John Joseph Sherry) Mangan was born on June 27, 1904 in Lynn, Mass. (USA), as son of John Joseph Mangan and his wife whose maiden name was Sherry. Both parents had an Irish-Catholic ancestral background. Dr. John Joseph Mangan (1857-1935) was a well-situated and respected paediatrician who had studied medicine at Boston, Cambridge, Berlin and Vienna; furthermore he was author of some medical writings as well as of some other scholarly works, the most eminent being his two-volume *Life, character & influence of Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam*<sup>1</sup>.

Sherry Mangan was married twice; in 1931 he married British citizen Kate (Katherine) Prideaux Foster (remarried Kurzke, 1904-1977) from whom he divorced in 1935; some years later he married Marguerita Landin (1906-1953).

Sherry Mangan grew up in a wealthy New England family, and being an only child he was much doted both by his parents. He was "a precocious, energetic, athletic, and sensitive child", "a brilliant child, far beyond his years intellectually and so far beyond his contemporaries in school that it made him more or less a loner"<sup>2</sup>. Until 1921 he attended *Lynn Classical High School* where he took the classical

1) New York; NY : Macmillan, 1927, reprinted 1971; in the finishing of the manuscript he was assisted by his son Sherry.

2) Wald, Alan M.: *The revolutionary imagination : the poetry and politics of John Wheelwright and Sherry Mangan*, Chapel Hill and London, 1983, p. 74

course, and in 1925 he graduated at *Harvard University*, Cambridge, Mass., with honours in classics. He was fluent in French, Spanish, Latin, and Greek, and knew also German and Italian. Already as a student, Sherry Mangan began to write, some of his poems were published in the *Harvard Advocate*. He soon belonged to a circle of Harvard poets some of whom should become his lifelong friends; thus he got in touch with John Wheelwright, George Anthony Palmer, Norman Lewis Dodge and others; composer Virgil Thomson, too, belonged to the circle of Sherry Mangan's friends. It was Virgil Thomson with whom Mangan went to Paris in spring 1925 for the first time and by whom he was introduced to such renowned writers as for example Gertrude Stein and Georges Hugnet. During his one-year stay in Paris, Mangan was strongly influenced by contemporaneous European poets and novelists, especially by the young French surrealists and by the considerable Paris colony of expatriate American writers.

Back in the USA in 1926 Sherry Mangan made a literary career; in the following years many of his texts were published in the leading literary magazines such as *Poetry*, *Pagany*, *Anathema*, *The New Review*, and he could enjoy the friendship of many literary talents such as Ezra Pound. In the late 1920s, Sherry Mangan could also make some small reputation as founder, editor and designer of a short-living little magazine called *Larus - the Celestial Visitor*. After *Larus* had ceased publication, Mangan for some years became contributing co-editor of a well-respected little magazine called *Pagany*. Besides as an author of (experimental) prose and poetry Mangan also became a renowned writer of short stories and book reviews appearing in magazines like *Esquire*, *The London Mercury*, or *The Atlantic Monthly*.

In the 1930s, however, Mangan's financial situation declined, his father died after several years of severe illness and the marriage with Kate Foster soon ended with disappointment and divorce (see above). For some years he earned his living as a printer and book designer for *Plimpton Press*, Norwood.

Like many other American intellectuals during the years of the Great Depression, Sherry Mangan got acquainted with socialist ideas, became radicalised and – under the influence of John Wheelwright and other already radicalised writers and intellectuals – joined the ranks of Norman Thomas' *Socialist Party*. As a convinced Marxist, Mangan soon got acquainted with the books and ideas of Leon Trotsky, too, and became a supporter of the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky. Under the strong influence by renowned Trotskyist intellectuals as for example Antoinette Konikow and Larry Trainor he turned to a dedicated Trotskyist in 1937. When in the same year the Trotskyists were expelled from the *Socialist Party*<sup>3)</sup>, Sherry Mangan together with John Wheelwright left, too, and both became founding members of the *SWP (Socialist Workers Party)* on January 1, 1938. Mangan soon began to contribute to *SWP's* organ *Socialist Appeal*, edited by Max Shachtman, and to give lectures on Trotskyist policies under the pseudonym of Terence Phelan.

In 1938, Mangan – together with his new companion and future wife Marguerita Landin – went to Europe and settled in Paris again. Thanks to the good services of some of his old friends he soon got a well-paid job as correspondent and reporter for the popular American *Time* and *Life* magazines – the beginning of a veritable journalistic career. Mangan was successful in illustrating to the average American what happened in Paris culturally and politically; particularly notable among his many feature articles was perhaps the one which appeared in the September 10, 1940 issue of *Life* and which under the title *Paris under the swastika* gave a description of the occupation of Paris by Hitler's *Wehrmacht* in June 1940.

However, the employment with the *Time-Life* media corporation was only one side of Mangan's life: starting in 1938 Mangan for more than 10 years worked as a regular contributor to the American bourgeois press and **at the same time (!)** as a representative and eminent international liaison man of the *FI (Fourth International)*, making use of his multilingualism as well as of his mobility, resources and credentials as a bourgeois journalist – privileges which enabled him to carry out various secret and often somewhat dangerous Trotskyist liaison work on a truly international scale.

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3) Following Trotsky's entryism tactic, the majority of the American Trotskyist had joined the ranks of the *Socialist Party* a few years earlier.

In July 1939 Mangan became co-opted to the *Administrative Secretariat of the Fourth International*, formally designated as a technical secretary of that body. Thus shortly before the outbreak of World War II he without doubt was a central figure in the international Trotskyist movement, taking special responsibility for keeping relations between the *FI* headquarters in Paris and the *SWP*. When in 1940 the headquarters were shifted to New York, Mangan kept the liaison between the headquarters on the one side and the European *FI* sections on the other side of the Ocean. During his two years in Paris he was also involved in organizing the French section of the *IFIR (International Federation of Independent Revolutionary Art*, inspired by the famous *Manifesto for an independent revolutionary art* written by Trotsky, Breton and Rivera in 1938) and in the reconstruction of the French section of the *Fourth International*. After the outbreak of World War II he gave his assistance – using again his journalistic credentials as cover – to the French Trotskyists when they had to go underground and to prepare for illegal resistance work.

Mangan unlike most of the other American journalists did not leave Paris immediately when German troops defeated France and Paris fell to the Nazis; however, on August 8, 1940 he eventually was forced by German occupation forces to leave Paris within 4 days<sup>4</sup>.

During the following 10 years, Mangan's life was quite rootless, divided between Europe, The United States and Latin America. For some time he settled in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he arrived on December 3, 1940; he worked there as Latin American correspondent for the *Time*, *Life* and *Fortune* magazines; at the same time he was – acting clandestinely as an *FI* representative – in close contact with various leaders of Latin American Trotskyism, being deeply involved in their internal affairs and quarrels.

Using the opportunities offered by his work as a bourgeois journalist, he played a decisive role in helping the *Fourth International* to ensure at least minimum liaison during the difficult years of World War. It should be added that Mangan in those years contributed a series of remarkable essays and articles on European as well as on U.S. and Latin American politics and contemporary history in Trotskyist journals, e.g. in *SWP's* theoretical paper *Fourth International*.

After several months as a roving correspondent in Chile, Peru and other Latin American countries, he was appointed war correspondent for the magazines of the *Time-Life* corporation and was sent back to Europe. He arrived in London in November 1943 where he was involved in the efforts to unite the various rival Trotskyist groups<sup>5</sup>; he also met with French Trotskyist leader Pierre Frank who at that time was living as an emigrant in Britain. In autumn 1944 Mangan went to France and arrived in Paris in September, shortly after its liberation.

That's how Robert J. Alexander summarized Mangan's role and meaning with regard to the War years:

"Although he was usually not officially a member of the *International Executive Committee* or the *International Secretariat* of the *Fourth International*, Terence Phelan (Sherry Mangan) played a key role in maintaining contacts between the New York headquarters and various national Trotskyist groups. He was a foreign correspondent working for the Life-Time-Fortune group and travelled widely in various parts of the world. Phelan seemed an unlikely Trotskyist contact man. He made full use of his expense account as an envoy of the Henry Luce empire to live well in not-too-modest hotels and had an outgoing personality. He lived a double life, writing for the Luce publications as Terence Phelan and at the same time reporting to the Fourth International and writing for its publications as Sherry Mangan<sup>6</sup>. [...] Subsequently, Phelan was assigned a Time-Life-Fortune journalist in South America. There he intervened extensively in efforts to reunite divided Trotskyist groups in Argentina and Chile and he had temporary success in this endeavour."<sup>7</sup>

After departing from *Time-Life* corporation in 1948, he remained in Paris, now earning his life chiefly as a translator and freelance writer – thus he published a series of feature articles about France in the

4) His expulsion from Paris was reported by the *New York Times* (Aug. 13, 1940, p.10).

5) Unification eventually was achieved in March 1944 by the launching of the RCP (Revolutionary Communist Party).

6) At this point Alexander is wrong, see for rectification the paragraph "Sidelines" below, at the very end of this biographical sketch.

7) Alexander, Robert J.: *International Trotskyism*, Durham and London, 1991, p. 290.

renowned New York magazine *Commentary*.

In Europe he also continued his liaison and organizational work for the *Fourth International*, participating in several international conferences. In 1944 he was incorporated into the *European Secretariat of the FI*, which had been created during the War in 1943, and became elected a member of the *International Secretariat (IS)* of the *FI* at the 1946 first international conference of the Trotskyists after World War II. Some years later he became a member of the *International Executive Committee (IEC)* of the *Fourth International*, too. From 1944 to 1958 Michel Pablo (M. Raptis), secretary of the *FI* and one of the most influential figures of the *FI* in those years, was Mangan's close friend and mentor<sup>8</sup>.

His literary output with regard to poems, short stories etc. was rather meagre during those years and it became only sporadically that literary texts from his pen appeared in magazines like *Diogenes* or *New Directions*.

In 1950, suffering from bad physical condition – a mental breakdown already had occurred in 1948 – and in view of a personal crisis he was obliged to interrupt his political activity but he never cut off close continual contact with the *FI*. Together with his wife he went to Latin America and for some three years settled at Cochabamba (Bolivia) where he arrived in January 1951. Here he produced a lot of short stories and poems some of which appeared in American literary magazines. In Cochabamba he began to write a long novel called *Mountain of death* on the miners which he only could complete in 1956, but which was never published. Mangan's personal situation changed fundamentally in 1953 when he was confronted with personal disasters such as the sudden death of his beloved Marguerite<sup>9</sup> and with deteriorating health (e.g. malignant hypertension and diverticulitis). Thus Mangan returned to the United States, first to Boston where he was hospitalized, then to New York where he soon became a victim of the McCarthyite anti-communist witch-hunt; in front of McCarthy's Committee on Un-American Activities Mangan courageously asserted his Trotskyist convictions and as a consequence found himself blackmailed and excluded from jobs in the field of journalism and the like. At that time he more than once came quite close to committing suicide since his frustrations dramatically cumulated (inability to find a work as journalist, deteriorating romance, split in the Fourth International, bad health etc.)

At the end of 1954 Mangan again went to Europe and after more than one year in Spain he settled again in Paris. Although the deterioration of his health went on, Mangan after a long interruption took up his revolutionary political activity and responsibility for the *International Secretariat of the Fourth International* on a more or less full-time basis. He remained a loyal, faithful and devoted Trotskyist to his end. He was engaged in the support of the Algerian revolution and anti-colonial struggle, e.g. by assisting the Algerian *FLN* fighters in their attempt to build a base of support for their organization in France. And, of course, he took up writing articles for the Trotskyist press and furthermore became contributing editor and translator for *Fourth International*, a new English-language theoretical organ of the *International Executive Committee of the FI* published in Amsterdam where *FI's* headquarters had been shifted to from Paris in 1958. In the leading body of the *Fourth International* he closely collaborated at that time with Michel Pablo (Raptis) and Sal Santen (charged with the day-to-day work of the *IEC*) and with Ernest Mandel, Livio Maitan, Georg Jungclas, and occasionally Adolfo Gilly who joined Pablo and Santen for monthly meetings.

It should be added here that some years earlier, in 1953/54, a major split had occurred in the *Fourth International* and that the majority of the American *SWP* under the leadership of national secretary James P. Cannon had departed from the *International Secretariat* launching an *International Committee of the Fourth International* with the majority factions of the British and French sections and some other groups. Thus by the split Mangan got in conflict with most of his American Trotskyist friends and comrades from the *SWP*. Like Ernest Mandel, Mangan intended to overcome the split; in this context he undertook a major trip to the USA in 1957 in order to meet for negotiations with various

8) See also Pablo's obituary of Sherry Mangan, published only after Pablo's release from prison: Pablo, Michel: Notre ami Sherry, notre camarade Patrice : l'homme et le militant, in: *Quatrième Internationale* <TSB 1282>, 20.1962 (16) : pp. 53-56.

9) She died of coronary thrombosis on May 11, 1953 at the age of 47.

leaders of the *SWP* and to find out about the possibilities of re-uniting the world Trotskyist movement<sup>10</sup>.

In 1960, after having suffered a heart attack, Mangan went to Rome for recovering and with the intention to reduce workload by laying off some of his responsibilities. However, when Pablo and Santen, the two top-leaders of the *FI*, in spring 1960 were arrested in The Netherlands and sentenced on charges of illegal actions in solidarity with the Algerian revolutionaries, Mangan had additionally to take parts of their responsibilities; thus his workload increased even more during the last months of his life.

Frustrated and worn-out, he not only failed to recover but suffered from severe and lasting financial problems; during the following months his physical as well as his material and financial conditions even declined. Getting more and more indigent, condemned to a life without companionship, plagued by heart and kidney diseases and eventually felling ill with pneumonia at the end of 1960 he was even unable to complete those literary works he had started on when coming to Rome. On May 31, 1961 he finished writing his very last poem.

On June 24, 1961, just three days before his 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary, he was found dead in his bed in a cheap roominghouse.

A few literary friends took care of burying Sherry Mangan in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome where a small memorial meeting was held by a handful of friends and Trotskyist comrades (e.g. Livio Maitan) from whom he always had carefully hid poverty, solitude and desperation tormenting him during the last years of his life. "It turned out that there was nothing but debts in the entire Mangan estate, debts amounting to thousands of dollars. [...] John Sherry Mangan, in the best literary tradition, died leaving almost nothing"<sup>11</sup>.

### *Selective bibliography* <sup>12</sup>

- ***Selective bibliography: Books/pamphlets (co-)authored by Mangan***

Blackness of a white night : stories & poems / ed. by Marshall Brooks. Introd. by Alan Wald. - Newton, Mass. : Arts End Books, 1987. - VIII, 64 pp.

Cinderella married : or, How they lived happily ever after : a divertissement. - New York, NY : Boni, 1932. - XII, 306 pp.

No apology for poetry, and other poems written 1922-1931. - Boston, Mass. : Humphries, 1934. - XI, 89 pp.

Salutation to valediction. - Boston, Mass. : Humphries, 1938. - [8]pp.

- ***Selective bibliography: Books and journals (co-)edited by Mangan***

Fourth International (Amsterdam; later: Paris) <TSB 0535>

Larus : the celestial visitor (Lynn, Mass.)

Lovell, Frank: Maritime : a historical sketch and a workers' program / Frederick J. Lang [i.e. Frank Lovell]. [Ed. by Terence Phelan, i.e. Sherry Mangan] - New York, NY : Pioneer Publ., 1943. - 171 pp. [& later ed.]

Pagany : a native quarterly (Boston, Mass.)

- ***Selective bibliography: Books, journals and bulletins to which Mangan contributed***

The American Caravan (New York, NY)

Americans abroad : an anthology / ed. by Peter Neagoe. With autographed photographs and biographic sketches of the authors. - The Hague : The Servire Pr., 1932. - XI, 475 pp.

10) (Partial) re-unification factually only took place in 1963, two years after Mangan's decease.

11) Wald, Alan M., op.cit., p. 240.

12) TSB item numbers (e.g. <TSB 0716>) refer to Lubitz' *Trotskyist Serials Bibliography*, München [etc.] : Saur, 1993, which is out of print but [available as PDF file](#) within the framework of the *Lubitz' TrotskyanaNet* website. In TSB you can find detailed descriptions of the respective Trotskyist journals, newsletters, bulletins and the like.

- Anathema (Boston, Mass.)  
 Argosy (New York, NY)  
 The Arizona Quarterly (Tucson, Ariz.) [ISSN 0004-1610]  
 Atlantic Monthly (Boston, Mass.) [ISSN 0160-6514 - ISSN 0004-6795 - ISSN 0276-9077] [Partly with title: The Atlantic]  
 Black Mountain Review (Black Mountain, NC)  
 Boston Sunday Globe (Boston, Mass.)  
 Bulletin du Secrétariat Européen de la IVe Internationale (Paris?) <TSB 0210>  
 Bulletin intérieur / Secrétariat International de la IVe Internationale (Paris) <TSB 0542>  
 Commentary (New York, NY) [ISSN 0010-2601]  
 The Commonweal (New York, NY) [ISSN 0010-3330]  
 Documents sur la révolution espagnole (1937-1939) / trad.: Daniel Couret. Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Mouvements Trotskyste et Révolutionnaire Internationaux. - Paris, 1993. - 68 pp. - (Les cahiers du C.E.R.M.T.R.I. ; 71)  
 Esquire (Chicago, Ill.) [ISSN 0014-0791]  
 Essence (New Haven, Conn.) [ISSN 0014-0872]  
 The Forge (Chicago, Ill.)  
 Fortune (Chicago, Ill. etc.) [ISSN 0015-8259]  
 Fourth International (Amsterdam; later: Paris) <TSB 0535>  
 Fourth International (New York, NY, 1940-56) <TSB 0532>  
 Harper's Magazine (New York, NY) [ISSN 1045-7143]  
 Harvard Advocate (Cambridge, Mass.) [ISSN 0017-8004]  
 Housatonic (Roxbury, Conn.)  
 Internal Bulletin / Socialist Workers Party (New York, NY) <TSB 1548>  
 International Secretariat documents, 1951-1954 : struggle in the Fourth International / issued by the National Education Dept., Socialist Workers Party. - 1-4. - New York, NY, 1974. - 210 pp. - (Towards a history of the Fourth International ; 4) (Education for socialists)  
 Larus : the celestial visitor (Lynn, Mass.)  
 Left (Davenport, Iowa)  
 Life (Chicago, Ill.; later: New York, NY) [ISSN 0024-3019]  
 London Mercury (London)  
 Michigan Quarterly Review (Ann Arbor, Mich.) [ISSN 0026-2420]  
 Morada (Albuquerque, N.M.)  
 New Directions in Prose and Poetry (New York, NY)  
 New Mexico Quarterly (Albuquerque, NM) [ISSN 0885-4955]  
 The New Republic (Washington, DC) [ISSN 0028-6583]  
 The New Review (Paris)  
 Pagany : a native quarterly (Boston, Mass.)  
 Partisan Review (New Brunswick, NJ) [ISSN 0031-2525]  
 The Pembroke Magazine (Pembroke, NC) [ISSN 0097-496X]  
 Poetry : a magazine of verse (Chicago, Ill.) [ISSN 0032-2032]  
 Quatrième Internationale (Paris etc., 1936- ) [ISSN 0771-0569 - ISSN 0765-1740] <TSB 1282>  
 A return to Pagany : the history, correspondence, and selections from a little magazine, 1929-1932 / ed. by Stephen Halpert with Richard Johns. Intro. by Kenneth Rexroth. - Boston, Mass. : Beacon Pr., 1969. - XVIII, 519 pp.  
 Revolutionary History (London) [ISSN 0953-2382] <TSB 1375>  
 Socialist Appeal (New York, NY) <TSB 1497>  
 Star (New York, NY)  
 The struggle to reunify the Fourth International : (1954 - 1963) / National Education Dept., Socialist Workers Party. - 1-4. - New York, NY, 1977-78. - [Various pag.] - (Towards a history of the Fourth International ; [7]) (Education for socialists)  
 SWP Discussion Bulletin (New York, NY) <TSB 1684>  
 Time : the weekly newsmagazine (New York, NY) [ISSN 0040-781X]  
 Trotskyism versus revisionism : a documentary history / ed. by C. Slaughter. - 1-7. - London : New Park Publications, 1974-84 [vol. 7: Detroit, Mich. : Labor Publications]  
 Western Review (Lawrence, Kan.) [ISSN 0275-8202]

Workers' International News (London) <TSB 1840>

- **Selective bibliography: Books and articles about Mangan**

[Anon.]: Mangan, (John Joseph) Sherry, 1904-1961 (Sean Niall), in: *Contemporary authors*, vol. 112, Detroit, Mich., 1985, pp. 323-324. [Biographical sketch]

[Anon.]: [Sherry Mangan](#). [Biographical sketch, Wikipedia article]

[Anon.]: Sherry Mangan, in: *Fourth International* <TSB 0535>, 1961 (13), p. 3. [Obituary]

[Anon.]: Sherry Mangan, in: *Die Internationale* (Various places) <TSB 0731>, 6.1961 (3), p. 10. [Obituary]

[Anon.]: Sherry Mangan, in: *Quatrième Internationale* <TSB 1282>, 19.1961 (13). [Obituary]

Pablo, Michel: Notre ami Sherry, notre camarade Patrice : l'homme et le militant / M. Pablo, in: *Quatrième Internationale* <TSB 1282>, 20.1962 (16) : pp. 53-56. [Obituary]

Pablo, Michel: Our friend Sherry, our comrade Patrice, in: *Fourth International* <TSB 0535>, 1962 (15), p. 3-4. [Obituary]

Papers of Sherry Mangan : pres. by George Palmer. - Cambridge, Mass. : The Houghton Library, 1967. - 87 pp. [Repertory of the *Sherry Mangan papers* <MS Am 1816>, deposited at Houghton Library, Harvard Univ. Also available as online resource, see paragraph *Sidelines* below.]

Wald, Alan M.: Sherry Mangan (27 June 1904 - 24 June 1961), in: *Dictionary of literary biography* (=American writers in Paris, 1920-1939), vol. 4, Detroit, Mich., 1980, pp. 269-271. [Biographical sketch]

Wald, Alan M.: Introduction to Snow, in: *Michigan Quarterly Review*, 17.1978 (3), pp. 272-277.

Wald, Alan M.: The pilgrimage of Sherry Mangan : from aesthete to revolutionary socialist, in: *Pembroke Magazine* 8.1977, pp. 85-98.

Wald, Alan M.: The revolutionary imagination : the poetry and politics of John Wheelwright and Sherry Mangan. - Chapel Hill, NC [etc.], 1983. - XIX, 288 pp.

- **Selective bibliography: Books dedicated to Mangan**

Wohlforth, Tim: The prophet's children : travels on the American Left. - Atlantic Highlands, NJ, 1994. - XVIII, 332 pp. - (Historical memories)

### *Sidelines, notes on archives*

— The *Sherry Mangan papers* are stored at *Houghton Library* (Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.) where they were accessioned in 1967 as a gift of George Palmer; the call-no. is *MS Am 1816*. The archive consists of 32 boxes (16 linear feet) containing some 10.000 single documents: besides manuscripts of his stories, poems and articles, miscellaneous family papers, photographs, reports, notes and drafts, the *Papers of Sherry Mangan* are containing chiefly correspondence, e.g. correspondence from his work as a *Time-Life-Fortune* journalist, correspondence with poets, novelists and with composer Virgil Thomson, letters to and from renowned members of the *Fourth International* and of the *SWP* (E. Mandel, P. Frank, S. Santen, M. Pablo, S. Bornstein, L. Maitan, T. Wohlforth, J.P. Cannon et al.), correspondence relating to business matters, to the editing of certain journals and bulletins of the *Fourth International*, etc. This rich collection of papers exactly mirrors the two significant areas of Sherry Mangan's life: his life as a poet, writer, journalist and editor on the one side and his life as a revolutionary and representative of the *Fourth International* on the other side.

— **Another archive**, the (*John Joseph*) *Sherry Mangan Papers 1925-61*, chiefly containing his correspondence with George A. Palmer, is preserved at the *Department of Special Collections and Archives of Kent State University Library* (Kent, Ohio).

— It goes without saying that letters and **other documents** by Sherry Mangan are to be found, too, in almost all archives which contain material of the higher bodies of the *Fourth International* from the 1940s and 1950s, such as for example the *Fourth International, International Secretariat Archives* at *IISG/IISH* (*International Institute*

*of Social History*), Amsterdam.

— A few words concerning **Mangan's pseudonyms**: While most of his literary works (poems, experimental prose, short stories, book reviews etc.) were published under his real name, Sherry Mangan, almost all his writings, reports and letters published in Trotskyist journals and bulletins were signed by pseudonym (party name), mostly by *Terence Phelan*, *Patrick O'Daniel*, *Owen Pilar*. For his French comrades he simply was *Patrice*. In 1938-40 when working as *Time-Life* correspondent in Paris he contributed a series of *Paris letters* which were published in *Partisan Review* under his pseudonym *Sean Niall*. Regarding Mangan's usage of pseudonyms, Alan M. Wald made the following interesting remarks:

"When Sherry Mangan moved to Paris in the late 1930s, he had already assumed the double identity that he would retain for the rest of his life. [...] Pseudonyms were common in the Marxist movement of his day to disguise identities from employers and the police; but to Sherry, thirsting for adventure and poised to assert his deflected artistic energies where he might, deeper psychological functions were probably served by the fashioning of a second identity. The creation of two people – one for bourgeois society, another for the revolutionary movement – provided a strategy for survival in the repressive economic institutions of capitalist society. A pseudonym meant a secret itself. It meant that his bourgeois employers would never possess him completely because ultimately his relationship with them would be insincere; the "secret" Sherry would be using them and not vice versa". [...] The names he selected [...] were carefully assembled from a gallery of Irish ancestors."<sup>13</sup>

— A short quotation from **Alan M. Wald's appraisal of Sherry Mangan's life**:

"Although an entire generation of American writers became politically radicalised in the 1930s, only a handful preserved their revolutionary socialist convictions through the Second World War and Cold War years. One of the most significant and extraordinary of these was Sherry Mangan, a passionate and scholarly classicist from Harvard who made a small but distinct mark on American literature in the late 1920s and early 1930s. [...] He was awakened to other values under the impact of the Great Depression, and became a revolutionary adherent of the views of Leon Trotsky. By the end of the 1930s he had remade his life. After working for several years as a printer in Norwood, Massachusetts, he exiled himself to Western Europe and Latin America. For ten years he was employed as a journalist for Henry Luce's *Time-Life-Fortune* complex, an occupation that he used on his own to facilitate his work in promoting the ideas and activities of the Trotskyist Fourth International. After a break with the Luce organization, Sherry eked out his living from a series of translating, editing, and rewriting jobs, and from occasional sales of his own stories and articles."<sup>14</sup>

Wolfgang and Petra Lubitz, 2006  
last (slightly) rev. June 2016

13) Wald, Alan M., op.cit., p. 179.

14) Wald, Alan M., op.cit., p. 70.