In addition to his work as a pianist and composer, Percy Grainger was a talented visual artist. From an early age, he drew and painted, encouraged by his father, the Australian architect John Grainger. He continued to make drawings and watercolors and later created the designs for many of his own scores. What follows here are a few of the items in our collection that show his abilities and interests as a painter and graphic designer.

Grainger, Percy
(No title), c1922
Watercolor on paper
11 7/8” x 18 1/8 “

This watercolor, with richly detailed mountains, beautiful coloring, and delicate rendering of plants/trees, is very similar to, and presumably a study for, Barstow, where we were happy, accession #00.5049, in the collection of the Grainger Museum, University of Melbourne. Grainger visited Barstow, California with his mother in the spring of 1920 and created the watercolor painting in her memory after her death.
The multipage sketchbook from Percy’s youth in Australia contains watercolors and pencil drawings, reflecting his interests in trains, mythology, music and art.
Grainger designed the graphics for many of his published scores, creating the lettering and design details, choosing colors and planning the composition and layout.

Grainger, Percy
**Free Settings of Favorite Melodies**, c1920
12” x 9 1/8”
G. Schirmer, Inc., New York

Grainger, Percy
**Four Irish Dances**, 1916
13 5/8” x 10 5/8”
J. Fisher & Bros, New York

Grainger, Percy
**Danish Folk-Music Settings**, c1930
13 5/8” x 10 5/8”
G. Schirmer, Inc., New York
Percy saved this scrap of board illustrating his thought process in creating a typeface with the lettering of Shallow Brown. His final version was used on the title page for the score. A separate design was created for the cover (G. Schirmer, New York). Note the letters “PAG” integrated into his cover design at the lower left.
Grainger, Percy
**Tribute to Foster**, c1917
G. Schirmer, New York

Grainger, Percy
**Study of embroidery**, no date
Watercolor on paper

Grainger is known for his work collecting and transcribing Folk Music. He was additionally interested in Folk Art. Like his meticulous study of red and pink embroidery flowers, the cover design for **Tribute to Foster** looks like embroidery stitched on fabric and is based on the decorative pattern from a pair of Native American moccasins. Grainger’s broad creative interests included making beadwork necklaces and designing and sewing his own clothing.
Grainger, Percy
*British Folk-M Settings* (study), c1918
13 1/2” x 10 1/2”

Grainger, Percy
*British Folk-Music Settings* (draft), c1918
13 3/4” x 10 3/4”

Grainger, Percy
*Molly on the Shore* (detail), c1918
10 1/4” x 10 3/4”,

Grainger, Percy
*British Folk-Music Settings*, c1918

*The Percy Grainger House, 7 Cromwell Place, White Plains, NY 10601*
This selection of studies and drafts of British Folk-Music Settings and Room-Music Tit-Bits demonstrates Grainger's work process and attention to detail in the choice of typeface, spacing, color and content.