A tartan kilt, fishing rod and dragon pendant among a string of items recently auctioned.

By RAQUEL BUSCH
For the many scholars who have concocted Ted Hughes’s treatment of the first wife, Sylvia Plath, there has been a new source of inspiration — a triptych of letters belonging to by their daughter, Frieda Hughes, at Bonhams in London, above the leek and beets of manuscript, book and family photo: the hero, or maybe she chose it with him in mind.”

It pared through the white net of the new formal ground, but also the struggle of an era. “My life was one of things — 'I have to have these,'” she said. “There’s just something about them — the juxtaposition of a shoe to-day object marking time, and an actual memory.” She plans to display the watches at home in a special cabinet, entrepreneurially leaving the rest of them on the market.

Among the Plath items the college al- ready holds are her Girl Scout uniform and plaid dress, acquired in 1983 and available for purchase by appointment.

Kiki Smith, a theater professor at Smith, has curated the Smith College Historic Art Collection since the mid-1970s, when she was an undergraduate at the college. She has organized 2,500 pieces of rare art, written 10 books and curated more than 80 exhibitions, which has earned her recognition in the art world and beyond.

“A few hours after it was written,” she said. “There’s just something about them — the juxtaposition of a shoe to-day object marking time, and an actual memory.” She plans to display the watches at home in a special cabinet, entrepreneurially leaving the rest of them on the market.

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