Rewards of a Restless Journey

Whether you know him as one of America's greatest living playwrights or an accomplished film star, Sam Shepard is an icon among literary and Hollywood legends. His inspiration as a playwright, actor, director, screenwriter and musician is fueled by a free-spirited lifestyle that he says keeps him “dreaming of the open road,” ready to “wander into some adventure.”

Shepard's creative process and the restless, unconventional energy he brings to his work can be explored at the Wittliff Collections, a research archive and museum dedicated to the Southwest's literary and photographic arts in the Albert B. Alkek Library at Texas State University. His insights and character are revealed in hundreds of handwritten notes and letters, and drafts of his stories and plays, often in densely filled notebooks. This significant archive showcases a passionate artist who lives life on his own terms.