

**SFU** Simon Fraser University Special Collections  
and Rare Books

## Finding Aid - Michael Turner fonds (MsC 107)

---

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.2.0 Printed: October 30, 2015

Language of description: English

Rules for Archival Description

Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books  
W.A.C. Bennett Library - Room 7100  
Simon Fraser University  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby  
BC  
Canada  
V5A 1S6  
Telephone: 778.782.8842  
[Email: mhardbat@sfu.ca](mailto:mhardbat@sfu.ca)  
<http://atom.archives.sfu.ca/index.php/michael-turner-fonds>

# Michael Turner fonds

---

## Table of contents

---

Summary information .....	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch .....	3
Scope and content .....	4
Notes .....	4
Access points .....	4

## Summary information

---

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	Michael Turner fonds
ID:	MsC 107
Date:	1979-2009 (date of creation)
Physical description:	2.05 m of textual records and other material
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

---

## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

---

### Note

Michael Turner (born 1962 in Vancouver, British Columbia) is a writer of poetry, prose and opera librettos; he is also a musician and was an influential literary impresario in the 1990s. Turner often varies his style and employs a rich, multi-format and intertextual approaches in his works, such as *American Whiskey Bar* (1997), and *The Pornographer's Poem* (1999). His work has been adapted to radio, stage, television and feature film, and translated into French, Russian, and Korean. He won the Genie Award in 1996 for *Music/Original Song*, the 2000 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and was also a finalist for the 1992 Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. Turner collaborated with artist Stan Douglas on two experimental-video screenplays, titled *Journey Into Fear* (Istanbul Biennial, 2001) and *Suspiria* (Documenta XI, 2002) and on a screenplay with filmmaker Bruce LaBruce, titled *Untitled Von Gloeden Project*, based on the life and work of photographer Wilhelm Von Gloeden. He was commissioned to write a libretto for the Modern Baroque Opera Company, based on Wilhelm Busch's *Max & Moritz*. In the late 1980s, he played in a band called *Hard Rock Miners*, and in the 1990s was an influential literary impresario, founder of the Reading Railroad reading series at Vancouvers Railway Club, and also the Malcom Lowry Room, a multi-media arts nightclub in North Burnaby, B.C. In 1996, director Bruce McDonald directed a film based on *Hard Core Logo*; he also directed a live telecast dramatizing Turner's novel *American Whiskey Bar* in 1998, which Citytv produced and aired. In 2005, a film based on *The Pornographer's Poem* was announced. Turner lives in Vancouver, writes art essays and edits *Advance Editions*, a literary/visual art imprint he founded with Arsenal Pulp Press in 1998. A new book will be published in Sept. 2009.

## Scope and content

---

The fonds consists of drafts of manuscripts of poetry, essays and articles, short fiction, scripts, and novels, originals and reproductions of publications in which Turner's and other author's works have appeared, clippings of reviews and articles about Turner and his published works, and other records and ephemera related to Turner's writing, editing, and publishing activities and projects. It also contains photographs, notes, clippings, correspondence, audio and digital recordings, ephemera and press materials related to Turner's musicianship, including his stint in the Hard Rock Miners. The fonds is arranged in seven series: Music; Writing; Publishing, editing, and consulting; Teaching; Acting; Event promotion, management, and judging; and Correspondence.

## Notes

---

### Title notes

### Finding aids

Online inventory available at <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/file-newest/8910/TurnerMFonds.pdf>

### Other notes

- Publication status: published
- Level of detail: Full
- Status description: Published

## Access points

---

- Turner, Michael (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

## Series descriptions

---