

The logo for Simon Fraser University (SFU) consists of a solid red rectangle with the letters "SFU" in white, bold, sans-serif font centered within it.

# Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

## Finding Aid - Syd Zolf fonds (MsC-145)

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Language of description: English

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# Syd Zolf fonds

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
<b>Title:</b>	Syd Zolf fonds
<b>Reference code:</b>	MsC-145
<b>Date:</b>	2007-2014 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	4 m of textual records and electronic records
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Created January 12, 2016. SSUpdated September 28, 2023. AT

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Syd (formerly Rachel) Zolf's artistic practice explores materialist questions about memory, history, knowledge, subjectivity and the conceptual limits of language and meaning. Zolf's work queerly enacts how ethics founders on the shoals of the political, imagining other possibilities of sociality, space, and time.

Their books of poetry include *Human Resources* (2007, Coach House Books), *Neighbour Procedure* (2010, Coach House Books), *Janey's Arcadia* (2014, Coach House Books), and *Social Poesis* (2019, Wilfrid Laurier University Press). Their book *No One's Witness: A Monstrous Poetics* (2021, Duke University Press) was a finalist for the 2022 Pegasus Award for Poetry Criticism. They won a 2018 Pew Fellowship in the Arts, the 2008 Trillium Book Award for Poetry, and have been a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award and the Raymond Souster Memorial Award. Their film version of *Janey's Arcadia* has shown at the International Film Festival Rotterdam and other venues. Among their many collaborations, they wrote the film *The Light Club of Vizcaya: A Women's Picture*, directed by New York artist Josiah McElheny, which premiered at Art Basel Miami; and they conducted the first collaborative MFA in Creative Writing ever, *The Tolerance Project*. They have taught at New York's The New School and the University of Calgary and have completed a PhD in Philosophy, Art and Social Thought at the European Graduate School.

### Custodial history

Records were in the custody of Syd Zolf prior to their acquisition by Simon Fraser University Library Special Collections and Rare Books in 2014.

## Scope and content

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Fonds consists of research sources, drafts, correspondence, interviews, journals, magazines, teaching files, essay files, grant applications, and tax information. Records document Zolf's work as a poet, critic, editor, essayist, filmmaker and professor at the New School and University of Calgary. People with whom Zolf regularly corresponds include poets Charles Bernstein, Anne Waldman, Michael Davidson, Rodrigo Toscano, Erin Moure, Joan Retallack; theorist Judith Butler; artists Josiah McElheny, Zoe Leonard and Moyra Davey, and publisher Alana Wilcox.

## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on contents of fonds.

### Restrictions on access

This fonds has not been processed. Restrictions on access may apply; consult staff for more information.

### Conditions governing use

Works in this fonds are under copyright. Researchers are required to secure permission from the copyright holders for usage of this material, except for those covered by fair dealing.

### Related material

Related materials are at York University's Clara Thomas Archives. <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000538.htm>

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Status description:** Published

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## Access points

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- Zolf, Syd (subject)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Records in electronic form (born-digital) (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)