

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

# Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

## Finding Aid - bill bissett fonds (MsC-2)

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# bill bissett 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>	bill bissett fonds
<b>Reference code:</b>	MsC-2
<b>Date:</b>	1958-1978 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	1.0 m of textual records and other material
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Created May 12, 2014 LZ

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Bill Bissett (born William Frederick Bissett, November 23, 1939) is a Canadian poet known for his anti-conventional style. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, bissett (who deliberately does not capitalize his name) attended Dalhousie University (1956) and the University of British Columbia (1963-1965) but dropped out of both universities because of his desire to live as a free agent, writer and painter unencumbered by academic constraints. He did complete course requirements for his two majors in English and Philosophy. He moved to Vancouver, British Columbia in 1958. In 1963 he started the *blew ointment* magazine and later launched *blewointment* press, which has published volumes by Cathy Ford, Maxine Gadd, Michael Coutts, Hart Broudy, Rosemary Hollingshead, Beth Jankola, Carolyn Zonailo, bpNichol, Ken West, Lionel Kearns and D. A. Levy. bissett is based in Vancouver and Toronto, Ontario, alternating between the two cities. He is known for his use of a unique orthography and incorporating visual elements in his printed poetry, and his performance of "concrete sound" poetry, sound effects, chanting, and barefoot dancing during his poetry readings. He has also had large exhibits of his paintings and made audio recordings. He was the lyricist and vocalist in the Ontario band, Luddites. His work typically ranges from the mystical to the mundane, incorporating humour, a sense of wonder and sentimentality, and political commentary.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists primarily of manuscripts and poems of Bill Bissett, journal entries (1958), reviews, sketches and doodles, correspondence, paste-ups and graphics for several *Blewointment* Press publications, and photographs of the press.

## Notes

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### Title notes

### Finding aids

Item level descriptions available.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Published
- **Alpha-numeric designations:** BCAUL control number: SFL--2271

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## Access points

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- Bissett, Bill (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)