SFU Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

Finding Aid - Warren Tallman fonds (MsC 26)

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Warren Tallman fonds

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Summary information

Repository: Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

Title: Warren Tallman fonds

ID: MsC 26

Date: 1942-1994 (date of creation)

Physical description: 7.8 m of textual records and other material

Dates of creation, revision and deletion:

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Warren Tallman (7 November 1921 - 1 July 1994) was an American-born poetry professor who inspired the Canadian Tish movement and influenced the mid-20th century poetry scene in Canada. Born in Seattle attended the University of California, Berkeley on the G.I. Bill. There he met Ellen King; they married in 1951. In 1956, the Tallmans accepted teaching jobs in the English department at the University of British Columbia, where they helped Earle Birney and Roy Daniells to organize the creative writing department. In 1963, they hosted a poetry conference attended by Denise Levertov, Charles Olson, Allen Ginsberg, Robert Duncan, Margaret Avison, and Philip Whalen. The Tallman home itself also served as a poetry enclave of sorts. It was there that Jack Spicer gave some of his now legendary lectures. Two years later, they held another poetry conference in Berkeley, California. Sometimes criticized by Canadian literary nationalists for turning the Vancouver poetry circle into a California branch plant, Tallman embraced the Black Mountain school approach to poetry, and also was influenced from the Beats and other New American Poets.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of correspondence, manuscripts, teaching papers, personal and financial records, material pertaining to the Vancouver Poetry Centre, photographs, audiotapes, ephemera, etc.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

Printed inventory available.

Other notes

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

Access points

- Tallman, Warren (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Photographic material (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

Series descriptions