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Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

Finding Aid - Caroline Adderson fonds (MsC-40)

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Caroline Adderson fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	Caroline Adderson fonds
Reference code:	MsC-40
Date:	1986 (date of creation)
Physical description:	Includes 3 book jackets, 3 bookmarks, 1 bound musical score, 1 brochure, 5 business cards, 4 certificates, 2 CD-Rs, 9 drawings, 1 floppy disk, 3 guide books, 6 invitations, 45 magazines/serials/monographs, 3 maps, 1 name badge, 115 negatives, 2 newspapers, 85 newspaper clippings, 87 note cards, 7 notebooks, 1 package of seeds, 15 pamphlets, 92 photographs, 43 post cards, 3 posters, 11 programmes, 2 reference guides, 3 VHS cassettes, 2 zines.
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Created May 13, 2014, LZ

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Caroline Adderson was born in Edmonton, Alberta in 1963. After finishing high school, she entered Katimavik, a Canadian youth volunteer-service program, and travelled across Canada, partaking in such activities as working on a sheep farm and building log cabins on a reservation. Adderson completed an education degree at UBC in 1986, and a year later she settled in Vancouver and started teaching ESL. She has spent most of her adult life in Vancouver, B.C., but has also lived for brief periods in New Orleans and Toronto. Her first book of short fiction, *Bad Imaginings* (1993) won the 1994 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize, was shortlisted for the 1993 Governor Generals Award and Commonwealth Book Prize, and in audio format the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) Talking Book of the Year. These stories have since appeared in many anthologies and have been broadcast and adapted for radio.

Her first novel, *A History of Forgetting* (1999) was nominated for the 2000 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and the 2000 Rogers Writers Trust Fiction Prize.

Her second novel, *Sitting Practice* (2003) was shortlisted for the VanCity Book Prize for best book pertaining to women's issues by a B.C. author as well as the City of Vancouver Book Award. It won the 2004 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize.

Her works of fiction and non-fiction have been widely published in literary magazines and newspapers. One story, "Oil and Dread", was selected by the Journey Prize Anthology 5. She has three times won prizes in the CBC literary competition. She has had radio plays broadcast on CBC Radio's Morningside and Sunday Showcase, amongst other radio broadcasts.

Her feature-length screenplay *Tokyo Cowboy* (1994) was the co-winner of the Federal Express Award for Most Popular Canadian Film at the 1994 Vancouver International Film Festival.

Adderson's recent publication *Pleased to Meet You* (2006), a collection of short fiction, was longlisted for the Giller Prize.

Some of the themes Adderson poignantly illuminates in her work include the endurance of grief and pain in different forms and contexts, the construction and power of memory and its connection to history and freedom, essences, physical movement through time and space, interconnectedness, sexuality, love, and longing.

She is married to film director Bruce Sweeney, and has one son, Patrick.

Scope and content

The collection consists of materials that relate to Caroline Adderson's work as a writer. Types of materials include: versions of drafts of manuscripts, many with holograph annotations; incoming and outgoing correspondence in the form of handwritten and typewritten letters, and hard copies of email and fax; research relating to her work including collected works by other writers; notes that relate to and inform her literary work; promotional, personal, and research-related photographs; reviews of her work; and a collection of published work in monograph and serial format. These monographs and serials have been catalogued in SFU's Special Collections catalogue. Materials were accessioned in varying states of organization. Much of the material was and remains intermingled, and some had been organized and described by Adderson. Some folders have been written upon by the author, accompanied with explanations of the contents of the corresponding files. In this finding aid, RAD applies consistency to the body of material, but the descriptive contents within the actual folders are not consistent for this reason. All information Adderson has provided about her records has been kept with the appropriate papers.

Notes

Title notes

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

Immediate source of acquisition

The materials were acquired by SFU Special Collections and Rare Books from Caroline Adderson in one accession in 2004. Additional materials were acquired in 2009. Further accruals are expected.

Arrangement

The files are arranged physically by accession, according to Adderson's arrangement of the records. All possible efforts to keep the connections between materials have been made, and most files have been kept intact. In circumstances where it has been deemed beneficial to rearrange materials according to chronology within a file or separate a file that is far too large into components, a note explaining the changes has been provided in the file-level description. Materials have been arranged intellectually into 4 series: Correspondence, Caroline Adderson's Literary Works, Published Materials,

and Miscellaneous. Caroline Adderson's Literary Works has been divided into 2 subseries: Manuscripts of Literary Works and Literary Activities. Published Materials has been divided into 2 subseries: Publications by Adderson and Publications about Adderson. The Miscellaneous series contains many of the photographs in the collection. The locations of photographs that are not a part of this series are provided at file-level descriptions and in the Note field in the description of the Miscellaneous series. Because of the attempt to retain original order, materials that correspond to more than one series may be found in the same file.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Published
- **Alpha-numeric designations:** BCAUL control number: SFL--2302

Access points

- Adderson, Caroline (subject)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographic materials (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)
- Family and personal life (subject)
- Women (subject)

Series descriptions

Series MsC-40-0-1: Correspondence

Date: 1989-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains incoming and outgoing correspondence. Material includes personal letters, fax and hard copies of email, as well as correspondence relating to Adderson's work as a writer. The materials have been arranged mainly in accordance with Adderson's original file arrangement. Some files are devoted to correspondence with one person, and other files have incoming and outgoing materials that include correspondence with more than one person. Original order within files has been maintained in cases where the file is devoted to one person or subject. Large files such as those that include correspondence to/from a number of people have been grouped according to year(s), and papers have been placed in chronological order, for ease of access. In other words, this series has groupings of correspondence that relate to individual persons, as well as to chronological accumulation. In addition, there are items included in files of this series that correspond to a main function/activity other than correspondence.

Physical description: 60 cm of textual records

85 note cards,
41 postcards
11 programmes
8 drawings
7 pamphlets
6 invitations
4 business cards
4 newspaper clippings
4 certificates
3 book jackets
3 bookmarks
3 posters
2 photographs
1 brochure
1 magazine
1 name badge

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

Series MsC-40-0-2: Literary Works

Date: [19-]-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains versions of drafts of works by Adderson and supporting documentation. The series has been divided into two subseries: Manuscripts of Literary Works and Literary Activities. Adderson has primarily arranged her records according to works, with manuscripts and research and notes that correspond to a given work in the same file.

Original order of documents has been maintained, so there is a great deal of physical overlap between the two subseries. In order to best obtain a full understanding of Adderson's works and activities, the two subseries may be viewed in conjunction.

Physical description: 28 newspaper clippings

25 photographs: negs.
20 photographs
8 pamphlets
7 notebooks
3 maps
2 CD-Rs
2 guidebooks
2 postcards

1 business card
1 drawing
1 floppy disk
1 package of seeds
1 reference guide

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

Subseries MsC-40-0-2-1: Manuscripts of literary works

Date: [19--]-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Subseries consists of versions of drafts of novels, short-stories, plays, screenplays, essays, and other works. It includes drafts of both published and unpublished works and excerpts/portions of works. Some of the works have dates associated with them, and others do not. Items from Subseries 2: Literary activities are intermingled with these materials and exist in the files of which they were a part upon accession. The materials have been arranged according to how Adderson ordered the papers.

Physical description: 2.7 m of textual records

20 photographs
7 newspaper clippings
3 pamphlets
2 notebooks
1 business card
1 CD-R
1 floppy disk
1 reference guide

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

Subseries MsC-40-0-2-2: Literary activities

Date: [19--]-2003 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The subseries consists of materials that relate to the production of Adderson's literary works, such as research, notes, photographs, and other materials. The materials have been arranged according to how Adderson ordered the papers.

Physical description: 25.5. cm of textual records

25 negatives

21 newspaper clippings

5 notebooks

5 pamphlets

3 maps

2 guidebooks

2 postcards

1 CD-R

1 drawing

1 package of seeds

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

Series MsC-40-0-3: Published Materials

Date: 1986-2003 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of literary works in published format by and about Adderson, including reviews of her work.

Physical description: 9.2 cm of textual records

2 VHS cassettes

1 photograph

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

Series MsC-40-0-4: Miscellaneous

Date: [199-]-[200-] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of ephemera as defined by Adderson. Series also includes promotional photographs and negatives connected to research for A History of Forgetting and Sitting Practice. Of note, Adderson's photographs of the Auschwitz Muzeum are included.

Series contains the musical score for Tokyo Cowboy, collected material by other writers, newspapers, and a VHS video cassette with a documentary about the Little Sister's Bookstore's legal battle dealing with state censorship of queer materials. Series also includes published writings that are not by or about Adderson.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

90 photographs: negs

69 photographs

1 VHS video cassette

Access points:

- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographic materials (documentary form)
- Moving images (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft