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2010-10

JOAN GIVNER

SEPTEMBER 29, 2008
BY B. GULKA

MARCH 16, 2010
BY MARK VAJCNER

REVISED
MARCH 2016

BY ELIZABETH SEITZ

Biographical Sketch: Joan Givner (nee Short) graduated from the University of London with a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in 1958 and a Ph.D. in 1972. She earned a Masters degree in Arts from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri in 1965. While in the United States she taught high school from 1959 until 1961. She then taught English at Port Huron Junior College (now St Clair County Community College) from 1961 until 1965. Givner joined the predecessor of the University of Regina, the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, as a Lecturer of English in 1965 and in 1972 became an Assistant Professor, in 1975 an Associate Professor and in 1981 she became a Professor of English. Joan retired from the University of Regina in 1995 to Victoria, British Columbia and taught creative writing at Malaspina College – Cowichan Campus during the spring of 1997.

She has published several books: *Katherine Anne Porter: A Life* (1982), *Tentacles of Unreason*, (1985), *Katherine Anne Porter: Conversations, Introduction*, (1987); *Unfortunate Incidents* (1988), *Mazo de la Roche: The Hidden Life* (1989), *Katherine Anne Porter: A Life (Revised Edition)* (1991), *Scenes from Provincial Life* (1991), *The Self-Portrait of a Literary Biographer* (1993), *In the Garden of Henry James* (1996), *Thirty-four Ways of Looking at Jane Eyre: Essays and Fiction* (1998) and *Half Known Lives* (2000). She has also published numerous short stories. She has published articles in *Studies in Short Fiction*, *Genre*, *International Fiction Review*, *Southwest Review* and *Descant* to name a few. She has contributed chapters for several books and delivered many papers and readings on Katherine Anne Porter and other topics across Canada and the United States

Givner currently resides in a small seaside town north of Victoria, B.C. Although she is retired from teaching, Joan still continues to write fiction books such as *Half Known Lives* and *Ellen Fremedon* as well as reviewing books for *B.C. Bookworld*, *The Toronto Star*, *Books in Canada* and other publications.

Scope and Content: This collection consists of 84 centimetres of textual records, 20 audio cassette tapes and 1 photograph.

The records in this collection include several drafts of Givner's writings, particularly *Ellen Fremedon*, as well as correspondence and reviews. This collection also contains a series relating to the publication of Emily Givner's book, *A Heart in Port*. The date range is from 1955 – 2008, 2005-2008 predominant.

Custodial History: The collection was transferred to Archives and Special Collections by Joan Givner in August 2008 and originally accessioned as 2008-30.

Note on Arrangement: A series of miscellaneous materials relating to Jessie Givner were removed in March 2010 and the remaining collection was re-accessioned as 2010-10.

Legal Agreement: A donation agreement was signed with Joan Givner on March 22, 2010.

Future Accruals: Future Accruals are expected.

Related Accessions: 84-4, 85-92, 86-61, 87-84, 88-13, 89-72, 90-93, 92-25, 93-72, 94-79, 95-35, 98-2, 99-19, 2000-55, 2001-48, 2002-22, 2005-14, 2005-33, 2006-24.

Box 1	1	Awards Awards Received and Given by Joan Givner	2005-2006
		Correspondence	
	2	Gerber, Merrill Joan	2006-2008
	3	Grundmann, Erika	2006-2007
	4	House of Anansi Press	2007-2008
	5	Lane, Angela	2006-2007
	6	Michaels, Bill and Judy	2007
	7	Miscellaneous	1988-2008
	8	Miscellaneous	1989-2006
	9	Miscellaneous	2002-2005
	10	Miscellaneous	2006
	11	Miscellaneous	2006-2008
	12	Moodie, Julia Symunds	2006-2007
	13	Swayze, Carolyn	1995-1996
	14	Various Writers (Includes photograph #1)	1987-2007
Box 2	15	Various Writers	2006-2007
		Emily Givner	
	16	Book Launch	2007
	17	Correspondence	2006-2007
	18	Neutral Ground Gallery	2005
	19	Thistledown Press	2006-2007
		Publications Featuring Writings by Givner	
	20	Humanist Perspectives: Justice and Revenge	2007
		Readings	
	21	Stay With it Balloons	n.d.
		Reviews of Joan Givner's Writings	
	22	Miscellaneous	1992-2008
	23	Miscellaneous	1999-2007
		Reviews of Others' Writings	
	24	His Doubtful Excellence	n.d.
		Writings by Givner	
Box 3	25	Ellen IV – Rough Draft and Notes	n.d.
	26	A Grandmother	n.d.
	27	A Mysterious Package	n.d.
	28	A New Development	n.d.
	29	A Seder	n.d.
	30	Adoption	n.d.
	31	At the Hospital	n.d.

	32	Family Gathering	n.d.
	33	Final Chapter – The Theme of Change	n.d.
	34	In the Lawyer's Office	n.d.
	35	Jewish Customs	n.d.
	36	Memorial Service	n.d.
	37	Mrs. Roscow-Jones	n.d.
	38	Planning a Trip	n.d.
	39	Pro Bono	n.d.
	40	Rosh Hoshanah	n.d.
	41	Sarah's Story	n.d.
	42	Searching	n.d.
	43	Talking to Jenny	n.d.
	44	The Dreaded Visit	n.d.
	45	The Last Chapter	n.d.
	46	The Marina	n.d.
	47	Triumph and Disaster	n.d.
	48	Unusual Customs	n.d.
	49	Visits	n.d.
	50	Zayde's Funeral	n.d.
	51	Ellen's Book of Life	2008
	52	Ellen's Book of Life, Draft 4	n.d.
	53	Ellen's Book of Life, Page Proofs	2008
	54	Ellen's Book of Life, Part 1	2008
Box 4	55	Ellen's Book of Life, Part 2	2008
	56	Ellen Fremedon, Draft 5	n.d.
	57	Ellen Fremedon, Debater – Rough Draft and Notes	n.d.
	58	A Blow	n.d.
	59	A Late Supper	n.d.
	60	Action	n.d.
	61	Dinner Party	n.d.
	62	Ellen's Idea	n.d.
	63	Fiasco	n.d.
	64	Finding the Evidence	n.d.
	65	Giving Our Speeches	n.d.
	66	Horoscopes	n.d.
	67	In the City	n.d.
	68	In the Principal's Office	n.d.
	69	Kelly	n.d.
	70	Macaroni and Cheese	n.d.
	71	On the Ferry	n.d.
	72	Post Mortem	n.d.
	73	Provincial Debates	n.d.
	74	Simple Explanations	n.d.
	75	Speech Writing	n.d.
	76	Suspicion	n.d.
	77	The Billet	n.d.
	78	The Debating Society	n.d.
	79	The Intramural Debates	n.d.
	80	The Play	n.d.
	81	The Police Station	n.d.
	82	The Wind-Up of the Debating Club	n.d.
	83	Tournament in Vancouver	n.d.
	84	University Degrees	n.d.
	85	Vegetarianism	n.d.
	86	Writing Reports	n.d.
Box 5	87	Ellen Fremedon, Volunteer	n.d.

	88	Ellen Fremedon, Volunteer, Page Proofs	n.d.
	89	Half Known Lives, Research	1969-2005
	90	Half Known Lives, Rough Draft	n.d.
	91	Half Known Lives, Rough Draft	n.d.
	92	Half Known Lives, Rough Draft and Clippings	1980-1990
	93	Jean Rhys	1982
	94	Occasional Articles	1995-1998
Box 6	95	Prince Albert (A Writing Exercise)	1989-1990
	96	The Heart Does Break	2007-2008
	97	Unfortunate Incidents	n.d.
	98	Unpublished Writings	n.d.

Writings by Others

	99	Articles on Threats to Rainforests and Animal Rights	2006
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Audio Tapes

	1	CBC Morningside interview with Peter Gzowski	1995
	2	Conversations: Joan Givner and Joan Quarm. KTEP, El Paso, Texas	1984
	3	Documentary: Ronald Hambleton	1966
	4	Edward McVey: Comments on Joan Givner's Book: <i>A Life</i> . (part 1)	n.d.
	5	Edward McVey: Comments on Joan Givner's Book: <i>A Life</i> (part 2)	n.d.
	6	Interview: Bill Sounds. Topic: Mazo de la - #5	n.d.
	7	Interview: [Bill Sounds]. Topic: Mazo de la Roche - #6	n.d.
	8	Interview: Carolyn Clement by Ronald Hambleton Original Source: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto. (Reel 1)	1964.
	9	Interview: Carolyn Clement by Ronald Hambleton Original Source: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto. (Reel 2)	1964
	10	Interview: Carolyn Clement by Ronald Hambleton Original Source: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto. (Reel 2)	1964
	11	Interview: Carolyn Clement by Ronald Hambleton Original Source: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto. (Reel 3)	1964
	12	Interview: Elly Danica by Joan Givner, <i>34 Ways of Looking at Jane Eyre</i> (Tape 2)	n.d.
	13	Interview: Elly Danica by Joan Givner, <i>34 Ways of Looking at Jane Eyre</i> (Tape 3)	n.d.
	14	Interview: Esmee Ross, Toronto, Studio R.	1988
	15	Interview: Joan Givner - The Arts Tonight	n.d.
	16	Interview: Peter Gzowski	n.d.
	17	Interview: Ronald Hamilton T____ Studio D [on case label], "Hambleton" [on tape label]	1988
	18	Mazo de la Roche interviewed by Ronald Hambleton Original Source: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto	1955
	19	Peter Gzowski: Morningside Interview Unfortunate Incidents & Mazo de la Roche: <i>The Hidden Life</i> .	1989
	20	The Book Report: Guest – Joan Givner	n.d.