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2015-33

GERALD HILL

JULY 2015

BY KIEU MA

AND

ELIZABETH SEITZ

Biographical Sketch: Gerald (Gerry) Hill was born in 1951 to parents Alice and Don Hill of Herbert, Saskatchewan. Don, an educator and Superintendent of Schools in Herbert, would later move his family to Regina where he worked at the University of Regina until his retirement.

Gerald Hill acquired his love of language no doubt with the aid of the contents of his father's book case: from leather-bound Dickens to Louis L'Amour. Growing up, he read books of fiction, wrote rhyming verse, liked jazz and took part in the ways of the 1970's counter-culture.

Gerald's Bachelor degree of Education was completed in 1975 at the University of Calgary. He taught junior high Language for two years at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, and then went to Papua New Guinea as a Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) high school teacher in 1978. He returned to Canada in 1981 and took part in a one year creative writing studies program at David Thompson University Centre (DTUC) in Nelson, B.C. The influence of three writers from DTUC-- Fred Wah, Tom Wayman and Dave McFadden--remained an influence on Gerald's evolving writing style.

Hill moved back to Regina in 1982, supporting himself with teaching jobs, and joined the Saskatchewan Writers Guild. He met theatre artist Ruth Smillie at a writing retreat in Fort San. They married in 1984 and moved to Edmonton, where Ruth ran a theatre company and Hill taught adult education; they had three children before ending the marriage in 1992.

In 1990 Hill earned a Master of Arts degree in English from the University of Alberta and began work on his Ph.D. (unfinished). Gail Scott, Robert Kroetsch, Daniel Defoe, and H el ene Cixous were subjects of his academic articles; he also earned a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada doctoral fellowship.

Freelance writing and editing projects still supplement his income, and annual retreats, to Emma Lake and St. Peter's Abbey and other residencies, national and international, provide large amounts of writing time. His first poetry collection, *Heartwood*, was published in 1985 by Thistledown Press in Saskatoon, and by the 1990's his work had been published in more than two dozen literary magazines as well as several anthologies.

The Man from Saskatchewan, Hill's second collection, was published in 2001 by Coteau Books as well as a collection of mini-biographies of Saskatchewan men killed in World War II, *Their Names Live On* published by the Canadian Plains Research Centre with Doug Chisholm. Gerald Hill's third collection, *Getting To Know You*, won the Saskatchewan Book Award for Poetry in 2004, and *My Human Comedy* was published by Coteau in 2008. Hill's next poetry collection, *14 Tractors*, was published in 2009 by NeWest Press and won his second Saskatchewan Book Award for Poetry. In 2012 Hill published *Hillsdale, a Map* (with designer Jared Carlson) and a chapbook, *Street Pieces*, with Alfred Gustav Press. Work from both of those projects appeared in *Hillsdale Book*, a poetry collection published by NeWest Press in 2015.

In 2015, Gerald Hill retired from his Instructor position teaching English and Creative Writing at Luther College, University of Regina.

Written by Gerald (Gerry) Hill, 2015

Scope and Content: This collection is comprised of approximately 1 meter of paper material. It also includes 4 compact disks, 168 photograph, 5 inkjet photographs and 11 oversize items.

The collection ranges in dates from 1950 to 2014, it is comprised mainly of writing by Gerald Hill including drafts of his writing and photographs used in *Hillsdale Book – Poems by Gerald Hill* published in 2015. Also included in this collection are copies of other publications written by Gerald Hill.

Access Restrictions: There are no access restrictions.

Legal Agreement: The legal agreement is pending.

Note on Arrangement: Preservation photocopying was carried out where necessary; photographs were numbered and sleeved and oversize replacement forms were made for oversize material before it was placed together into one oversize folder. Compact disks #1, 2, 3 contained text files which were printed and added to the folders, Disk #4 contained images that were saved to the University's servers for interim preservation.

Box 1	1	Muses / Heroes / Companions (the last figures on office door at Luther College)	
		Professional Activities	
	2	Luther College (Poet Laureate) (on the occasion of Luther College 100 th Anniversary (includes drafts and correspondence and Inkjet Photographs #1 - #5)	2013
	3	Miscellaneous professional activities folder (includes writing) (includes Photograph #1)	
	4	Talking Fresh Archives (includes Compact Disks #1 and #2 (printed) ; Oversize Posters #1 - #8 and Photographs #2 - #6)	2003-2006
		Publications by Gerald Hill	
	5	<i>14 Tractors – Poems by Gerald Hill (The Man from Saskatchewan, Book 3)</i> , 2009 <i>Five Stories Eight Poems</i> , 1982 <i>Getting to Know You</i> , 2003 <i>Heartwood</i> , 1985 <i>Hillsdale Book – Poems by Gerald Hill</i> , 2015 <i>My Human Comedy (The Man from Saskatchewan, Book 2)</i> , 2008 <i>The Man from Saskatchewan</i> , 2002 <i>Pith and Pictures</i> , n.d.	
		Publications Edited by Gerald Hill	
	6	<i>Let's Call It a Donkey Anyways</i> (an English 252 Anthology)	April 2011
		Publications Featuring Writing by Gerald Hill	
Box 2	7	<i>Canadian Literature</i> 222 (page 69)	Autumn 2014
	8	<i>Dalhousie Review</i> (page 93)	Spring 2015
	9	<i>The Fiddlehead</i> No. 263 (page 53)	Spring 2005
	10	<i>Foodworks Plums in the Icebox</i> (Chapbook) (page 22)	April 2015
	11	<i>Grain</i> Volume 42.2 (page 71)	Winter 2014
	12	<i>New Quarterly</i> Volume XVIII, No. 1, (page 235)	Spring 1988
		Writing by Gerald Hill	
	13	Belief	
	14	Cities – Draft ?	
	15	Cities – Draft 1	
	16	Cities – Draft 2	
	17	Cities – Draft 3	
	18	Cities – Draft 4	
	19	Cities – Draft 5	
	20	Cities – Draft 6	
Box 3	21	Cities – Draft 7	
	22	Cities – Draft 8	
	23	Cities – Draft 11	
	24	Cities – Draft 12	
	25	Cities – Draft 13	
	26	Cities – Draft 14	
	27	Cities – Lisbon	
	28	Cities – Miscellaneous edits	
	29	Compact Disk # 3 (Compact Disk includes ms04.doc; ms05.doc; msNew.doc; <i>My Human Comedy</i> .doc; Slush4.doc; <i>That Sweet Light</i> .doc) (disk printed) (folder includes <i>My Human Comedy</i> Oversize Poster #9) (on foam-board)	
	30	For the Name is the Only Thing Constant – draft	

Box 4	31	For the Name is the Only Thing Constant – final	
	32	Getting to Know You (Oversize Poster #10) (on foam board)	
	33	Hillsdale Book – A Map (includes correspondence and Oversize Map #11)	
	34	Hillsdale Book – (Close to final draft) includes photographs # 7 – # 40)	
	35	Hillsdale Book – (Edits May 2014 – August 2014)	
	36	Hillsdale Book – Marlatt notes	2010
	37	Hillsdale Book – Miscellaneous	
	38	Hillsdale Book – Notes	
	39	Hillsdale Book – Notes 1	
	40	Hillsdale Book – Photographs (includes Photographs # 41 - 70)	
	41	Hillsdale Book – Photographs (Whitmore Park) (includes Photographs # 71 - # 75) (3 photographs are on foam-board)	
	42	Hillsdale Book – Research	1950, 1953, 1956 - 1960, 1963, 1965, 1982, 2009
Box 5	43	Hillsdale Book – Research (includes Compact Disk # 4) (disk saved to University server)	
	44	Hillsdale Book – Research Photographs (#76 - # 168)	
	45	Hillsdale Book – Slush	
	46	Learning to Draw / City (From the Man From Saskatchewan Book Six)	
	47	Moments Later Poems for Public Occasions (From the Man From Saskatchewan Book Six)	
	48	Moments Later: Recent Poems	
	49	<i>Natural Cause: the Poems of Stan Still</i> (From the Man From Saskatchewan Book 4) (includes EnRoute magazine July 2011 (page 68 and CBC Literary Award)	
	50	Notebook – green	July 13, 2009
Box 6	51	Notebook – grey – Lisbon	January 8, 2010
	52	Notebook – white	May 3, 2010
	53	Notebook – small blue	[2011]
	54	Notebook – green	January 25, 2011
	55	Notebook – brown cloth 'Favorite Fairy Tales Told in England' cover	August 4, 2011
	56	Notebook – black	December 20, 2011
	57	Notebook – black	April 11, 2012
Box 7	58	Notebook – black	November 2012
	59	Notebook – black	May 30, 2013
	60	Notebook – black	Summer 2013
	61	Notebook – black	August 6, 2013
	62	Notebook – black	October 24, 2014
Box 8	63	Poems for an Office Door (taped on office door over the years)	2008, 2009
	64	Portugal - notes	2010
	65	Stan Still Slush	
	66	Vigo Bay	
		Writing by Others	
	67	Chapbooks: Pamela Banting; Courtney Bates; George Bowering; Hilary Clark and Steven Ross Smith; Barry Dempster; John Donlan; An English 252 Collaboration; Victor Enns; Ian Letoureau; Rhonda McAdam; Cassidy and Jonah McFadzean; Jill S. Morgyn; N. Thompson; Fred Wah; Bernadette L. Wagner; Janice Williamson; David Zieroth	