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JOAN GIVNER

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BY KIEU MA
AND
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.

Joan Givner's Ph.D. thesis is titled *A Critical Study of the Worlds of Katherine Anne Porter* (1972), since then, Joan was chosen by Katherine Anne Porter to undertake the task of writing Porter's biography. *Katherine Anne Porter: A Life* was published in 1982. Other publications by Givner are *Tentacles of Unreason* (1985), *Katherine Anne Porter: Conversations* (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: The date range is from 1990 to 1995, predominantly 1994 to 1995.

Custodial History: The collection was given to the Archives and Special Collection in June 1995.

Note on Arrangement: Preservation photocopying was required and carried out on newspaper clippings and pages that had been taped together.

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 and 94-79.

Box 1	Correspondence	
1	General	1994, 1995
2	Family	
	Friends	
3	Banting, Pamela	1994
4	Boan, Jack	1995
5	Bogg, Dorothy	n.d.
6	Brady, Paul C.	1994
7	Butala, Sharon	1995
8	Byrd, Scott	1995
9	Christmas and Birthday Cards	1994, 1995
10	Crossman, Les	1994
11	Gerber, Merrill	1995
12	Goldman, Lyn	1995
13	Gunnars, Kristjana	1994
14	Hodgson, Heather	1995
15	Kirk, Morris and Myrtle	1994
16	Louis, Cameron and Mary Blackstock	1995
17	Mallon, Ed	1995
18	McCarthy, Vernon	1995
19	Porterfield, Billy	1993
20	Robbins, Ron	1995
21	Ruddick, Nick	1995
22	Smythe, Karen	1995
23	White, Pam	1995
24	Wiseman, Christopher	1995
	Joan Givner	
25	Biographical Material / Curriculum Vitae	n.d.
	Grants and Awards	
26	Government of Saskatchewan (Canada 125 Medal)	1993
27	Ontario Arts Council	1992
28	Miscellaneous	
	Professional Activities	
29	11 Annual Western Magazine Awards	1993
30	Books in Canada	1995
31	Bratton, Daniel	1994
32	Brentwood College School	1994
33	The Canada Council	1992
34	Canadian Association of Journalists	1995
35	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)	1995
36	Canadian Inflight Magazine	1995
37	Carleton University	1991
38	Cormorant Books	n.d.
39	Coteau Books	1994
40	ECW Press	1990
41	Elizabeth	1995
42	Federation of British Columbia Writers	1995

	43	Fiddlehead The	1994
CLOSED	44	Flynn, Don, S.J.	1995
	45	Freelance	1995
	46	Georgia Center for Continuing Education	1995
	47	Georgia State university	1990
	48	Grain	1995
	49	Harper Collins Publishers	1994
	50	Houston Baptist University	1988
	51	International Fiction Review	1995
	52	Johnson, Jennifer	1995
	53	Katherine Anne Porter At One Hundred: New Perspectives Conference and Exhibition	May 9 – 11, 1991
	54	Logan, Carolyn	1994
	55	Louisiana State University	1991
	56	Malahat Review	1995
	57	Magazine for Unusually Gifted Scribblers	n.d.
	58	Milkweed Editions	1994
	59	National Newspaper Awards	1995
	60	Neely, Stacia Dunn	1995
	61	Newest	1995
	62	New Star Books	1995
	63	Oberon Press	1995
	64	Orca Book Publishers Ltd.	1995
	65	Playwrights Canadian Press	1994
	66	Quarry magazine	n.d.
	67	Quill and Quire	n.d.
	68	Saint Olaf College	1994
	69	Saskatchewan Arts Board	1991
	70	Saskatchewan Playwright Centre	1992
	71	Saskatchewan Writers Guild	1991
	72	Simon Fraser University	1994, 1995
	73	Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada	1995
	74	South Central review	1992
	75	Southwest review	1995
	76	Times Colonist	1995
	77	The Union Institute	1990
	78	University of Alberta	1994
	79	University of Georgia Press	1995
Box 2	80	University of Houston	1994
	81	University of New Brunswick	1993
	82	University of Regina	1993
	83	University of Texas Press	1995
	84	University of Toronto	1991
	85	University of Virginia Press	1995
	86	Wascana Review	1995
	87	Western Magazine Awards	1993
	88	Who's Who of Canadian Women	1995
		Writing by Joan Givner	
	89	Acts of Faith: The Preservation of Literary Archives	
	90	Bennett and Mrs. Brown / Mrs. Whitaker and Mrs. Jones	
	91	Chiaroscuro / Pilgrimage in Unpredictable Weather / Pilgrimage in Winter	
	92	Christmas Revisited	

93	Elizabeth II
94	Ellen Fremedon
95	Elly Danica: A Profile
96	Gentle Art of Blurb Writing
97	Last Day at the Beach
98	Lithotripsy
99	Three Lives
100	Three Students at a Time
101	Uncovering the Secret Live of Katherine Anne Porter
	Writing by Others
102	Cameron, Elspeth. Earl Birney A Life
103	Johnson, Jennifer. The Truth About What Happens, Katherine Anne Porter and Journalism
104	Stout, Janis. Katherine Anne Porter: A Sense of Time