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Ruth Mendelsohn papers, 1969-1995

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library

University of New England

716 Stevens Avenue

Portland, Maine 04103

mwwc@une.edu

URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Maine Women Writers Collection
Creator:	Mendelsohn, Ruth
Title:	Ruth Mendelsohn papers
ID:	0251
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/3/resources/452
Date [inclusive]:	1969-1995, undated
Physical Description:	1.75 linear feet 3 boxes (1 oversize)
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Ruth Mendelsohn papers, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

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Biographical / Historical

Born in 1949, Ruth Mendelsohn grew up in Cleveland, Ohio and graduated from the University of Oregon. In 1978, she moved to Maine where she lived, among other places, in Portland and East Vassalboro. She worked as a journalist for the Lewiston Daily Sun, and as a freelance writer. Her chapbook, *Sixteen Pastorals*, won the first Maine State Commission on the Arts & Humanities' poetry chapbook competition in 1982. This chapbook, published by Theodore Press of Bangor, was Mendelsohn's first ever poetry submission, for which she won \$100. She died in 2009 in Scarborough, Maine at the age of sixty.

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists largely of poem drafts (handwritten and typed) and notes for poems and other writing projects. It includes copies of, and publicity/correspondence about, her chapbook, *Sixteen Pastorals*. The collection also includes materials from writing classes, correspondence to/from family and friends, tax paperwork as well as photographs.

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into six series: 1. Poems; 2. Prose; 3. Personal; 4. Correspondence; 5. Photographs; 6. Notes & Fragments.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library
University of New England
716 Stevens Avenue
Portland, Maine 04103
mwwc@une.edu
URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Controlled Access Headings

- Correspondence
- Photographs
- American poetry -- 20th century
- Mendelsohn, Ruth

Collection Inventory

Poems, 1969-1993, undated

Physical Description: 42 folders

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
[Typed poems], 1969, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 001
"Two Brothers" & Letter from father, 1980, 1992, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 002
	Box 1	Folder 003
	Box 1	Folder 005
	Box 1	Folder 006
Sixteen Pastorals chapbook, 1983 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 006
Sixteen Pastorals correspondence, 1982-1988, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 007
Sixteen Pastorals Press, 1983-84, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 008
Sixteen Pastorals printer's proof, 1983 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 009
Sixteen Pastorals photocopies, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 010
"Phone Call", 1984, undated	Box 1	Folder 011

<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Changing Places" correspondence & critiques, 1985, undated	Box 3	Folder 012
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 3	Folder 013
	Box 1	Folder 014
"One More Death", 1987	Box 1	Folder 015
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Fall", 1991, undated	Box 1	Folder 016
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
New Poem (companion to "Changing Places"), 1992, undated	Box 1	Folder 017
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Sarajevo, Autumn '92", undated	Box 3	Folder 018
<u>Physical Location:</u> OVS in Box 3		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Sarajevo, Autumn '92" in Maine Progressive, 1993	Box 1	Folder 019
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"After Syzygy", undated	Box 1	Folder 020
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"All Done", undated	Box 1	Folder 021
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Blues Lyric", undated	Box 1	Folder 022
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Child Ballad 10", undated	Box 1	Folder 023
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Descant on Shame/Fifth Night", undated	Box 1	Folder 024
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"The Dyads", undated	Box 1	Folder 025
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Four Corners", undated	Box 1	Folder 026
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Good Sleepers", undated	Box 1	Folder 027
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
[It is dawn in the Grange Hall], undated	Box 1	Folder 028
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"July", undated	Box 1	Folder 029

<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Lily Day at Alna", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 030
"The Lupine", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 031
"Luteal", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 032
"Massage Poems", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 033
"Night Highway", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 034
"Noon, Dec. 21", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 035
"Proximity", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 036
[The Quaker Graveyard in E. Vassalboro], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 037
"At Speed", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 038
"Still Another Meditation on Power", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 039
"Two Teachers", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 040
"A Waltz"/"Learning to Waltz", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 041
"Warm Week in February", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 042

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Prose, 1983-1994, undated

Physical Description: 11 folders

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
The Lewiston Daily Sun Article, 1980	Box 1	Folder 001

<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.		
"The Salmon Woman", 1983, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 002
Notes for a book review, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 003
Piece about trip to Romania, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 005
[Public Libraries], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 006
[Mother's Dream], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 007
Hariette Arnow [essay], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 008
Budapest visit, undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 009
Writings on Chaucer, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 010
Instructor comments from class "Memoir, Autobiography & Narrative Nonfiction", 1994 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 011
Materials from class "Memoir, Autobiography and Narrative Nonfiction", 1994 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 012

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Personal, 1975-1993, undated

Physical Description: 9 folders

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Resume & biographical information, 1982 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 001
Taxes, 1975-1986 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 002
Special health concerns, 1986	Box 1	Folder 003

Language of the Material: English.

Style sheets, 1985 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 004
Freelance work - notes, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 005
Research articles, 1992-1993 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 006
Job possibilities, 1980, undated <u>Physical Location:</u> OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 3	Folder 007
Telling the Story: The Media, The Public and American History (a national conference), 1993 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 008
Family tree, undated <u>Physical Location:</u> OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 3	Folder 009

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Correspondence, 1975-1995, undated

Physical Description: 10 folders

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Letters from Father, 1975-1990, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 001
Letters from Mother, 1977-1992, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 002
Letters from Carl Dennis, 1983-84 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 003
Letters from William C. Mutch, 1987, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 004
Letters from/to Ray Neinstein, 1984-1986, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 005
Letter to Ray with "The Dyads" & "Lily Day at Alna", undated	Box 1	Folder 006

Language of the Material: English.

Letters from Marilyn Devroye, 1987-1995 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 007
Letters from Ruth, 1984-1992, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 008
Notes, 1962, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 009
Other Letters, 1983-1991, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 010

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Photographs, 1983-2008, undated

Physical Description: 1 Photographic Prints

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs, 1983-85, 2008, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 001

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Notes & Fragments, 1984-1993, undated

Physical Description: 85 folders

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
The Auction, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 001
Bases, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 002
[Begging for an end to passion], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 003
[The Best and other jottings], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 004
[The Big Release], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 005
[Birdy], undated	Box 1	Folder 006

<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.		
[Blacking the Defiant], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 007
"Blake's Dante", undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 008
[The Bleaching Ground], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 009
bodywork, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 010
[The Dead], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 011
[A Deep-Harbored Secret], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 012
[Desire], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 013
[Desire at the Beach], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 014
Diary entries, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 015
Dreams, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 016
[dreams all through the night], undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 017
[Eavesdropping], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 018
"Eight Nights at Weatherbye Beach", undated <u>Physical Location</u> : in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 019
"The End of Desire", undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 020
[enter/basket/whole poem], undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 021
"Finger picking", undated	Box 1	Folder 022

<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
[The Firefighter], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 023
[Form and Color], 1985, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 024
[Form traps motion], undated <u>Physical Location:</u> OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 3	Folder 025
"Full Force of These Feelings", undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 026
[For Gail], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 027
[Good Sleepers], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 028
[Grief, Rock Climber], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 029
[head of the hub], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 030
Health Record notebook, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 031
[How bright the muzzle], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 032
[The Hunger to Give], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 033
[The hungry flowers blooms in your mouth], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 034
[I am a monster], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 035
[I know], undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 036
[I know now that I have regained my country], 1992, undated <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 037
[Just as the Writer], 1993, undated	Box 1	Folder 038

<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.		
[Just the forward motion of the pen], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 039
[J.W./An Elegy], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 040
[kitchen poems], 1986, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 041
Library poems, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 042
[Lilies], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 043
[living room], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 044
["Looking through a Gesture"], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 045
["The Map of Mount Chocorua" and other pages], undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 046
[Meditations on Form], undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 047
["My hero"], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 048
[My Interlocutor], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 049
"A Notebook Only for Time" + yellow notepad, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 050
[Notes on colored index cards], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 051
	Box 2	Folder 052
	Box 2	Folder 053
Notes on Death, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 054
[now the black gel is water again], undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3	Box 3	Folder 055

<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.		
[an open space], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 056
[Penitence, The Scapegoat, other jottings], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 057
[The Pile of Chairs], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 058
[Poems for the Thaw], 1983, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 059
[proof of white hands], 1984, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 060
[Purple flowered lamb's ear and other fragments], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 061
"Reversing Metamorphoses", undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 062
[Rotted log and other jottings], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 063
"semisestina", undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 064
sestina drafts, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 065
[small leaf], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 066
Songs, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 067
[Spring], undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 2	Folder 068
"A Statehouse" and other pages, undated <u>Physical Location</u> : OVS in Box 3 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 3	Folder 069
[Stove], undated	Box 2	Folder 070

Language of the Material: English.

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