



ArchivesSpace

Ruth Mendelsohn papers, 1969-1995

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

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

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Summary Information

Repository:	Maine Women Writers Collection
Creator:	Mendelsohn, Ruth
Title:	Ruth Mendelsohn papers
ID:	0251
Date [inclusive]:	1969-1995, undated
Physical Description:	1.75 linear feet
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 Vasselboro. 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 & the 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

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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
- Mendelsohn, Ruth

Collection Inventory

Poems, 1969-1993, undated

Physical Description: 42 folders

Title/Description	Instances	
[Typed poems], 1969, undated	box 1	folder 001
"Two Brothers" & Letter from father, 1980, 1992, undated	box 1	folder 002
	box 1	folder 003
	box 1	folder 005
	box 1	folder 006
Sixteen Pastorals chapbook, 1983	box 1	folder 006
Sixteen Pastorals correspondence, 1982-1988, undated	box 1	folder 007
Sixteen Pastorals Press, 1983-84, undated	box 1	folder 008
Sixteen Pastorals printer's proof, 1983	box 1	folder 009
Sixteen Pastorals photocopies, undated	box 1	folder 010
"Phone Call", 1984, undated	box 1	folder 011
"Changing Places" correspondence & critiques, 1985, undated	box 1	folder 012
	Box 1	folder 013
	box 1	folder 014
"One More Death", 1987	box 1	folder 015
"Fall", 1991, undated	box 1	folder 016
New Poem (companion to "Changing Places"), 1992, undated	box 1	folder 017

"Sarajevo, Autumn '92", undated	box 1	folder 018
"Sarajevo, Autumn '92" in Maine Progressive, 1993	box 1	folder 019
"After Syzygy", undated	box 1	folder 020
"All Done", undated	box 1	folder 021
"Blues Lyric", undated	box 1	folder 022
"Child Ballad 10", undated	box 1	folder 023
"Descant on Shame/Fifth Night", undated	box 1	folder 024
"The Dyads", undated	box 1	folder 025
"Four Corners", undated	box 1	folder 026
"Good Sleepers", undated	box 1	folder 027
[It is dawn in the Grange Hall], undated	box 1	folder 028
"July", undated	box 1	folder 029
"Lily Day at Alna", undated	box 1	folder 030
"The Lupine", undated	box 1	folder 031
"Luteal", undated	Box 1	folder 032
"Massage Poems", undated	Box 1	folder 033
"Night Highway", undated	Box 1	folder 034
"Noon, Dec. 21", undated	Box 1	folder 035
"Proximity", undated	Box 1	folder 036
[The Quaker Graveyard in E. Vassalboro], undated	Box 1	folder 037
"At Speed", undated	Box 1	folder 038
"Still Another Meditation on Power", undated	Box 1	folder 039
"Two Teachers", undated	Box 1	folder 040
"A Waltz"/"Learning to Waltz", undated	Box 1	folder 041
"Warm Week in February", undated	Box 1	folder 042

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Prose, 1983-1994, undated

Physical Description: 11 folders

Title/Description	Instances	
The Lewiston Daily Sun Article, 1980	Box 1	folder 001
"The Salmon Woman", 1983, undated	Box 1	folder 002

Notes for a book review, undated	Box 1	folder 003
SBA [Susan B. Anthony], undated	Box 1	folder 004
Piece about trip to Romania, undated	Box 1	folder 005
[Public Libraries], undated	Box 1	folder 006
[Mother's Dream], undated	Box 1	folder 007
Hariette Arnow [essay], undated	Box 1	folder 008
Budapest visit, undated	Box 1	folder 009
Writings on Chaucer, undated	Box 1	folder 010
Instructor comments from class "Memoir, Autobiography & Narrative Nonfiction", 1994	Box 1	folder 011
Materials from class "Memoir, Autobiography and Narrative Nonfiction", 1994	Box 1	folder 012

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Personal, 1975-1993, undated

Physical Description: 9 folders

Title/Description	Instances	
Resume & biographical information, 1982	Box 1	folder 001
Taxes, 1975-1986	Box 1	folder 002
Special health concerns, 1986	Box 1	folder 003
Style sheets, 1985	Box 1	folder 004
Freelance work - notes, undated	Box 1	folder 005
Research articles, 1992-1993	Box 1	folder 006
Job possibilities, 1980, undated	Box 1	folder 007
Telling the Story: The Media, The Public and American History (a national conference), 1993	Box 1	folder 008
Family tree, undated	Box 1	folder 009

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Correspondence, 1975-1995, undated

Physical Description: 10 folders

Title/Description	Instances	
Letters from Father, 1975-1990, undated	Box 1	folder 001

Letters from Mother, 1977-1992, undated	Box 1	folder 002
Letters from Carl Dennis, 1983-84	Box 1	folder 003
Letters from William C. Mutch, 1987, undated	Box 1	folder 004
Letters from/to Ray Neinstein, 1984-1986, undated	Box 1	folder 005
Letter to Ray with "The Dyads" & "Lily Day at Alna", undated	Box 1	folder 006
Letters from Marilyn Devroye, 1987-1995	Box 1	folder 007
Letters from Ruth, 1984-1992, undated	Box 1	folder 008
Notes, 1962, undated	Box 1	folder 009
Other Letters, 1983-1991, undated	Box 1	folder 010

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Photographs, 1983-2008, undated

Physical Description: 1 Photographic Prints

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs, 1983-85, 2008, undated	Box 1	folder 001

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Notes & Fragments, 1984-1993, undated

Physical Description: 85 folders

Title/Description	Instances	
The Auction, undated	Box 1	folder 001
Bases, undated	Box 1	folder 002
[Begging for an end to passion], undated	Box 1	folder 003
[The Best and other jottings], undated	Box 1	folder 004
[The Big Release], undated	Box 1	folder 005
[Birdy], undated	Box 1	folder 006
[Blacking the Defiant], undated	Box 1	folder 007
"Blake's Dante", undated	Box 1	folder 008
[The Bleaching Ground], undated	Box 1	folder 009
bodywork, undated	Box 1	folder 010
[The Dead], undated	Box 1	folder 011
[A Deep-Harbored Secret], undated		

	Box 1	folder 012
[Desire], undated	Box 1	folder 013
[Desire at the Beach], undated	Box 1	folder 014
Diary entries, undated	Box 1	folder 015
Dreams, undated	Box 1	folder 016
[dreams all through the night], undated	Box 1	folder 017
[Eavesdropping], undated	Box 1	folder 018
"Eight Nights at Weatherbye Beach", undated	Box 1	folder 019
"The End of Desire", undated	Box 1	folder 020
[enter/basket/whole poem], undated	Box 1	folder 021
"Finger picking", undated	Box 1	folder 022
[The Firefighter], undated	Box 1	folder 023
[Form and Color], 1985, undated	Box 1	folder 024
[Form traps motion], undated	Box 1	folder 025
"Full Force of These Feelings", undated	Box 1	folder 026
[For Gail], undated	Box 1	folder 027
[Good Sleepers], undated	Box 1	folder 028
[Grief, Rock Climber], undated	Box 1	folder 029
[head of the hub], undated	Box 1	folder 030
Health Record notebook, undated	Box 1	folder 031
[How bright the muzzle], undated	Box 1	folder 032
[The Hunger to Give], undated	Box 1	folder 033
[The hungry flowers blooms in your mouth], undated	Box 1	folder 034
[I am a monster], undated	Box 1	folder 035
[I know], undated	Box 1	folder 036
[I know now that I have regained my country], 1992, undated	Box 1	folder 037
[Just as the Writer], 1993, undated	Box 1	folder 038
[Just the forward motion of the pen], undated	Box 1	folder 039
[J.W./An Elegy], undated	Box 1	folder 040
[kitchen poems], 1986, undated	Box 2	folder 041
Library poems, undated	Box 2	folder 042
[Lilies], undated	Box 2	folder 043

[living room], undated	Box 2	folder 044
["Looking through a Gesture"], undated	Box 2	folder 045
["The Map of Mount Chocorua" and other pages], undated	Box 2	folder 046
[Meditations on Form], undated	Box 2	folder 047
["My hero"], undated	Box 2	folder 048
[My Interlocutor], undated	Box 2	folder 049
"A Notebook Only for Time" + yellow notepad, undated	Box 2	folder 050
[Notes on colored index cards], undated	Box 2	folder 051
	Box 2	folder 052
	box 2	folder 053
Notes on Death, undated	Box 2	folder 054
[now the black gel is water again], undated	Box 2	folder 055
[an open space], undated	Box 2	folder 056
[Penitence, The Scapegoat, other jottings], undated	Box 2	folder 057
[The Pile of Chairs], undated	Box 2	folder 058
[Poems for the Thaw], 1983, undated	Box 2	folder 059
[proof of white hands], 1984, undated	Box 2	folder 060
[Purple flowered lamb's ear and other fragments], undated	Box 2	folder 061
"Reversing Metamorphoses", undated	Box 2	folder 062
[Rotted log and other jottings], undated	Box 2	folder 063
"semisestina", undated	Box 2	folder 064
sestina drafts, undated	Box 2	folder 065
[small leaf], undated	Box 2	folder 066
Songs, undated	Box 2	folder 067
[Spring], undated	Box 2	folder 068
"A Statehouse" and other pages, undated	Box 2	folder 069
[Stove], undated	Box 2	folder 070
"Summer's Gate", undated	box 002	folder 071
"They are doughy with them", undated	box 002	folder 072
"They were Our Neighbors", undated	box 002	folder 073
[Thunderheads], undated	box 002	folder 074
"To the Coast"/"The Hunger to Give", 1984, undated	box 002	folder 075

[trifles of dusk], undated	box 002	folder 076
"Twenty Four Photographs", undated	box 002	folder 077
[Twilight at French's], undated	box 002	folder 078
"Two Brothers"; "The Eldest: At the All-Night Dance"; and untitled fragments, undated	box 002	folder 079
[Two Chefs], undated	box 002	folder 080
"The Walking Bass", undated	box 002	folder 081
[Weatherby Beach], undated	box 002	folder 082
[which type of love is absent], undated	box 002	folder 083
[Window Repair], undated	box 002	folder 084
[you do have such a way of putting things], undated	box 002	folder 085

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