

GREGG, LINDA.

Linda Gregg papers, 1898-2019 (bulk 1942-2019)

Emory University
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Collection Stored Off-Site

All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Gregg, Linda.
Title: Linda Gregg papers, 1898-2019 (bulk 1942-2019)
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1515
Extent: 48.125 linear feet (49 boxes)
Abstract: Papers of American poet Linda Gregg, including correspondence, writings, printed material, writings by others, books, photographs, financial records, subject files, and audiovisual material.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

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Related Materials in This Repository

Jack Gilbert papers

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Source

Purchased from James Jaffe representing Louise Gregg, 2021

Custodial History

Louise Gregg is Linda Gregg's sister and executor of her estate. Book dealer James Jaffe brokered the sale and coordinated transfer. David Semanki is the executor of Linda Gregg's and Jack Gilbert's literary estates and inventoried much of Gregg's papers. Semanki shipped some material directly to Jaffe and some material to the Rose Library.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Linda Gregg papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note

Literary and Poetry Collections Librarian Nick Twemlow acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library's holdings in twentieth century poetry. During accessioning in 2021, Rose Library staff removed and returned a pair of shoes, two dresses, and an overcoat, though notes provided by David Semanki describing their importance to Gregg were retained. Appraisal decisions were made by Accessioning Archivist Meaghan O'Riordan in consultation with Nick Twemlow.

Processing

Arranged and described at the collection level by Meaghan O'Riordan, September 2021. In the course of inventorying Gregg's papers as part of his role as the executor of her literary estate, David Semanki refoldered and described a significant portion of the material and imposed arrangement on that material. O'Riordan kept the files Semanki created together where possible. Audiovisual material mostly had handwritten labels that O'Riordan transcribed, so sometimes information may be incomplete or unclear.

This finding aid may include language that is offensive or harmful. Please refer to the Rose Library's [harmful language statement](#) for more information about why such language may appear and ongoing efforts to remediate racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, euphemistic and other oppressive language. If you are concerned about language used in this finding aid, please contact us at rose.library@emory.edu.

Collection Description**Biographical Note**

Linda Alouise Gregg was born on September 9, 1942, in Suffern, New York, to Frances (Rundall) and Harold Gregg. She had three sisters: Chloe MacDonald, Susan Conrad, and Louise Belinda Gregg (who is her twin). She grew up in Marin County, California, and received both her Bachelor of Arts (1967) and Master of Arts (1972) from San Francisco State College (now University; California). Her first book of poems, *Too Bright to See*, was published in 1981.

Other published books include *Alma* (1985), *The Sacraments of Desire* (1991), *Chosen by the Lion: Poems* (1995), *Things and Flesh: Poems* (1999), *In the Middle Distance: Poems* (2006), and *All of It Singing: New and Selected Poems* (2008). Her poems also appeared in numerous literary magazines, including *Ploughshares*, *The New Yorker*, *the Paris Review*, the

Kenyon Review, and the Atlantic Monthly. She also taught poetry at numerous colleges and universities, including the University of Arizona (Tempe), University of Iowa (Iowa City), Columbia University (New York, New York), the University of California at Berkeley, and Princeton University (New Jersey), but never took a full-time, permanent position. She returned to New York in 2006.

Gregg had a long relationship, first romantic and later platonic, with the poet Jack Gilbert with whom she spent several years living in Greece and Denmark in the 1960s. Gregg served as Gilbert's literary executor after his death in 2012. Once their romantic relationship ended, Gregg married John Brentlinger; they divorced in 1990. Gregg died of cancer at the Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital in New York City on March 20, 2019.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of American poet, Linda Gregg, including correspondence, writings, printed material, writings by others, books, photographs, financial records, subject files, and audiovisual material from 1898-2019 (bulk 1942-2019). A significant portion of the correspondence is between Gregg and poet Jack Gilbert, some of which accompanies drafts of poems with his notes in the margins. While most of the drafts of Gilbert's work that Gregg annotated are part of the Jack Gilbert papers, some are included here as well. Writings are comprised of drafts of poems published in her books and in literary magazines, including complete book drafts. Some of these poems and book drafts have annotations other than Gilbert's. Printed material primarily consists of clippings or complete works that feature Gregg's or Gilbert's work. Most of the audiovisual material consists of audio recordings of Li-Young Lee, a Chinese poet born in Indonesia to political exile. Many of these recordings include Gregg. There is also a significant number of recordings of *The Writer's Almanac*, a radio program-turned-podcast hosted by Garrison Keillor that always includes one or more poems chosen by Keillor. Also included are recordings made by Gilbert, often as gifts to Gregg, and a few poetry readings by Gregg, Gilbert, Donald Brees, and Peter Cole at a workshop in Paros, Greece.

Arrangement Note

Arranged in alphabetical order.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
45	-	"Airport," 1991 February 25 [original: microcassette tape]
49	-	Artwork, photographs, and printed material, 1942-1984
12	-	Books, 1998-2012
13	-	Books, 1998-2017
45	-	"A Christmas Gift for Linda" [most likely from Jack Gilbert], Tokyo, Japan, 1974 July 10 [original: audiocassette tape]
45	-	Christmas sounds and Chinese song, 1991 [original: microcassette tape]
10	-	Correspondence, 1980-1987
9	-	Correspondence, 1980-2005
12	-	Correspondence, 1982-1984
25	-	Correspondence, 1982-2017
20	-	Correspondence, 1983-2000
3	-	Correspondence and personal papers, 1968-1998
24	-	Correspondence and printed material, 2004-2017
5	-	Correspondence and writings, 1981-1997
43	-	Correspondence with Jack Gilbert, 1962-1979
30	-	Correspondence with Jack Gilbert, 1984-1997
31	-	Correspondence with Jack Gilbert, 1988-1994
4	-	Correspondence, photographs, and writings, 1967-1993
11	-	Correspondence, primarily between Jack Gilbert and Linda Gregg, 1963-1988
14	-	Correspondence, printed material, and notes, 1999-2012
47	-	Correspondence, writings, artwork, and printed material, 1952-2012
8	-	Doll, Raggedy Ann [Annie], made by Grandmother Gregg, undated
8	-	Doll, "Piggy," made by Grandmother Gregg, undated
45	-	<i>The Executive Voice</i> , Greek classes, 1972 [7 tapes] [original: audiocassette tape]
37	-	Financial records, 2006-2019
42	-	Financial records, 2012-2019
39	-	Financial records relating to Jack Gilbert's estate, 1996-2016
45	-	Gilbert, Jack, "Birthday greetings from Jack from the island of Paros to wherever Linda is," 1979 August 23-24 [original: audiocassette tape]
1	-	Gilbert, Jack, book manuscripts, 2011
2	-	Gilbert, Jack, book manuscripts, 2010
45	-	Gilbert, Jack, craft lecture in St. Helena, California (July 28) and poetry reading at Silverado Vineyards in Napa, California (July 29), 1997 [original: audiocassette tape]
45	-	Gilbert, Jack, "Final version of the watershed tape for Linda's birthday (a little belatedly), 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]

- 45 - Gilbert, Jack, phone, Iowa, 1989 and Li-Young Lee, Portland, Oregon, 1990 April 20 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gilbert, Jack, ping pong champion trophy, undated
- 45 - Gilbert, Jack, stamp of signature, undated
- 31 - Gilbert, Jack, writings, 1962-1987
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, 1990 April 12 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, 1990 August [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, acid, 1991 January 4 [1] [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, acid, 1991 January 4 [2] [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, airport, 1991 February 25 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee on the telephone, Houston, Texas, 1990 October [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda and Li-Young Lee, phone, Portland, Oregon, 1990 April 18 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda, poem and Li-Young Lee, 1994 October 29 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda, "Poems to a Listener," WFCR series 7, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda, poetry writing, 1971 December 2 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda, talking to Li-Young Lee, California, 1990 February 21-26 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Gregg, Linda, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 45 - Haugen, Nancy, 1991 February 16 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Haugen, Nancy, 1991 February 18 and April 13 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, 1990 April 24-25 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, 1994 October 29 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Chicago (Illinois), and Linda Gregg and Lee poetry ASCID I, 1990 December [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, China, and Lee returns, 1990 May 1-June 15 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Folger Library, "Places in the Mind," 1997 March 11 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Houston, Texas, stories, songs, sex, talking, eating, sleepy, 1990 November; Nancy Haugen, "8 pigs, Linda and bread, Lee having self," 1990 November 26 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, late at night, 1990 June 15 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, "M. I.," 1995 April 27 [4 tapes] [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Moscow, Idaho, 1995 April 27 [original: microcassette tape]

- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, North Carolina, 1995 April 12 [4 tapes] [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, playing tower and 2:00 a.m. telephone, 1990 November; Linda Gregg and Lee, telephone, 1990 November 22 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Portland, Oregon, 1990 April 20-21 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Portland, Oregon, 1990 April 21 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Rochester, New York, "Death and Love," 1991 February 27 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Lee, Li-Young, Rochester, New York, "Death and Love," 1991 February 28 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Marble art pieces from Linda Gregg's desk [9 pieces], undated
- 45 - Paros (Greece) workshop ,1979 July 22 [original: audiocassette tape]
Donald Brees reading five poems, Peter Cole reading two poems, and Linda Gregg reading "The Defeated."
- 45 - Paros (Greece) workshop, 1979 July 29 and August 5 [original: audiocassette tape]
Side one has Linda Gregg's "Lilith" and Jack Gilbert's "Prospero Goes Home," with a "a bit of Peter, none of Donald," July 29. Side two has Peter Cole's "Mountain Habit" and two songs and Donald Brees' "Cat's Pan Poem" and "Heritage," August 5.
- 45 - Paros (Greece) workshop ,1979 August 12 and 19 [original: audiocassette tape]
Side one has Linda Gregg's "What if the World Says Far Off," six poems by Jack Gilbert, and a poem by Peter Cole, August 12. Side two has a poem by Donald Brees, Peter Cole's "Origin of Species," Linda Gregg's "George and Stephanie" poem by Gregg, and Jack Gilbert's untitled poem, "I heard a noise this morning," August 19.
- 33 - Photographs, 1944
- 7 - Photographs, address books, correspondence, hair, and printed material, circa 1960-1997
- 48 - Photographs, contact sheets, and negatives, 1898-2010
- 16 - Photographs, correspondence, printed material, and writings, 1988-1995
- 6 - Photographs, correspondence, writings, and address books, 1961-1987
- 21 - Photographs, writings by Gregg, writings by others, correspondence, and printed material, 1942-2008
- 20 - Printed material, 1957-2013
- 46 - Printed material, 1962-2002
- 37 - Printed material, 1977-1997
- 27 - Printed material, 1991-1998
- 2 - Printed material, 2010-2011
- 40 - Printed material and financial records, 1999-2012
- 8 - Printed material and photographs, 1930-2002

- 44 - Printed material and writings, 1966-1993
- 17 - Printed material and writings, 1974-1997
- 20 - Scrapbooks made for Gregg by Jack Gilbert, 1943-1964
- 45 - Sea glass from Laguna Beach, California, given to Gregg by conservationist Ed Almanza, 2019 March 14
- 2 - Subject files, circa 1991
- 3 - Subject files, 1991-1997
- 13 - Subject files, circa 1999-2005
- 14 - Subject files, circa 1999-2005
- 45 - Telephone messages, 1992 July 8-90 [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - Unidentified, undated [8 tapes] [original: microcassette tape]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2009 September 7-13 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2011 April 4-10 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2012 March 19-25 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2013 May 27-June 2 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2014 July 21-27 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2014 August 11-17 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2014 October 6-12 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2016 February 8-14 [original: compact disc]
- 45 - *The Writer's Almanac*, 2016 February 15-21 [original: compact disc]
- 36 - Writings, 1974-1991
- 27 - Writings, 1979-1980
- 14 - Writings, 1982-1988
- 15 - Writings, 1982-1991
- 32 - Writings, 1982-1993
- 35 - Writings, 1985-1992
- 34 - Writings, 1986-2004
- 33 - Writings, 1987-1999
- 41 - Writings, 1989-1992
- 40 - Writings, 1989-1993
- 38 - Writings, 1989-2005
- 26 - Writings, 1991-1999
- 39 - Writings, 1996-2000
- 33 - Writings by others, 1970-2019
- 17 - Writings by others, 1991-1993
- 2 - Writings by others, including inscribed proofs, circa 2004-2006
- 25 - Writings by others, including proofs of books by Jack Gilbert, 1984-2018
- 22 - Writings and notes, 1965-1995
- 18 - Writings and photographs, 1987-2013
- 23 - Writings and printed material, 1963-1986

- 19 - Writings and printed material, 1976-2008
 - 28 - Writings with notes from Jack Gilbert and correspondence with Gilbert,
1987-1993
 - 29 - Writings with notes from Jack Gilbert and correspondence with Gilbert,
1999-201
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