

ROSENSTEIN, HARRIET.

Harriet Rosenstein research files on Sylvia Plath, 1910-2018

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Rosenstein, Harriet.
Title: Harriet Rosenstein research files on Sylvia Plath, 1910-2018
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1489
Extent: 2 linear feet (4 boxes) and AV Masters: .5 linear feet (1 box)
Abstract: Research files created by Harriet Rosenstein while writing her dissertation about Sylvia Plath.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Audiovisual material in this collection is currently being digitized.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Special restrictions apply: The collection contains some copies of original materials held by other institutions; these copies may not be reproduced without the permission of the owner of the originals.

Related Materials in Other Repositories

[Sylvia Plath collection](#), Sophia Smith Collection of Women's History, Smith College; [Ruth Tiffany Barnhouse papers](#), Sophia Smith Collection of Women's History, Smith College

Related Materials in This Repository

[Sylvia Plath collection](#); [Ted Hughes papers](#)

Source

Purchase from Peter Grogan, 2019

Custodial History

Peter Grogan, rare book and manuscript dealer, acquired this collection from Ken Lopez Bookseller. Lopez acquired the collection directly from Harriet Rosenstein in 2017, at which

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time the collection included correspondence between Sylvia Plath and her former psychiatrist, Ruth Barnhouse (also sometimes known by her married name Ruth Beuscher). Smith College filed suit against Lopez, claiming ownership of the Barnhouse/Plath letters as the repository of the Ruth Barnhouse papers. Smith College won the lawsuit and those letters were removed from this collection and transferred to Smith. Rose Library purchased the remainder of the collection from Grogan, who packed and shipped the material to the library from London, England.

For a more detailed examination of the context of this collection, see Paul Alexander's "[The Psychiatrist Who Tried to Save Sylvia Plath](#)," Literary Hub, October 23, 2018.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Harriet Rosenstein research files on Sylvia Plath, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note

The collection was acquired by Jennifer Gunter King, Director of the Rose Library, as part of the Rose Library's holdings in literature and poetry. All material received with the collection has been retained.

Processing

Arranged and described at the file level by Sarah Quigley, December 2019. Original files were refoldered and most titles were transcribed. Original folders with notes or titles that differed from the contents inside were retained in the new folder. Files containing copies of Plath's articles and reviews by and about Plath were consolidated into a single file. Files with broken date ranges contain copies of correspondence between Plath and the individuals named on the file.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Harriet Rosenstein received a Ph.D. from Brandeis University (Waltham, Massachusetts) in 1973. Her dissertation, *Sylvia Plath: 1932-1952*, is a biography of the poet. Rosenstein had intended to publish her dissertation but conflict with the Plath estate ultimately prevented her from finishing the project.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of Harriet Rosenstein's research files on Sylvia Plath from 1910-2018. Files may include interview transcripts, correspondence between Rosenstein and various individuals who knew Plath, and copies of correspondence between Plath and the individuals named on the file. The collection also includes recordings of Rosenstein's interviews with individuals who knew Plath. There is also material relating to Rosenstein's book contract with Alfred A. Knopf, correspondence between Rosenstein and Olwyn Hughes regarding Rosenstein's research, and fragments of drafts of Rosenstein's dissertation.

Arrangement Note

Arranged in alphabetical order.

Finding Aid Note

A detailed inventory of letters in the collection, including excerpts, created by Peter Grogan, is available upon request.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1970-1977
1	2	Alvarez, Al, 1970-1974
1	3	Ames, Elizabeth and Cyrilly Abels, 1971-1974
1	4	Avery, John, 1970
AV1	-	Avery, John, interview recording, undated (side 1); Winifred Davies, interview recording, undated (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	5	Axworthy, Nancy and Alan and Nan Jenkins, 1973-1975
AV1	-	Axworthy, Nancy, interview recording, 1973 December 4 (side 1); Iko and Felicity Meshoulam, interview recording, 1973 December 9 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	6	Barnhouse, Ruth, 1970-1974
1	7	Baskin, Leonard, 1971
AV1	-	Baskin, Leonard, interview recording, 1971 December 16 (side 1); Margaret Shook, interview recording, 1971 December 16 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	8	Becker, Jillian, 1973-1975
1	9	Blackwell, Connie Taylor, 1974
AV1	-	Blackwell, Connie Taylor, interview recording, part one, 1974 April 20 (side 1); Richard Murphy, interview recording, part three, 1974 April 19 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	10	Bloom, Harold, 1974
1	11	Booth, Susan, 1973
AV1	-	Booth, Susan, interview recording, 1973 December 5 (side 1); Mallory Wober, interview recording, part one, 1973 December 7 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	12	Brody, Sally Rosenthal, 1971
1	13	Burch, Susan Weller, 1974
1	14	Burton, Kay, Evelyn Evans, and "Cambridge ladies," 1973-1974
1	15	Butscher, Edward, 1971-1976
1	16	Cantor, Margaret, 1972
1	17	Chiasson, Dan, 2018
1	18	Compton, David, 1973
AV1	-	Compton, David, interview recording (end), undated and Ildiko Hayes, interview recording, undated (side 1); Ildiko Hayes, interview recording, undated (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
1	19	Crockett, Wilbury, 1949, 1971
1	20	Davies, Winifred, 1970
1	21	Davis, Robert Gorham, 1971-1976

- AV1 - Davison, Jane, interview recording, part two, undated (side 1); Perry Norton, interview recording, undated (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- 1 22 Davison, Peter and Jane, 1972-1975
- AV1 - Davison, Peter and Jane, interview recording, part one and two, 1973 November 6 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Davison, Peter, interview recording, 1973 November 6 (side 1); Jane Davison, interview recording, 1974 April 8 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- 1 23 Depression and suicide, 1973-1984
- 1 24 Dickinson, Patric, 1973
- 1 25 Fainlight, Ruth and Alan Sillitoe, 1970
- AV1 - Fainlight, Ruth and Alan Sillitoe, interview recording, undated [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Fainlight, Ruth, interview recording, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 1 26 Fassett, Stephen, 1971
- 1 27 Frankfort, Catherine, 1970-1971
- 1 28 Frayn, Michael, 1957, 1973
- 1 29 Freeman, David, circa 1945-1955, 1974
- 1 30 Gibian, George and Smith College English faculty, 1971
- 1 31 Goodall, Karen, 1974
- 1 32 Gottlieb, Robert, 1972-1975
- 2 1 Handleman, Claiborne, 1971-1974
- 2 2 Horder, John, 1970-1971
- AV1 - Horder, John, interview recording, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 2 3 Hughes family, circa 1975
- 2 4 Hughes, Frieda, 2016-2017
- 2 5 Hughes, Olwyn, 1970-1978
- AV1 - [Hunter ?], recording, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 2 6 Jacobson, Dan, 1973
- AV1 - Jacobson, Dan, interview recording, 1973 November 16 [original: audio cassette]
- 2 7 Jenkins, Alan and Nan, 1973
- AV1 - Jenkins, Alan and Nan, interview recording, 1973 December 4 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - "Judy," and "Nancy to WG," 1974 February [original: audio cassette]
- 2 8 Kane, Marvin, 1973-1974
- AV1 - Kane, Marvin, interview recording, 1973 November 27 [original: audio cassette]
- 2 9 Kazin, Alfred, 1971
- 2 10 Klein, Elinor, circa 1955-1958, 1971-1972
- AV1 - Klein, Elinor, interview recording, part one and two, undated [original: audio cassette]

- AV1 - Klein, Elinor, interview recording, part three, undated and Marcia Stern, interview recording, part one, 1972 January 20 (side 1); George Gibian and Smith College English faculty, interview recording, 1971 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- 2 11 Kopp, Jane, 1974-1975
- AV1 - Kopp, Jane, interview recording, part one and two, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 2 12 Krook, Dorothea, 1971-1974
- 2 13 Lameyer, Gordon, 1974
- 2 14 Lessing, Doris, 1973
- 2 15 Levenson, Christopher, 1974
- 2 16 Levy, Lisa L. and Connie Taylor Blackwell, 1974
- AV1 - Levy, Lisa L., interview recording, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 2 17 Lucie-Smith, Edward, 1970
- AV1 - Lucie-Smith, Edward, interview recording, July 28 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Macedo, Alda, interview recording, 1973 December 1 [original: audio cassette]
Interview includes discussion of Plath's suicide.
- AV1 - Macedo, interview recording, end, undated and Kay Burton, interview recording, part one, December 11 (side 1); Kay Burton, interview recording, part two, December 11 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Macedo, interview recording, roll one, undated [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Macedo, Suzette, interview recording, November 27 [original: audio cassette]
Interview includes discussion of Hughes' affair with Assia Wevill.
- 2 18 Macedo, Suzette and Helder, 1961-1962, 1972-1974
- AV1 - Macedo, Suzette and Helder, interview recording, parts three and four, 1973 December 1 [original: audio cassette]
- 2 19 Mark, Enid, 1952-1954, 1971
- 2 20 McCullough, Frances, 1973-1975
- 2 21 Merwin, W.S., 1973-1974
- AV1 - Merwin, W.S., interview recording, undated (side 1); Gordon Lameyer, interview recording, undated (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- 2 22 Meshoulam, Iko and Felicity, 1973
- AV1 - Meshoulam, Iko and Felicity, interview recording, 1973 December 9 [original: audio cassette]
- 2 23 Milici, Nora and Elizabeth O'Malley, 1971
- 2 24 Morris, I.V., 1974-1975
- 2 25 Murphy, Richard, 1974
- AV1 - Murphy, Richard, interview recording, part one and two, 1974 April 19 [original: audio cassette]
- 2 26 Newnham College, 1955-1957, 1973

- 2 27 Norton, Perry and Shirley, circa 1951, 1971-1974
- 2 28 Orr, Peter, undated
- AV1 - Orr, Peter, interview recording, July 28-29 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Orr, Peter, interview recording, July 30 and [Pennah Beben ?] (side 1); "Miss Morton," undated (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
- 3 1 Page, Evelyn, 1972-1973
- 3 2 Peterson, Robert T., 1971
- 3 3 Plath, Aurelia, circa 1924-1970
- 3 4 Plath, Otto, 1910, 1974-1975
- 3 5 Plath, Otto, 1923-1975
- 3 6 Plath, Otto, 1924-1977
- 3 7 Plath, Otto, 1927-1932, 1974-1975
- 3 8 Plath, Sylvia, articles by, 1951-1953
- 3 9 Plath, Sylvia, letters, 1951-1962
- 3 10 Plath, Sylvia, McLean Hospital record, 1953
- 3 11 Plath, Sylvia, reviews of works by and about, 1966-2013
- 3 12 Pratson, Pat O'Neill, circa 1954, 1972
- AV1 - Pratson, Pat O'Neill, interview recording, part one and two, 1972 February 2 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Pratson, Pat O'Neill, interview recording, part three, 1972 February 2 [original: audio cassette]
- 3 13 Prentice, Alison, 1971-1972
- AV1 - Roche, interview recording, parts four and five, undated [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Roche, Clarissa, interview recording, parts two and three, 1973 November 20 [original: audio cassette]
- AV1 - Roche, Clarissa, interview recording, part three, undated [original: audio cassette]
- 3 14 Roche, Paul and Clarissa, 1962-1963, 1973
- AV1 - Roche, Paul, interview recording, November 21 [original: audio cassette]
- 3 15 Rosenstein, Harriet, doctoral prospectus and book proposal, 1971-1972
- 4 1 Rosenstein, Harriet, draft fragments, undated
- 4 2 Rosenstein, Harriet, general correspondence, 1971-1974
- 4 3 Rosenstein, Harriet, shorthand notes, undated
- 4 4 Rosenthal, Jon, 1954-1955, 1971
- AV1 - Rosenthal, Jon, interview recording, 1971
- 4 5 Rosenthal, M.L., 1971-1973
- 4 6 Sassoon, Richard, 1974-1976
- 4 7 Secker-Walker, David and Lorna, 1970
- 4 8 Sexton, Anne, 1974
- 4 9 Shook, Margaret, 1971-1972

- AV1 - Shook, Margaret, interview recording, December 17 [original: audio cassette]
 4 10 Sigmund, Elizabeth Compton, 1962-1975
 AV1 - Sigmund, Elizabeth Compton, interview recording, part one and two, undated
 [original: audio cassette]
 AV1 - Sigmund, Elizabeth Compton, interview recording, part three and four, undated
 [original: audio cassette]
 AV1 - Sigmund, Elizabeth Compton, interview recording, part five and six, undated
 [original: audio cassette]
 4 11 Smith, Alison V., 1971
 4 12 Spender, Stephen, "Oxford and Cambridge Poetry," Gemini I, 1957 Spring
 4 13 Steiner, Nancy, 1971
 4 14 Sterling, William, 1971
 4 15 Stern, Marcia, 1951-1963
 4 16 Stern, Marcia, 1972-1973
 AV1 - Stern, Marcia, interview recording, undated
 AV1 - Stern, Marcia, interview recording, two, undated (side 2); "MB 4," undated (side
 1) [original: audio cassette]
 4 17 Thwaite, Anthony, 1961, 1973-1974
 AV1 - Thwaite, Anthony, interview recording, part one and two, undated [original:
 audio cassette]
 4 18 Ward, Aileen, 1970-1973
 4 19 Weldon, Faye, 1973
 AV1 - Weldon, [Faye?], November 19 (side 1); Clarissa Roche, interview recording,
 part one, 1973 November 30 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
 4 20 Wertz, Richard, 1970-1971
 4 21 White, Eric, 1962, 1970-1973
 4 22 Whitman, Ruth, 1970
 4 23 Wober, Mallory, 1973
 AV1 - Wober, Mallory, interview recording, part two, 1973 December 7 and David
 Compton, interview recording, 1973 December 7 (side 1); David Compton,
 interview recording, part two, 1973 December 7 (side 2) [original: audio
 cassette]
 4 24 Woody, J. Melvin, 1954, 1971-1972
 AV1 - Woody, J. Melvin, interview recording, undated (side 1); J. Melvin Woody,
 interview recording, undated and "group," interview recording, 1972 January
 27 (side 2) [original: audio cassette]
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