

SFU Simon Fraser University Special Collections and
Rare Books

Finding Aid - Cynthia Flood fonds (MsC 106)

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Language of description: English

Rules for Archival Description

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Cynthia Flood fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	Cynthia Flood fonds
ID:	MsC 106
Date:	1961-2008 (date of creation)
Physical description:	1.44 m of textual records
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Cynthia Flood, born September 17, 1940, is a Canadian short-story writer and novelist. She is the daughter of novelist Luella Creighton and historian Donald Creighton. Flood grew up primarily in Toronto, but spent two years in an English boarding school from the time she was 11 until she was 13. After graduating from the University of Toronto in 1961, Flood began her professional career in publishing in San Francisco, New York, Toronto, and Montreal. She moved to Vancouver in 1969 where she taught English and Women's Studies part-time at Langara College and was eventually offered a regular contract position in 1985. After her retirement, Flood taught creative writing in the Writing and Publishing program at Simon Fraser University. She has been a member of the Writers' Union of Canada, PEN International, and the Federation of BC Writers.

Flood has been active in many socialist, feminist, anti-war and environmental groups, all of which have influenced her writing. During the 1970s, she gave birth to two daughters and began to seriously establish herself as a writer. Her short fiction has appeared in many Canadian literary magazines and has been widely anthologized.

Flood's first book of short stories, "The Animals in Their Elements," appeared in 1987 followed by "My Father Took a Cake to France" in 1992. The title story from "My Father Took a Cake to France" won the Writers' Trust / McClelland and Stewart Journey Prize in 1990. Flood also has won awards from Western Magazines and Prism International. Her works have been repeatedly included in the "Best Canadian Stories" anthology by Oberon Press.

In 2002, Flood published her first novel, "Making a Stone of the Heart," with Key Porter Books. The book was nominated for the City of Vancouver Book Award that year.

While writing "Making a Stone of the Heart," Flood was working on a series of short fiction stories all set in 1950s England that eventually grew into what she describes as a linked sequence. These were published by Biblioasis in 2009 as Flood's third collection of short fiction, "The English Stories." The story "Religious Knowledge" won the National Magazine Gold Award in 2000 after it appeared in Prism International magazine.

Flood published her fourth collection, "Red Girl Rat Boy," in 2013 once again in collaboration with Biblioasis. The book was chosen by January Magazine and Quill & Quire magazine as one of 2013's notable books. It was shortlisted for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize from BC Book Prizes, and long-listed for the Frank O'Connor Short Story Award.

Custodial history

The records were in the custody of the creator, Cynthia Flood. Cynthia kept the records until their donation to Simon Fraser University Library, Special Collections and Rare Books in February 2008.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of records created or accumulated by Flood through her activities as a writer. Records include notes, drafts, correspondence with publishers, contracts, promotional materials, reviews, royalty statements, notebooks, handwritten manuscripts and copies of published journals in which Flood's works are printed.

The fonds has been arranged into the following three series: Short stories (1961-2008); Novels (1974-2004); and Essays, talks and reviews (1972-2006).

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

The records were donated by Cynthia Flood in February 2008. Some additional notes and several published journals containing Flood's stories was donated in June 2008.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the files into series and sub-series provided by the archivist.

Restrictions on access

All of the works in this fonds, e.g. stories, essays, and other written material, are under copyright. Researchers are required to secure permission from the copyright holder(s) for uses of this material other than those covered by fair dealing.

Accruals

Future accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Published
- **Alpha-numeric designations:** BCAUL control number: SFL--2391

Access points

- Flood, Cynthia (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Arts and culture (subject)

Series descriptions

Series MsC-106-0-1: Short stories

Date: 1961-2008 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's many short stories. Materials include drafts, notes, research, correspondence with publishers, publishing documents and printed journals. The series is divided into the following five sub-series: The animals in their elements (1976-1998); My father took a cake to France (1986-1999); The English stories (1990-2007); Published stories - general (1968-2008); and Unpublished stories (1961-1986).

Physical description: .75 m of textual records

Note:

Some stories were published under a different title than what appeared on Flood's original files. Published titles have been supplied in square brackets by the archivist.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
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Sub-series MsC-106-0-1-1: The animals in their elements

Date: 1976-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's first collection of short stories, "The Animals In Their Elements." Materials include notes, drafts and correspondence with publishers. Sub-series also includes ten publications in which Flood's stories are printed: "New: West Coast Fiction" (1983); "Vancouver Short Stories" (1983); "Matrix" (1981); "Queen's Quarterly" (1981); "Common Ground" (1980); "Journal of Canadian Fiction" (1980); "Fireweed" (1989); "Event" (1987); "Prism International" (1987); and "Atlantis" (1981).

Physical description: .29 m of textual materials

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order, which is the same order that the stories appear in the published edition of "The Animals In Their Elements."

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-1	File - Summer's lease	1979-1981		MsC 106 - Box 1 folder 1
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-2	File - Beatrice	1976-1979		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-3	File - On the point	1980-1982		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-4	File - The hardest thing [Evelyn and Rosie: a story for voices]	1983-1984		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 4
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-5	File - Tabletalk	1985-1987		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 5
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-6	File - A young girl-typist ran into smolny: notes for a film	1983-1987		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-7	File - To make a good death	1985-1986		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-8	File - Roses are red	1977-1980		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 8
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-9	File - The animals in their elements	1983-1985		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 9
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-10	File - Neighbours	1985-1986		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-11	File - Just a moment	1985-1987		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 11
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-12	File - To see on the page	1985-1987		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 12
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-13	File - Learning process [imperatives]	1980-1981		Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 13

MsC-106-0-1-1-0-14	File - Twoscore and five	1980-1986	Msc 106 - Box 1 folder 14
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-15	File - Porridge and silver	1980-1981	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 1
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-16	File - The animals in their elements	1983-1998	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 2
MsC-106-0-1-1-0-17	File - [Publications related to the animals in their elements]	1980-1987	Msc 106 - Box 10

Sub-series MsC-106-0-1-2: My father took a cake to France

Date: 1986-1999 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's second collection of short stories, "My Father Took A Cake To France." Materials include notes, drafts, correspondence with publishers and contracts. Sub-series also includes six publications in which Flood's stories are printed: "Frictions: Stories By Women" (1989); "Descant" (1991); "Malahat" (1989); "Room Of One's Own" (1988); "Quarry" (1990); and "Books In Canada" (1990).

Physical description: .22 m of textual records

Note:

Flood acknowledged in the inventory that she prepared and sent to SFU Special Collections and Rare Books when she donated her records that records for the story "A Life" published in "My Father Took A Cake To France" could not be located at the time of donation and are currently absent from her fonds.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order, which is the same order that the stories appear in the published edition of "My Father Took A Cake To France."

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-1	File - The meaning of marriage	1988-1997		Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-2	File - The man, the problem, and the witch of New Orleans [The man, the woman, and the witch from New Orleans]	1986-1990		Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 4
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-3	File - Auto-immune [Watching]	1982-1983		Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 5
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-4	File - My father took a cake to France	1987-1999		Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 6-7

MsC-106-0-1-2-0-5	File - Winter into spring	1988	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 8
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-6	File - For the record	1984-1986	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 9
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-7	File - The schooling of women	1989	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 10
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-8	File - Bodies of water	1989-1990	Msc 106 - Box 2 folder 11
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-8	File - How President Kennedy showed me that the working class must take the power [the miner's message]	1987-1988	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 1 Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 1
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-10	File - Design and spontaneity	1991	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 2
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-11	File - Gold, silver, ivory, slate, and wood	1987-1988	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-12	File - Dreams of the judgment seat [The skein]	1987-1989	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 4
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-13	File - My father took a cake to France	1991-1998	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 5
MsC-106-0-1-2-0-14	File - [Publications related to my father took a cake to France]	1988-1991	Msc 106 - Box 11

Sub-series MsC-106-0-1-3: The English stories

Date: 1990-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's third collection of short stories, "The English Stories." Materials include notes, drafts, and correspondence with publishers.

Physical description: .20 m of textual records

Note:

Sub-series contains records for the unfinished story "The Green House" that was intended to be published in "The English Stories."

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order, which is the same order that the stories appear in the published edition of "The English Stories."

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
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MsC-106-0-1-3-0-1	File - The Indian box	2007	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 6
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-2	File - Country life	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 7
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-3	File - The margins are the frame	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 8-9
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-4	File - Early in the morning	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 3 folder 10
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-5	File - The unusual accomplishments	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 1-2
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-6	File - Magnificat	1993-2007	Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-7	File - A civil plantation	1992-2007	Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-8	File - Religious knowledge	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 6-7
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-9	File - Miss Pringle's hour	1994-2007	Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 8 Msc 106 - Box 4 folder 8
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-10	File - Learning to dance	2002-2007	Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 1
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-11	File - The promised land	2007	Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 2
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-12	File - The arrival	2007	Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-13	File - The green house	1990-2007	Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 4
MsC-106-0-1-3-0-14	File - The English stories	1992-2007	Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 5

Sub-series MsC-106-0-1-4: Published stories - general

Date: 1968-2008 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's stories that appeared in individual magazines or journals. Materials include drafts, correspondence with publishers, contracts and notebooks. Sub-series also includes six publications in which Flood's stories are printed: "Wascana Review" (1968); "Quarry" (1980); "Room Of One's Own" (1981); "Makara" (1976); "Baker's Dozen" (1984); and "Makara" (1978).

Physical description: .21 m of textual records.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-1	File - On California street	1968		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 6
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-2	File - Bill	1976		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 7
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-3	File - Night feeding	1978		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 8
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-4	File - The road to the graveyard	1979-1980		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 9
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-5	File - Contradictions among the people	1981		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 10
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-6	File - The California aunts	1982-1988		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 11
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-7	File - CBC/Weaver etc.	1980-1984		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 12
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-8	File - Notebooks	1976-1995		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 13
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-9	File - The hunters	2007		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 14
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-10	File - The hunters	2003-2004		Msc 106 - Box 5 folder 15
MsC-106-0-1-4-0-11	File - [Publications]			Msc 106 - Box 11-12

Sub-series MsC-106-0-1-5: Unpublished stories

Date: 1961-1986 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to Flood's unpublished work. Materials include drafts, correspondence, and handwritten manuscripts of stories, essays and poetry.

Physical description: 5 cm of textual records.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order.

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-1-5-0-1	File - A perfect woman	1978-1981		Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 1
MsC-106-0-1-5-0-2	File - Early days together	1979-1980		Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 2
MsC-106-0-1-5-0-3	File - Mrs. Bessemer	1980		Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 3
MsC-106-0-1-5-0-4	File - Early manuscripts	1961-1971		Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 4

Series MsC-106-0-2: Novels

Date: 1974-2007 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of materials relating to Flood's two novels, one published and one unpublished. Materials include handwritten and typed manuscripts, correspondence, drafts, research materials, publishing records and a published excerpt. The series is divided into two sub-series: The woman in the window (1974-1980) and Making a stone of the heart (1994-2004).

Physical description: .33 m of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container

Sub-series MsC-106-0-2-1: The woman in the window

Date: 1974-1980 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to Flood's unpublished novel, "The Woman In The Window." Materials include handwritten and typed drafts as well as correspondence with various publishers.

Physical description: 7.5 cm of textual records.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order.

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container

MsC-106-0-2-1-1	File - The woman in the window	1975-1976	Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 5-6
MsC-106-0-2-1-2	File - The woman in the window	1977	Msc 106 - Box 6 folder 7-9

Sub-series MsC-106-0-2-2: Making a heart of the stone

Date: 1994-2004 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of materials relating to the writing and publishing of Flood's novel, "Making A Stone Of The Heart." Materials include reviews, correspondence, publicity materials, manuscripts of early versions of the novel, an excerpt published in Grain journal (2008) and research materials.

Physical description: .26 m of textual records.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Sub-series is arranged based on Flood's original order.
Manuscripts originally loose in box when processed.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-1	File - Reviews - stone	2002-2004		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 1
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-2	File - Correspondence with Key Porter	1998-2004		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 2
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-3	File - Publicity for stone	2002		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 3
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-4	File - Researcher	1998		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 4
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-5	File - Early drafts - stone	1997-1998		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 5-6
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-6	File - Med ed [Medical education] / UBC [University of British Columbia]	[1998?]		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 7
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-7	File - Great war	[1998?]		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 8
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-8	File - Banff	1996		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 9
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-9	File - Textbooks	1997		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 10
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-10	File - Hospital	1994		Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 11

MsC-106-0-2-2-0-11	File - Real estate	[1998?]	Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 12
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-12	File - Lithopedion	1995-1996	Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 13
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-13	File - Vancouver history	1997	Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 14
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-14	File - Preg / maternity	1996	Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 15
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-15	File - Library	1998-1999	Msc 106 - Box 7 folder 16
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-16	File - Manuscript of 1999 version of stone with editor Susan Renouf's marginal notes	1999-2001	Msc 106 - Box 8 folder 1--3
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-17	File - Manuscript of July 2001 version with Susan Renouf's marginal notes	2001	Msc 106 - Box 8 folder 4-6
MsC-106-0-2-2-0-18	File - [Publications related to Making a stone of the heart]	1999	Msc 106 - Box 12

Series MsC-106-0-3: Essays, talks and reviews

Date: 1972-2006 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of materials relating to essays, talks and reviews written or given by Flood. Materials include drafts, notes and correspondence. Series also includes seven publications in which Flood's stories are printed: "Paris Transcontinental" (1995); "Event" (1991); "Canadian Forum" (1983, 1993); "The Reader" (Summer 1994, Winter 1994); and "Books In Canada" (1993).

Physical description: 9 cm of textual records.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Arrangement:

Series is arranged based on Flood's original order.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-106-0-3-0-1	File - Essays, speeches, etc.	1972-1997		MsC 106 - Box 9 folder 1-2
MsC-106-0-3-0-2	File - Dirty dirty brain	1990		MsC 106 - Box 9 folder 3
MsC-106-0-3-0-3	File - Half-century	1991-1995		MsC 106 - Box 9 folder 4

MsC-106-0-3-0-4	File - All the heart is in the things	2001-2002	MsC 106 - Box 9 folder 5
MsC-106-0-3-0-5	File - Rain review	2004-2006	MsC 106 - Box 9 folder 6
MsC-106-0-3-0-6	File - [Publications]	1983-1995	MsC 106 - Box 12