

 Simon Fraser University Special Collections
and Rare Books

Finding Aid - Victor Coleman fonds (MsC 29)

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Language of description: English

Rules for Archival Description

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Victor Coleman fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	Victor Coleman fonds
ID:	MsC 29
Date:	1969-1987 (date of creation)
Physical description:	6 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Victor Coleman was born in Toronto on September 11, 1944. Primarily known as a poet, he also has been an editor, audio producer and founding member of numerous publications and artist-run centres. He is regarded as a central figure in the Canadian the new wave modernist literary scene. Self-educated, he entered the book trade as a production assistant for Oxford University Press in Toronto. In 1965, he founded *Island* magazine and *Island Press*. He also joined the *Coach House Press* in 1965 as a linotype operator and delivery boy and soon became an editor. He remained at *Coach House* until 1974. He was instrumental in founding numerous periodicals such as *Is*, *Image Nation*, the *Goose & Duck*, *Open Letter* and the *Coach House Newsletter*; and in introducing educational activities such as the *Rochdale Poetry workshops*, *Coach House writing workshops* and *The Dream Class*. As director of "A Space" (1975-1978), Coleman was involved in performance art, new music, choreography, design and arts criticism. In 1979 he moved to the artist-run centre "31 Mercer", which produced several publications while sponsoring readings, exhibitions, dance, text-related performance and high-profile social events. The journal *Eternal Network* resulted in 12 publications between 1975 and 1979 and six new titles since 1991. Coleman was involved in founding ANNPAC (Association of National Non-Profit Artist-run Centres) and in organizing a new Canadian small press association. He directed and programmed the *National Film Theatre* at *Queen's University* where he taught creative writing, set up exhibitions, organized a *Poetry Front* reading series and produced a bi-annual student publication. He has published several volumes of poetry and has been included in anthologies of Canadian poetry. Coleman has contributed to the development of avant-garde or post-modernist writing and to the development of a literary community in Canada

Scope and content

Fonds consists primarily of correspondence with Canadian writers.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

Printed inventory available.

Other notes

- Publication status: published
 - Level of detail: Full
 - Status description: Published
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Access points

- Coleman, Victor (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - Arts and culture (subject)
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Series descriptions
