

# Leon M. Zolbrod fonds

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# Fonds Description

**Leon M. Zolbrod fonds.** – [ca. 1974-1989].

19.5 cm of textual records.

## Biographical Sketch

Leon M. Zolbrod was a pioneer scholar of traditional Japanese literature who first came into contact with Japan during his service with the American military in 1948 and later taught English there. Zolbrod earned his MA and PhD degrees in Japanese literature from Columbia after which he taught at the Universities of Indiana and then Kansas before moving to the University of British Columbia in 1967 where he taught Japanese language and literature for twenty three years. Much of Zolbrod's research and publication activities focussed on making the literature of Edo Japan more accessible to Western audiences. His first book was *Takizawa Bakin* (1967) and he later edited and translated *Ugetsu Monogatari* (1975). Zolbrod completed a major study tentatively entitled *Reluctant Genius: The Life and Work of Buson, a Japanese Master of Haiku and Painting* which was not published. Leon Zolbrod passed away in Vancouver on April 16, 1991.

## Scope and Content

Fonds consists of an annotated typescript manuscript and page proofs of Zolbrod's translation of the Japanese classic *Ugetsu Monogatari* ("Tales of Moonlight and Rain") and an unpublished manuscript entitled *Reluctant Genius: The Life and Work of Buson, a Japanese Master of Haiku and Painting*.

## Notes

Researchers are strongly advised to check with the University Archives regarding permission to publish or otherwise use materials from this fonds.

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

The original accrual, consisting of the edited typescript of *Ugetsu Monogatari*, dates from 1975. The remaining materials were acquired in May 2016.

## File List

### BOX 1

1-1/2 Edited typescript of Zolbrod's translation of "Ugetsu Monogatari"

### BOX 2

2-1 Dust jacket and page proofs of Zolbrod's translation of "Ugetsu Monogatari"

2-2/4 Typescript manuscript "Reluctant Genius: The Life and Work of Buson, a Japanese Master of Haiku and Painting".