

Patricia Blondal fonds

RBSC-ARC-1038

Finding aid

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Rare Books and Special Collections
University of British Columbia Library

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Fonds description

Patricia Blondal fonds.

[ca. 1929] – 1963, predominant 1949-1959.

31.6 cm of textual records and other material.

Biographical sketch: Patricia Blondal (née Jenkins) was born in Souris, Manitoba on December 12, 1926. At the age of seven she moved to Winnipeg with her family, where she would later study literature and poetry at the University of Manitoba in the mid 1940s. On July 4, 1946, she married Harold Blondal who worked variously as a doctor, engineer and eventually as a cancer researcher. Following the completion of her degree, Blondal worked as a broadcaster for the CBC in Winnipeg. Before settling in Montreal in the fifties she traveled throughout Canada and England, where she lived for one year. In Montreal she resided with her husband and their two children, Stephanie and John, writing short stories, two posthumously published novels and the manuscript for an unpublished mystery novel. While writing, she worked in public relations and as a reporter and cigar clerk. Blondal died of cancer in November, 1959 at the age of 32.

Custodial history: The records were donated to RBSC by Blondal's daughter in 1978, although it is unknown whether they were in her custody until that time.

Scope and content: Fonds reflects Blondal's personal life and work as a writer, radio broadcaster, university student and researcher whose interests include religion, philosophy, psychology and criminology in the 1940s and 1950s. Records are arranged into four series, spanning from about 1929 to 1963, including documents that were added by her husband following her death in 1959.

Source of title proper: Title based on the provenance of the fonds.

Physical description note: Fonds contains 31.6 cm of textual records, 4 photographs, 1 postcard and 1 negative.

Arrangement note: Fonds arranged in 1979, and later rearranged at the series level in 2009, involving the inclusion of folder 1-67 within the biographical information series which was a part of the printed material series under the original arrangement.

Rights note: All literary rights are retained by the donor. Permission to publish unpublished material, in any form, must be obtained from the donor.

Finding aids note: A copy of the original finding aid is available upon request in the Rare Books and Special Collections reading room.

General note: Re-described according to RAD standards in 2009.

Series Descriptions

Correspondence.

[194-] – 1960.

1.6 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series consists of personal and business letters to and from Blondal, including a number of rejection slips from potential publishers. The letters date primarily from the last decade of Blondal's life and include a letter regarding the 1960 publication of Blondal's novel *A Candle to Light the Sun*, received by Blondal's husband, Harold, the year after her death. The letters have been arranged as incoming personal letters, incoming and outgoing business letters, and outgoing personal and business letters.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Manuscripts.

[194-] – [195-].

25 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series represents Blondal's career as a writer and radio broadcaster with the CBC, and consists mainly of an untitled mystery novel (unpublished), two versions of Blondal's novel, *A Candle to Light the Sun*, as well as a number of broadcast scripts. The series also includes short stories (including one written under the pseudonym Watson O'Hearn), poems, a play, an essay, and preparatory notes. The broadcast scripts have been ordered in a chronological sequence by broadcast number and date.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Notes and other materials.

[194-] – 1963.

4 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series consists primarily of notes related to Blondal's writing practice generally as well as her time as a student at the University of Manitoba in the 1940s. Also included in the series are university reading lists, reviews of Blondal's publications (most of which appeared after her death), a copy of a radio play by Lydia Perera, and a guide for T.V. writers.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Biographical items.

[ca. 1929] – [195-].

1 cm of textual records and other material.

Scope and content: Series is comprised of personal material from all three decades of Blondal's life, and includes a grade 8 school report card, information for new mothers, a diary from Blondal's time in London in 1951, as well as graphic materials and biographical notes (including two family trees).

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

Physical description note: Series contains 1 cm of textual records, 4 photographs, 1 postcard and 1 negative.

File list

Series: Correspondence series

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-1	Incoming letters: personal	[194-] – 1959
1-2	Incoming and outgoing letters: business	[195-] – 1960
1-3	Outgoing letters: personal and business	1948 – [195-]

Series: Manuscripts series

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-4	Manuscript: untitled mystery novel (unpublished), p. 1-110	[194-] – [195-?]
1-5	Manuscript: untitled mystery novel (unpublished), p. 111-220	[194-] – [195-?]
1-6	Manuscript: untitled mystery novel (unpublished), p. 221-330	[194-] – [195-?]
1-7	Manuscript: untitled mystery novel (unpublished), p. 331-end	[194-] – [195-?]
1-8	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 1), ch. 1-7	[195-]
1-9	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 1), ch. 8-13	[195-]
1-10	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 1), ch. 14-18	[195-]
1-11	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 1), ch. 19-23	[195-]
1-12	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 1), ch. 24-end	[195-]
1-13	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 2), ch. 1-7	[195-]
1-14	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 2), ch. 8-14	[195-]
1-15	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 2), ch. 15-23	[195-]
1-16	Manuscript: A candle to light the sun (version 2), ch. 24-end	[195-]
1-17	Character notes from A candle to light the sun	[195-]
1-18	Miscellaneous notes from A candle to light the sun	[195-]
1-19	Play: Conversation in Fort Garry	[195-?]
1-20	Short story: The field of tares	[195-?]
1-21	Short story: The world is watching	[195-?]

1-22	Short story: The will	[195-?]
1-23	Short stories and poems	[195-?]
1-24	Broadcast no. 4	1 Nov. 1948
1-25	Broadcast no. 8	10 Nov. 1948
1-26	Broadcast no. 9	12 Nov. 1948
1-27	Broadcast (unnumbered)	[1948?]
1-28	Broadcast no. 11	17 Nov. 1948
1-29	Broadcast no. 11, "set"	[1948?]
1-30	Broadcast no. 12	19 Nov. 1948
1-31	Broadcast no. 13	22 Nov. 1948
1-32	Broadcast no. 14	24 Nov. 1948
1-33	Broadcast no. 15	26 Nov. 1948
1-34	Broadcast no. 16	29 Nov. 1948
1-35	Broadcast no. 17	1 Dec. 1948
1-36	Broadcast no. 19	6 Dec. 1948
1-37	Broadcast no. 20	8 Dec. 1948
1-38	Broadcast no. 21	10 Dec. 1948
1-39	Broadcast no. 22	13 Dec. 1948
1-40	Broadcast no. 24	17 Dec. 1948
1-41	Broadcast no. 25	20 Dec. 1948
1-42	Broadcast no. 27	24 Dec. 1948
1-43	Broadcast no. 28	27 Dec. 1948
1-44	Broadcast no. 30	31 Dec. 1948
1-45	Broadcast no. 31	3 Jan. 1949
1-46	Broadcast no. 32	5 Jan. 1949
1-47	Broadcast no. 34	7 Jan. 1949
1-48	Broadcast (unnumbered)	11 Jan. 1949
1-49	Broadcast no. 36	14 Jan. 1949
1-50	Broadcast (unnumbered)	[1949?]
1-51	Broadcast (unnumbered)	21 Jan. 1949
1-52	Broadcast (unnumbered)	[1949?]
1-53	Broadcast (unnumbered)	[1949?]
1-54	Broadcast (unnumbered)	14 Mar. 1949
1-55	Broadcast (unnumbered)	18 Mar. 1949
1-56	Untitled essay	[194-?] – [195-?]

Series: Notes and other material series

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-57	Reviews	17 Sept. 1959 – [1963?]
1-58	Notes on short stories and novels	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-59	Preliminary notes for a novel	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-60	University notes on poetry	[194-]
1-61	Annotated poems from university classes	[194-]
1-62	University notes on poetry	[194-]
1-63	University notes on criticism today	[194-]
1-64	Misc. notes	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-65	Radio play by Lydia Perera: A pistol, a string of sausages and a pink silk slip	1945
1-66	Reading lists from the University of Manitoba	[194-]
1-68	TV writer's guide	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-69	Notes on alcoholism and the A.A.	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-70	Notes on comedians and vaudeville	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-71	Notes on epilepsy	[194-?] – [195-?]
1-72	Notes on Freudian psychology	[194-?] – [195-?]

Series: Biographical items series

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-67	Instructions for new mothers	[195-]
1-73	Report card from grade 8	1939
1-74	Diary	Feb.– Sept. 1951
1-75	Graphic material	[ca. 1929] – [195-?]
1-76	Biographical notes	[195-]