

DONALD MURRAY FRASER FONDS

An inventory

in

The Library of the University of British Columbia

Rare Books and Special Collections

Prepared by:

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D.M. Fraser fonds

[between 196- and 198-]

89 cm of textual records and other material

Donald Murray Fraser was born in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia in 1946. Fraser was the only child of Viola Fraser (nee Huggan), a high school English teacher, and Rev. M. Y. Fraser, a Presbyterian minister. He grew up in small mining towns across Nova Scotia, one of which was Glace Bay where he attended Glace Bay High School. Fraser received his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English Literature from Acadia University in 1966 and later moved to Vancouver, British Columbia to pursue graduate work under scholarship at the University of British Columbia in the late 1960s. Fraser left academia in the early seventies when he and some friends from the University of British Columbia formed the original nucleus of Pulp Press, a publishing house in Vancouver. Fraser was a member of the Nova Scotia Writers' Federation and the Composer, Authors and Publishers Association. Instead of using his full name, Fraser published under "D.M. Fraser", and friends referred to him as "Dondle". Throughout his time in Vancouver, Fraser maintained a close relationship with Pulp Press who published his work and where he worked intermittently as an editor until his death. Fraser wrote for, and contributed sporadically to the *Georgia Straight*, *3¢ Pulp, Alive*, *Parallelogram Retrospective*, and *Rough Beast*. He published two collected works under Pulp Press, *Class Warfare* in 1974 and *The Voice of Emma Sachs* in 1983. Fraser died March 4th, 1985 at Vancouver General Hospital from a lung infection, the result of pneumonia. At the time of his death Fraser was thirty-eight years old and, according to Alan Twigg, also suffered from continual ill-health and alcoholism. After his death, editors and friends at Pulp Press (now Arsenal Pulp Press) published two more volumes of Fraser's work, *Prelude: D.M. Fraser. The Collected Works. Vol. 1* (1987) and *Ignorant Armies* (1990), by consulting unfinished manuscripts and drafts Fraser left behind.

Until his death in 1985, D.M. Fraser's materials remained in his custody, after which Arsenal Pulp Press retained custody of the material. On October 22, 1999 Fraser's papers were acquired by the University of British Columbia Main Library, Special Collections and University Archives Division.

The fonds consists of academic materials and writing, prose, poetry, incoming and outgoing correspondence with family, friends and co-workers, colour and black and white photographs of various sizes portraying a variety of subjects, posters, notebooks, printed materials such as newspaper clippings and serials, and a variety of other miscellany created and / or collected and / or used by Fraser from the late 1960s to the 1980s in Vancouver, British Columbia. The records are organized by Fraser's activities as an author, editor, student and natural person. The records are arranged in the following series: Academic work; Financial information; Miscellaneous memorabilia; Editorial work; Daily Living; Personal notebooks; Correspondence - Writing related; Correspondence - Personal; Correspondence - Mother; Prose and Creative writing work.

Title based on provenance of the fonds

The majority of records within the fonds are undated. There is some random material within all series that indicate dates ranging widely from 1961 to 1988, yet it is still not entirely clear as to the actual dates of creation for almost all of the material within the fonds.

Includes: 60 cm of textual records, ca. 120 photographs, 21 postcards, 9 greeting cards, 3 posters, 38 notebooks, 8 business cards, 5 membership cards, 1 copy negative and 1 daily calendar

Some of the materials came to Special Collections in disarray, without arrangement nor within folders. In all series, disordered records have an arrangement imposed on them by the archivist and this arrangement reflects Fraser's various activities. However, it appears that records which were kept at Pulp Press had a distinguishable organization and order, and this order has been maintained. Where folders exist, the titles appearing on

these original folders were transcribed directly onto new archival folders. Transcribed titles for folders exist within the following series: Correspondence - Writing related; Academic work; Miscellaneous memorabilia; Daily living; Editorial work; and Prose and Creative writing work. After Fraser's death, the records were used by agents of Pulp Press, in order to publish his unfinished and unpublished manuscripts.

There is a folder list by box indicating the series to which each folder belongs.

Other records relating to D.M. Fraser and his work can be found in all of the files found in the Pulp Press fonds. The fonds consists of proofs, drafts and notes for the Pulp Press publication of *Ignorant Armies* (1990) and *Prelude* (1987) after Fraser's death.

For other biographical information, Alan Twigg has written of Fraser's life and work in *Vancouver and Its Writers* (1986). Users should also be aware that profane language is used throughout the records from all series, and there also exists a small amount of sexually suggestive graphic material.

Records relating to academic work

[between 196- and 197-]

2.5 cm of textual records (3 folders). - 1 poster

Series consists of records relating to academic work completed by

Fraser as a student at Glace Bay High School and at the University of

British Columbia. Included are essays, an anthology, and memorabilia

relating to graduate work pursued by Fraser in Vancouver at the University.

Title based on content of series

Material within the series is not dated, although Fraser did pursue an academic career until he left the University of British Columbia in the early

1970s. Essays submitted to the English Literature department at the

University of British Columbia are dated January 1968 and March 1969.

Financial records

1975 - 1983

0.5 cm of textual records (2 folders)

Series consists of records relating to Fraser's financial situation and investments. Included are housing support forms and one share certificate.

Title based on content of series

Miscellaneous memorabilia

[between 196- and 198-]

ca. 120 photographs and other material

Series consists of records relating to a great variety of Fraser's interests. Included are photographs (colour and black and white) of friends and family in a number of settings, and photographs taken for promotional purposes in terms of Fraser's published work. Also included are printed materials such as magazines, periodicals, blank postcards, newspaper clippings, business cards, and other miscellany.

Title based on content of series

The majority of material in the series is undated, although some printed materials and business cards do contain dates.

Includes: 10 postcards, 8 business cards, 1 copy negative, 3 cm of textual records

Records relating to editorial work

[between 197- and 198-], predominant 1974 - 1975

3 cm of textual records

Series consists of records relating to work completed by Fraser for Pulp Press publishers and other publications, such as the Georgia Straight, in his capacity as an editor and reviewer. Included are book and story reviews, layout designs and notes for a book relating to *3¢ Pulp* (an anthology of poetry, short stories and articles published by Pulp Press), and issues of *3¢ Pulp*.

Title based on content of series

Published editions of *3¢ Pulp* are dated from 1974 - 1975, and *3¢ Pulp* notes are dated 1981. Literary reviews drafted by Fraser are not dated, yet his editorial work began in the early 1970s.

3¢ Pulp records

1974 - 1981

1 folder

The file consists of textual records drafted and used in the preparation for publication of *3¢ Pulp*, a serial of poetry and prose published by Pulp Press. Included are issues of *3¢ Pulp* (1974 and 1975), and notes and sketches relating to the publication of *3¢ Pulp* dated 1981.

Title based on content of file.

3¢ Pulp Book Notes

13 Apr. 1981

4 p.

The item is a set of notes and sketches relating ideas about the layout and content of

a potential book about *3¢ Pulp*, anticipated for release in the fall of 1981.

Title taken from last page of the item
Written by and initialed in the upper
left corner of the item's first page by an agent
of Pulp Press ("JFO").

Daily living records

[between 197- and 198-]

1 cm of textual records. - 1 daily calendar. - 5 membership cards
Series consists of records relating to Fraser's daily planning activities (notes, written self-reminders, etc) and other daily activities such as shopping, eating and drinking. Included are general lists, lists of food and clothing items, grocery lists, membership cards to clubs and societies, and a daily calendar.

Title based on content of series

The majority of material within the series is undated, however the daily calendar and membership cards do indicate dates ranging from 1974 to 1984.

For additional records relating to daily planning and lists see also the Personal notebooks series.

Personal notebooks

[between 196- and 198-]

38 notebooks

Series consists of notebooks that relate information about Fraser's random writing and prose, daily planning, addresses and phone numbers of

friends and co-workers, doodling and sketching, draft correspondence, and other miscellaneous notes. Included are miscellaneous notebooks of various sizes and forms covering a large variety of subjects and activities.

There are also travel journals relating to a trip Fraser took from Halifax to Vancouver.

Title based on the intellectual form of series

All of the notebooks do not contain dates, although, the travel journals are dated January 1971.

For additional records relating to daily planning and lists see also the Daily living series. For additional records relating to Fraser's fiction and prose work see the Prose and Creative writing work series.

Correspondence - Writing related

1972 - 1986

3 cm of textual records

Series contains records relating to correspondence about Fraser's work as an editor at Pulp Press and as an independent author. Included are incoming and outgoing letters between Fraser (the author) and his peers and co-workers in relation to the progress of Fraser's prose work, and incoming and outgoing letters between Fraser (the editor) and clients of Pulp Press. Outgoing correspondence remains in either draft form or as a carbon copy. Some incoming correspondence between Pulp Press and its clients relates to editorial work left incomplete by Fraser due to his death.

Title based on content of series

For other correspondence see the Correspondence - Personal and Correspondence - Mother series.

Correspondence - Personal

[between 196- and 198-]

3 cm of textual records. - 9 postcards. - 7 greeting cards

Series consists of records relating to correspondence between Fraser and numerous friends. Included are incoming and outgoing letters, cards, and postcards relating a large variety of activities and interests including updates about Fraser's progress in terms of his creative writing. Outgoing correspondence remains in either draft form, as carbon copies or as letters not sent to the intended recipient. For the majority of outgoing correspondence an intended recipient is not mentioned in the greeting by name.

Title based on content of series

Not all of the correspondence, either incoming or outgoing, is dated. However, dates that can be found span from 1966-1983.

For additional records relating to Fraser's prose work see the

Correspondence - Writing related series. For other correspondence see the

Correspondence - Writing related and Correspondence - Mother series.

Correspondence - Mother

[between 196- and 198-]

6 cm of textual records. - 2 greeting cards

Series consists of records relating to the correspondence between Fraser and his mother, Viola Fraser, whom he called "Mum". Included is incoming and outgoing letters and cards, some still in posted envelopes. The letters relate to Viola's and Fraser's accounts of daily activities and other miscellaneous concerns. Outgoing correspondence remains in either draft form, as carbon copies or as letters not sent to Viola.

Title based on content of series

Very few of the records indicate dates. In comparison with the Correspondence - Writing related and Correspondence - Personal series, the series contains the fewest indications of dates. Dates that can be found span from 1975 - 1978.

For other correspondence see the Correspondence - Writing related and Correspondence - Personal series.

Records relating to prose and creative writing work

[between 196- and 198-]

37.5 cm of textual records. - 2 postcards. - 2 posters

Series consists of records relating to Fraser's creative writing work and general prose. Included are character development work, story line work, drafts, proofs and typesets for Fraser's collected works published under Pulp Press, promotional materials for public readings, and a large amount of random fragments of other miscellaneous creative writing and prose work.

Title based on content of series

All of the materials found within the series are undated. However, most of the materials are notes and draft work for Fraser's collected works published in 1974 and 1982.

For additional records relating to prose and creative writing see the Personal notebooks series.

D.M. Fraser fonds**Folder List**

(Folder names in Italics are transcribed directly from their original folders)

Box	Folder number	Folder name	Series
1	1	Incoming	Correspondence - Mother
1	2	Incoming	Correspondence - Mother
1	3	Outgoing	Correspondence - Mother
1	4	Outgoing	Correspondence - Mother
1	5	Outgoing	Correspondence - Mother
1	6	Incoming	Correspondence - Writing related
1	7	Incoming (on Fraser's behalf)	Correspondence - Writing related
1	8	Outgoing	Correspondence - Writing related
1	9	Fraser - letters (after having been dealt with)	Correspondence - Writing related
1	10	Outgoing (on Fraser's behalf)	Correspondence - Writing related
1	11	Incoming	Correspondence - Personal
1	12	Outgoing	Correspondence - Personal
2	1	Investments	Financial information
2	2	Housing	Financial information
2	3	Fraser - Academic	Academic work
2	4	Found in "Fraser - Academic"	Academic work
2	5	UBC poster	Academic work
2	6	Fraser - Archive	Academic work ; Miscellaneous memorabilia
2	7	Photographs	Miscellaneous memorabilia
2	8	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous memorabilia
2	9	Printed material and magazines	Miscellaneous memorabilia
2	10	From his wallet	Miscellaneous memorabilia ; Daily living
2	11	Lists	Daily living
2	12	Fraser - Deal with later	Daily living ; Editorial work
2	13	Reviews	Editorial work
2	14	Fraser- Reviews. The Life and the Mind	Editorial work

2	15	Betty Lambert - prose	Editorial work
2	16	Editorial work - 3¢ Pulp	Editorial work
2	17	Miscellaneous	Editorial work
3	1	1972 Yearbook	Daily living
3	2	Journal: Halifax to Vancouver. January 1971	Notebooks
3	3	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	4	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	5	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	6	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	7	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	8	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	9	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
3	10	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
4	1	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
4	2	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
4	3	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
4	4	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
4	5	Miscellaneous	Notebooks
5	1	Public Readings	Prose / Creative writing work
5	2	Fraser - Mofo	Prose / Creative writing work
5	3	Fraser - Mr. Blue	Prose / Creative writing work
5	4	Fraser - Narcissus	Prose / Creative writing work
5	5	Fraser - Poesy	Prose / Creative writing work
5	6	Fraser - House	Prose / Creative writing work
5	7	Tripper	Prose / Creative writing work
5	8	Fraser - Tonio	Prose / Creative writing work
5	9	Fraser - Shedden	Prose / Creative writing work
5	10	Fraser - Stories. Vulgar History	Prose / Creative writing work
5	11	Fraser - Severin 301	Prose / Creative writing work
5	12	Fraser - Lonesome Town	Prose / Creative writing work
5	13	Prose - Lonesome Town	Prose / Creative writing work
5	14	Fraser - Masterpiece Ave.	Prose / Creative writing work

5	15	Masterpiece Avenue	Prose / Creative writing work
5	16	Fraser - Suppress	Prose / Creative writing work
5	17	Death of Pleasure	Prose / Creative writing work
5	18	Ignorant Armies	Prose / Creative writing work
5	19	Fraser - Totally miscellaneous	Prose / Creative writing work
5	20	Miscellaneous pieces	Prose / Creative writing work
5	21	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
5	22	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
5	23	Prose / Poetry - author unidentified	Prose / Creative writing work
5	24	Previously published	Prose / Creative writing work
5	25	Notes	Prose / Creative writing work
6	1	Class Warfare	Prose / Creative writing work
6	2	Class Warfare poster	Prose / Creative writing work
6	3	Prose - Saturday Night in the World	Prose / Creative writing work
6	4	Prose - Devon	Prose / Creative writing work
6	5	Prose - In Xanadu	Prose / Creative writing work
6	6	Prose - The Valentine Issue - Severin	Prose / Creative writing work
6	7	Prose - Severin : Winter	Prose / Creative writing work
6	8	Fraser - Poet + Wife	Prose / Creative writing work
6	9	Fraser - Queen Mab	Prose / Creative writing work
6	10	Fraser - Matt Tyler	Prose / Creative writing work
6	11	Fraser - Kelly	Prose / Creative writing work
6	12	Fraser - The War	Prose / Creative writing work
6	13	Xanadu	Prose / Creative writing work
6	14	Fraser - fragments	Prose / Creative writing work
6	15	Miscellaneous fragments	Prose / Creative writing work
6	16	Fraser - fragments not dealt with	Prose / Creative writing work
6	17	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
6	18	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
6	19	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
6	20	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work
6	21	Miscellaneous prose	Prose / Creative writing work

7	1	DMF's stuff. Miscellaneous Garbanzo	Prose / Creative writing work ; Editorial work ; Daily living ; Correspondence - Writing related ; Miscellaneous memorabilia
7	2	Fraser Carsonized 1. Armies	Prose / Creative writing work
7	3	Fraser - Adam	Prose / Creative writing work
7	4	Fraser - Apocrypha	Prose / Creative writing work
7	5	Fraser - Cat	Prose / Creative writing work
7	6	Fraser - Ceremonies of the Horsemen	Prose / Creative writing work
7	7	Fraser - Class Warfare	Prose / Creative writing work
7	8	Death of Pleasure	Prose / Creative writing work
7	9	Fraser - Elephant	Prose / Creative writing work
7	10	Typeset MS	Prose / Creative writing work