

Ann Micou fonds

Compiled by Chris Hives (2016)

University of British Columbia Archives



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Table of Contents

- **Fonds Description**
 - Title / Dates of Creation / Physical Description
 - Biographical Sketch
 - Scope and Content
 - Notes
- **Catalogue entry** (UBC Library catalogue)

Fonds Description

Ann Micou fonds. – 2003-2007.

7pp. of textual records.

4 CD sound recordings.

1 video cassette recording.

Biographical Sketch

Ann McKinstry Micou was a student in the English Department at Mills College at the same time as Jane Rule whom she knew as “Jinx”. In the second semester of their senior year (1952) they roomed together. After graduation, Micou went off to Concord Academy in Massachusetts to teach high school English while Rule went to Wallace Stegner's writing program at Stanford. While at Concord Academy Micou befriended Helen Sonthoff. After two years, in 1954 Micou had an opportunity to leave America to go to France with another Mills friend and she recommended to the headmistress that her position be offered to Rule, who accepted; it was under those circumstances that she and Helen met. Micou stayed in touch with Helen and Jane for all the years they were together in Canada and she corresponded regularly with Jane. Shortly before Helen's death, she had an opportunity to travel, with her husband, to visit them on Galiano Island. It was a happy, congenial goodbye to them both.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of seven incoming letters from Jane Rule to Ann Micou dating from 2003 to 2007. The last letter is dated October 8, 2007 and was written a little over a month before Jane Rule's death. The fonds also includes four CD's featuring Jane Rule reading a selection of her short stories including “House”, “A Chair for George”, “Seaweed & Song”, “You Cannot Judge a Pumpkin by the Smile Upon His Face”, “A Migrant's Christmas”, “If There is No Gate”, “Home Movie”, “Blessed are the Dead”, and “Dulce”. Apparently the recordings were produced in a small number for distribution to family and friends. The fonds also includes a copy of a videotape entitled *Fiction and Other Truths: A Film About Jane Rule* (Eds. Lynne Fernie, Aerlyn Weissman).

Notes

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

The correspondence came to the Archives via Alison Walker in 2016, and the CDs and video came directly from Micou in 2016.

The textual correspondence is stored with University Archives' vertical files at VF 115.

The audio recordings are stored in general audio collection UBC AT 3933 - UBC AT 3936 and the video tape has been filed with the Archives' video collection as UBC VT 2576.

Biographical sketch based on information provided by Ann McKinstry Micou.