



University of Victoria Archives

AR429

Candis Graham fonds

## **1. Fonds-level description**

### **Title**

Candis Graham fonds

### **Dates**

1985-2009

### **Extent**

9 cm of textual records

Note: includes 1 CD, 2 DVDs, 8 photographs, 2 portraits, 3 greeting cards

### **Biographical sketch**

Candis Graham was a feminist writer born in Ontario in 1949. She spent most of her life in Ontario, and moved to Victoria, BC in the year 2000. She was a member of the Writers' Union of Canada, and wrote many short stories, poems, and essays which have been published in various anthologies and periodicals. Graham published two of her own novels, and for a couple of years was the editor of nationwide newsletter called (f.)lip. She presented a series of writing workshops and for the last few years of her life she created a greeting card company that used poetry and word collage. Graham passed away in Victoria in 2005.

### **Scope and content**

Fonds consists of published and unpublished manuscripts written by Graham, professional and personal correspondence, photographs, writing workshop brochures and notes, as well as records of various public readings. The fonds also includes a variety of journals, newspapers, and chapbooks that Graham contributed to.

### **Notes**

Title based on content of the fonds.

## 2. Structure

### **Series 1. Correspondence. 1995-2009. 2 cm of textual record.**

Series consists of letters sent between Graham and several different women regarding her writing along with personal correspondence. The series includes correspondence with fellow poet Terry Ann Carter, writer Mary Meigs, Ellen Symons, publisher Catherine Lake, and publisher Nancy Pollock. Most of the correspondence is in regards to manuscripts and works being published, but they also include personal touches as well.

- 1.1 Terry Ann Carter correspondence
- 1.2 Mary Meigs correspondence
- 1.3 Ellen Symons correspondence
- 1.4 Catherine Lake correspondence
- 1.5 Nancy Pollock

### **Series 2. Personal Papers. 2005. 2 photographs : b&w, 6 photographs : colour, 3 greeting cards ; 20 x 14cm, 1 drawing ; 15 x 12cm, 1 painting : watercolour ; 25 x 35cm.**

Series consists of colour photographs of Graham, greeting cards created by Graham, as well as two portraits of Graham, one is watercolour and the other is drawn with a pen.

- 1.7 Photographs
- 1.8 Greeting cards
- 1.9 Portraits

### **Series 3. Writings. 1985-2009. 5 cm of textual records, 1 CD.**

Series consists of published and unpublished manuscripts. Some of the manuscripts come with comments from editors and publishers. Series also consists of feminist and lesbian newspapers and newsletters that either published Graham's work, included reviews by Graham, or included reviews of Graham's work.

Manuscript stories include:

Discovering Lewis	The Places Women Take Each Other
Laughs like a Girl	Matters of Heart
Going for Sainthood	Baby Fingers
Leaning into my Spirit (Other title: Changing)	Books and Other Friends
Chapbook	Cold Climate
My Foolish Heart	The Facts According to Susan
	A Freedom Fighter

The Heavens Cried  
Imperfect Moments  
Lies at Lunch  
Like Her  
Moi-Me  
O Mother  
The Saturn in Emily's Soul

Split Pea Soup  
Supper  
Tea For Thirteen  
Threads  
When Women were Bold and Men  
Pretended  
With My Little Eye

- 2.1 Unpublished manuscripts
- 2.2 Manuscript – Matters of the Heart
- 2.3 Manuscripts
- 2.4 Newspaper and newsletter with works by Graham
- 2.5 Newspaper reviews

**Series 4. Presentation and Workshop Notes and Public Readings. 1989-2005. 2 cm of textual records, 2 DvDs.**

Series consists of notes created by Graham and used for writing workshops that she created. There are also various brochures and programs regarding public readings that Graham participated in and two DvDs of recorded books readings from Graham.

- 2.6 Writing workshops, notes, brochures, and pamphlets
- 2.7 Public readings, media releases, posters
- 2.8 Public readings
- 2.9 Bywords poetry and literary event

### 3. Inventory

#### **Accession 2009-038**

##### Box 1

- 1.1 Terry Ann Carter correspondence (2004, 2009, nd)
- 1.2 Mary Meigs Correspondence (1995-2001)
- 1.3 Ellen Symons Correspondence (1998, 2003, nd)
- 1.5 Catherine Lake Correspondence (2000, 2009)
- 1.6 Nancy Pollock Correspondence (1998-2000, 2009)
- 1.7 Photographs (nd)
- 1.8 Greeting Cards (blank) created by Graham (2005)
- 1.9 Portraits (nd)

##### Box 2

- 2.1 Unpublished manuscripts (1999-2005)
- 2.2 Manuscript - Matter of heart (2005)
- 2.3 Manuscripts - Short stories, poems (1988)
- 2.4 Newspaper reviews about Graham and written by Graham (1985 -2009)
- 2.5 Newspapers and Newsletters with work by Graham (1992-1997)
- 2.6 Writing workshops – notes/brochures (2000, 2005)
- 2.7 Public readings, media releases, posters (1989 – 2000)
- 2.8 Public readings (1989)
- 2.9 Bywords program for Poetry and Literature events

#### Books Catalogued in Special Collection

All the Ways Home parenting and children in the lesbian and gay communities: a collection of short fiction. Edited by Cindy Rizzo...[et al.], 1995 (p. 103-108) [Electronic copy in the main library]

By Word of Mouth Lesbians write the Erotic. Edited by Lee Fleming, 1989 (p. 47-50) [Main library call number: PS8323 L47B9]

Christmas for Harmony: Women Writing in Support of Harmony House, Ottawa Kitchen Table Writers, 1996. (p. 7.) (2 copies)

Chutney: The Monday Night Poets, 1997. (p. 9-11)

Claiming Women's Lives: History and Contemporary Studies, 1994 (p. 241-243)

Dykeversions: lesbian short fiction / edited by The Lesbian Writing and Publishing Collective, c1986 [Main Library call number: PS8323 L47D94]

Dykeywords: an anthology of lesbian writing / edited by the Lesbian Writing and Publishing Collective, 1990 [Main Library call number: PS8287 L47D95]

Feminist Flavours: Recipes for Change: a collection of recipes, poetry, wit & wisdom, Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre, Ottawa, 1998. (p. 60-61)

Finding the lesbians: personal accounts from around the world / edited by Julia Penelope & Sarah Valentine; with a foreword by Alix Dobkin, c1990 (p. 94-100) [Main Library call number HQ75.5 F56]

The Gladdest Thing / by Candis Graham, Ottawa, 2000 (Chapbook)

Guide to Gracious Lesbian Living, Lilith Publications, Montreal, Quebec, 1988. (p. 59-66)

Holiday harmonies: a collection of women's stories for the holidays in support of harmony house, Ottawa Kitchen Table Writers, Ottawa, 1997. (p. 31-33) (2 copies)

Imperfect Moments, a collection of 11 stories, Polestar Press, Vancouver, 1993 (nominated for the 1994 American Library Association Gay and Lesbian Book Award) [Main Library call number: PS8563 R342 I46]

Lesbian Bedtime Stories 2 / Tough Dove Books, 1990, (p. 53-56)

Moon Days: Creative Writing about Menstruation, Summerhouse Press, Columbia, South Carolina, 1999 (p. 76-84)

Off the Rag: Lesbians Writing on Menopause, New Victoria Publishers, Norwich, VT, 1996 (p. 31-42) [Electronic copy in Main Library]

Our lives: lesbian personal writings / edited by Frances Rooney, c1991 (p. 123-128)  
[Main Library call number: PS8235 L47 O87]

Pomegranate Seeds: Does the infinite space we dissolve into taste of us then? By Rainer Maria Rilke, 2000 (p. 3) (2 copies)

Present Tense: tales from the Nation's Capital / edited by Warren Layberry and Steven Zytveld, 1995 (p. 29-34)

Queer view mirror 2 : lesbian & gay short short fiction / edited by James C. Johnstone & Karen X. Tulchinsky, c1997 (p. 126-128) [Main Library call number: PN6120.92 G39Q44 1997]

Radiant danse uv being: a poetic portrait of Bill Bissett / edited by Jeff Pew & Stephen Roxborough, 2006 (p. 62) [Special Collections call number: PS8287 B575R33]

Resist : essays against a homophobic culture / edited by Mona Oikawa, Dionne Falconer and Ann Decker, c1994 (p. 124-136) [Main Library call number: PS8235 L47R47]

ReCREATIONS: Religion and Spirituality in the Lives of Queer People / edited and with an intro. by Catherine Lake, 1999 (p. 157-159)

Shy Jasmine, Bold Lemon: poetry by the Green Tea Poets, 1997 (p. 19-22) (2 copies)

Strength for Tender Journeys: prose and poems celebrating love / edited by Candis Graham and Betty Taylor, 1999 (p. 33-35) (2 copies) (Chapbooks)

String to bow: a collection of love poems / Ursula Vaira, editor, 2005 ("Bridgewater Retreat", p. 28) [Special collections call number: PS8287 L6S76]

Tea for thirteen: stories / by Candis J. Graham, c1990 (collection of 13 stories) [Main Library call number: PS8563 R342T423]

Tide lines : stories of change by lesbians / edited by Lee Fleming, c1991 ("Because", p. 99-108) [Main Library call number: PS8323 L47T53]

Women: A Celebration of Women in the Arts / Chapbook – International Women’s Day  
March 8, 2011, Talking Marigold and mother tongue books/femmes de parole, 2001  
 (“Menopause 11”, p. 11)

Women and words : the anthology = Les femmes et les mots : une anthologie / edited by  
the West Coast Editorial Collective, 1984 (“Nothing Special”, p. 13-19) [Main Library  
call number PS8235 W6W6]

#### Newsletters

Bywords : Poetry and Ottawa Literary Events, 1998 (“Found Memories” p. 2), Vol. 8, no.  
6, April 1998

Breading the Silence : a feminist quarterly – October, December 1987, (“Baby Finders”,  
Vol. 6, no. 2, March 1988

Canadian Woman Studies : les cahiers de la femme / women writing, Fall 1993 - Vol. 14,  
no. 1; Spring 1996 - Vol. 16, no. 2; Winter 1997, Vol. 17, no. 1; Spring 2000, Vol. 20, no. 1 –  
 (“Margaret, Ken, Rosemary and Me”, p. 6-9 Spring 2000)

Common Lives/Lesbian Lives : a lesbian quarterly – Winter 1988, no. 25; Winter 1989,  
no. 33; Summer 1992, no. 43 (“Voices Paring” p. 105-112, 1992)

(f.) Lip : a newsletter of feminist innovative writing – Contributing editor: March 1988,  
vol. 1, no. 4; March 1989, vol. 2, no. 4; June 1989, vol. 3, no. 1; March 1990, vol. 3, no. 3 &  
4

Fireweed : a feminist quarterly – Spring 1989, issues 28 – Lesbianics (“She Just Feels  
That Way”, p. 98-104); Spring 1991, issue 32 (“Tea for Thirteen”, p. 11-17); Early Spring  
1996, issue 51/52 (Herpes 2; Herpes 3; Herpes 4”, p. 87-88); Winter 1996, issue 56, 2  
copies (“Peace on Earth Goodwill to Men”, p. 49-53)

Grain : New Writing New Art, Winter 1992, vol. 20, no. 4 (“Imperfect Moments”, p. 82-  
95) – Saskatchewan Writers Guild, Regina



Hysteria/e : Ottawa's Feminist Newspaper – Fall 1995, vol. 3, no. 3  
("AhhhhhhhhhhCHOO!", p. 1); Fall 1995, vol. 4, no. 1 ("The Sun and the Moon and All  
the Stars, p. 6-7)

Lesbian Fury/Furie Lesbienne, Vol. 3, no. 2 Summer/Fall 1986 –  
"AhhhhhhhhhhCHOO!!" (p. 7-8); Vol. 4, no. 2 Winter 1987-88 ("Oh Mother") p. 16-18.

Noovo Masheen : the active area, Dept. of English University of Ottawa, 1986 - number  
3 – Prose: "The Binding" (p. 3-10)