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Biographical
Ric Masten was an artist, songwriter, folksinger, poet and Unitarian minister. He was born in Carmel, California on June 20, 1929. Ric graduated from Montezuma High School in Los Gatos, California in 1946, and attended several colleges, but never received a degree. Ric studied painting in Paris at the Institut des Beaux Arts, but upon returning to Carmel, began writing and producing musical comedies at the Forest Theater, where he met his future wife, Billie Barbara. He settled with his family in Palo Colorado Canyon, the area of Big Sur which was often the subject of his 23 books and other performance pieces. Ric started songwriting and eventually began performing his own poetry. Beginning in 1966, he traveled extensively, performing at hundreds of conferences, colleges, schools, and churches. Through the years, Ric received numerous awards and honors, both nationally and internationally. In 2007, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from CSUMB. Ric Masten died May 9, 2008 of prostate cancer.

Billie Barbara Masten was an actress, poet and artist. She was born Billie Barbara Bolton in San Bernardino, California in 1932 and moved with her parents to Carmel five years later. Billie Barbara studied voice and theatre at Monterey Peninsula College. An aspiring actress, Billie Barbara married Ric Masten after they met at Carmel’s Forest Theatre. After raising their family, Billie Barbara joined her husband on tour in the mid-seventies and began performing with him and on her own at universities, churches, prisons, women’s shelters, and retirement homes. Billie Barbara died December 4, 2012 from a stroke.

Scope and Contents
Writings, correspondence, clippings, ephemera, photographs, business records, notes, scrapbooks and other personal papers of Ric and Billie Barbara Masten. The bulk of the collection documents Ric’s career as a poet and performer from
1959 until his death in 2008 and includes photocopied sheet music of Ric’s songs, correspondence, business records from Sunflower Ink Publishing, contracts, touring calendars, performance materials, promotional items, photographs, artwork, published works, and audio recordings. The collection includes materials related to Ric’s early education and career, as well as materials documenting Ric’s involvement with the Unitarian Universalist Association. It also contains personal documents, correspondence, photographs, and a few items from Ric’s father and grandfather, which date back to 1894. Additional items include materials documenting Billie Barbara’s work as a poet, author, artist, and performer, as well as more personal items of Billie Barbara’s, such as her dream logs and journals.

**Processing Information**
This collection was processed based on its original organization at the time of its donation to CSUMB. This collection was processed by Robin Guthrie, with the assistance of Josiah Peralta and Peter Alvarez.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
- Health
- Middle age
- Popular music -- Writing and publishing
- Poetry
- Monterey Peninsula (Calif.) -- Poetry
- Wit and humor
- Masten, Billie Barbara
- Masten, April F.
- Masten, Billie Barbara
- Masten, Ric

**Music and Sun Ink Publishing 1959-2007**

**Scope and Contents**
This series includes photocopied sheet music of Ric’s songs, correspondence related to public use authorization and copyright clearance requests, and business records from Sunflower Ink Publishing (later SunInk) related to material published by Ric and Billie Barbara Masten, as well as published works of other authors. This series also includes personal correspondence and essays about the Mastens’ music and publications.
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<th>They Are All Gone Now 1980-1989</th>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 23</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 25</td>
<td>Voice of the Hive 1981-1987</td>
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<td>Ric Masten Speaking 1991</td>
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<td>Betty Evans, California 1985-1990</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 41</td>
<td>Betty Evans, Venice 1986-1988</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 42</td>
<td>Betty Evans, Paris 1987-1988</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 43</td>
<td>Betty Evans, Rome 1988</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 44</td>
<td>Betty Evans, London 1989</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 45</td>
<td>Betty Evans, California Wine Country 1989-1992</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 46</td>
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<td>Carton 1, Folder 47</td>
<td>Betty Evans, San Francisco 1990</td>
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Carton 1, Folder 53: Tom Owen-Towle, New Men 1989-1994
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Carton 1, Folder 58: Victor Carpenter, Stations of the Spirit 1991-1991
Carton 1, Folder 59: Lynn Nelson, Hearts' Vision 1994
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Carton 2, Folder 2: Tony Perrino, Holy Quest 1988-1990
Carton 2, Folder 3: Carl R Hansen 1996
Carton 2, Folder 5: Roberta Richards, The Devil Next Door 1993-1994
Carton 2, Folder 6: Lin Jensen and Elliot Roberts, Bowing to Receive the Mountain 1991-2003
Carton 2, Folder 7: Alice Pero, Thawed Stars 1999
Carton 2, Folder 8: Observations 1987-1999
Carton 2, Folder 9: Receipts for Orders 1978-2006
Carton 2, Folder 10: Sunflower Enterprises 1981-1982
Carton 2, Folder 11: Papier-Mache 1990-1999
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Carton 2, Folder 17: Peninsula Laser Print 1985-1987
Carton 2, Folder 18: Bookcrafters Inc. 1992-1996
Carton 2, Folder 19: Barcodes-Printer Undated
Carton 2, Folder 20: Express Mail Undated
Carton 2, Folder 21: Intercraft Company 1996
Carton 2, Folder 22: Bookcrafters, Inc. 1985-1987

Guide to the Ric and Billie
Barbara Masten papers MS.7
Performances 1959-2008

Scope and Contents

This series includes primarily black and white photographs of Ric’s performances, as well as some photos of Ric and Billie Barbara together. It also includes contracts, touring calendars, correspondence, promotional materials, and performance materials related to the Mastens’ appearances at workshops, conferences, schools, and churches.

Correspondence-Agents 1985-1988

Yvonne Tessler 1986

Alice B. Acheson 1990

Student Poems 1991

Evaluations 1981-1995

Proctor 1984

Billie and Ric’s Weekend & Maps 1980-1999

Touring Calendars 1966-2008

Speaker Badges 1996-2004

Fee Schedule/Contracts, Maps 1972-2005

Performance Contracts / Tour Mailings 1966-1998

Artist Engagement Agreement 1978-1996

Road Workday Form 1975

Other Traveling Troubadors 1976-1987

Promotional Material 1967-1996

Publicity / Publicity-More 1959-1975

Conference PR / Ric Masten Speaking 1993-1994, Undated

News Release / In the Church Undated

In the College / In the High School 1989-1990


In the Middle School / Elementary 1982-1989

School Review - Kisling Undated

On Relationships / Interpendence Undated

Billie Barbara - College, Church Undated

House Concert Undated
Carton 2, Folder 56
Carton 2, Folder 57
Carton 3, Folder 1
Carton 3, Folder 2
Carton 3, Folder 3
Carton 3, Folder 4
Carton 3, Folder 5
Carton 3, Folder 6
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Carton 3, Folder 36
Carton 3, Folder 37-38
Carton 3, Folder 39-40
Carton 3, Folder 41-42
Carton 3, Folder 43
Carton 4, Folder 1
Carton 4, Folder 2-3
Carton 4, Folder 4
Carton 4, Folder 5

Wedding PR / SI Booklist 1998
SI in PR-Mac 2000
Addresses in Jeanne's Computer Undated
Posters-Flyers 1978-2008
In Concert 1986
Wedding Documents 1997-2005
Invitations to Perform 1985-2006
UUA Performances 1971-2002
Weddings 1970-2006
PR Photographs Undated
PR Photos-Working Undated
PR-BB+Ric Performing 2007
Negatives 1971-1975
Headshots Undated
Headshots-Negatives Undated
Words & One-Liners 00-50 Undated
Words & One-Liners 51-100 1998
Words & One-Liners Undated
Pen & Inks Undated
Traveling Notebook - Brown Book Undated
Traveling Notebook - Black Book Undated

Billie Barbara Masten 1932-2008

Scope and Contents
This series includes Billie Barbara’s personal journals and notebooks, work binders, correspondence, ephemera, photographs, and news clippings. It also includes two of Billie Barbara’s publications: "Owning the Beast and the Bad Girl" and "Billy Beethoven."

Carton 4, Folder 6-7
Carton 4, Folder 8
Carton 4, Folder 9-10
Carton 4, Folder 11
Carton 4, Folder 12
Carton 4, Folder 13
Carton 4, Folder 14
Carton 4, Folder 15-16
Carton 4, Folder 17

Dream Logs + Journals 1968-2003
Artwork and Inspiration 1953-2000
Work Binder 1978-2006
Women and Food 1999-2000
Women and Religion 1984-2000
Marriage Counseling 1971-1983
Rage and Alcoholism 1976-2004
Aging and Ceremony 1973-2001
Clippings 1974-2007
Scope and Contents
This series includes materials related to Ric’s early education and career, as well as materials documenting Ric’s involvement with the Unitarian Universalist Association. It also includes personal documents, correspondence, photographs, books given to the Mastens by friends, and a few items from Ric’s father and grandfather.
<table>
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<th>Carton 5, Folder 29</th>
<th>Mike Monohan Undated</th>
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<td>Pre-1950s People 1985-2006</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 12</td>
<td>1980s Snapshots 1984-1989</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 13</td>
<td>1990s Snapshots 1994-1997</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 14</td>
<td>Palo Colorado / Big Sur 1987-2005</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 15</td>
<td>First Night / Morgan's Coffee House 1997-2005</td>
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<td>2000s Snapshots 1999-2005</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 20</td>
<td>News Clippings, Masten / Taylor 1929-1949</td>
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<td>Richard L. Masten 1929-1941</td>
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<td>E. C. Masten 1894</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 24</td>
<td>Hutch, Manuscript Undated</td>
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<td>Carton 6, Folder 25</td>
<td>Uncle Ruthie Bell Poetry + Songs / CD 1993-1996</td>
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<td>Potpourri / 1987 - Pocket Poetry 1981-1987</td>
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<td>What Next? / For Aliyat 1989-2001</td>
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Guide to the Ric and Billie
Barbara Masten papers MS.7
Algod in Scorpio / 10 Ways to Meditate 1965-1979

The Last Running / Body Poems for Deaf Men 1977-1980

Tapestry / Winter Roses, by Charlene Baldridge 1982-1990

In Praise of Stories / Tales From the Taxicab 1973-1997

Comet Halley, the mag 2 / Idiomatic Expressions 1985

The People's Book, by John Mc Cleary 1972

Trial Poems, by Daniel Berrigan and Thomas Lewis 1970

Clippings 1952-2008

Scope and Contents

This series includes newspaper clippings about the Mastens and clippings of Ric’s “Pen and Ink” series from Alta Vista Magazine.

Etc. 1952-2008

Articles, Ric and Owen Greenan 1991-1992

Pen and Inks 1991-1996

Words and One-Liners 1996-1998

Scrapbook 1992-1993

Publications 1970-2007

Scope and Contents

This series includes books written by Ric Masten, as well as works he collaborated on with others, including “His & Hers: A Passage Through the Middle-Age Crazies,” which he co-wrote with Billie Barbara. It also contains works by other writers published through Sunflower Ink Publishing.


Sunflowers 1971 (3rd Printing 1975)

Sunflowers 1971 (6th Printing 1979)

Let It Be A Dance 1975

Speaking Poems 1977

Dragonflies, Codfish & Frogs 1977 (3rd Printing 1979)

The Voice of the Hive 1978


His & Hers (Annotated) 1978

His & Hers 1978

Stark Naked (Paperback) 1980

Stark Naked (Hard Cover) 1980

The Deserted Rooster 1982

Even As We Speak 1982

They Are All Gone Now...And So Are You 1985

Notice Me! 1986

Looking For Georgia O'Keefe and Other Observations 1987

Ric Masten Speaking 1990

I Know It Isn't Funny But I Love To Make You Laugh 1991

I Know It Isn't Funny But I Love To Make You Laugh 1996

Let It Be A Dance (Limited Edition) Undated

Words & One-Liners Take 2 2005

Words & One-Liners Not Dead Yet Take 3 2008

Going Out Dancing 2008
| Box 11, Folder 2 | Parallel Journeys 2003 |
| Box 11, Folder 3 | Troubadour And Poet: The Magical Ministry of Ric Masten 2007 |
| Box 11, Folder 4 | Pacific Light 2000 |
| Box 11, Folder 5 | Reprints of Poems 1984 |
| Box 11, Folder 6 | Reprints of Poems 1991-2005 |
| Box 11, Folder 7 | Generation To Generation 1986 |
| Box 11, Folder 8 | Staying Together 1987 |
| Box 12, Folder 1 | How To Take A Walking Field Trip On The Monterey Peninsula And Live To Tell The Story Undated |
| Box 12, Folder 2 | On My Way 1996 |
| Box 12, Folder 3 | California Cooking 1978 |
| Box 12, Folder 4 | Venice Italy Cooking 1986 |
| Box 12, Folder 5 | Rome Italy Cooking 1988 |
| Box 12, Folder 6 | London England Cooking 1989 |
| Box 12, Folder 7 | San Francisco California Cooking 1990 |
| Box 12, Folder 8 | California Wine Country Cooking 1992 |
| Box 12, Folder 9 | Survival Games Personalities Play 1992 |
| Box 12, Folder 10 | Sacred Service In Civil Space 2007 |

**Carton 14**

**Audiovisual 1970-2001**

Scope and Contents

This series contains primarily LP recordings of Ric's poetry performances. It also includes reel-to-reel audio tapes, a cassette, a CD, and a DVD of Ric and Billie Barbara performing.

**Carton 14, Case 1**

**Oversize and artifacts 1947-2008**

Scope and Contents

This series consists of large format posters, photographs, and artwork. It also includes an award statue from the Arts Council for Monterey County and a small plaque for a school appearance.