
Finding Aid for the Ellen Bass Papers LSC.2227

Finding aid prepared by Processed by Stacy Wood, 2014. Updated by Sabrina Ponce, 2018.

UCLA Library Special Collections

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Online finding aid last updated 21 February 2018.

Title: Ellen Bass papers

Identifier/Call Number: LSC.2227

Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.4 linear feet(1 box)

Date (inclusive): 1990-2002

Abstract: Ellen Bass is an American poet as well as co-author of the groundbreaking book, *The Courage to Heal: A Guide for Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse*. This collection contains an interview transcript from 2002 with Ellen Bass and co-author Laura Davis addressing the publication of the book and Bass's activist work in Santa Cruz, California. Also included are Betacam tapes created to accompany *The Courage to Heal*, none of which were ultimately used.

Language of Materials: Materials are in English.

Physical Location: Stored off-site at SRLF. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Creator: Bass, Ellen

Conditions Governing Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Ellen Bass Papers (Collection 2227). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

Acquisition Information

June Mazer Lesbian Archives, transfer, 2012. Original provenance unknown.

This collection is part of an outreach and collection-building partnership between the [June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives](#), the [UCLA Center for the Study of Women \(CSW\)](#), and the [UCLA Library](#).

Processing History

Processed by Stacy Wood, 2014. Description enhanced and further physical processing completed by Sabrina Ponce in 2018.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [7566316](#)

Sponsor

The [June L. Mazer Lesbian Archive](#) at UCLA is an outreach and collection-building partnership between the [June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives](#), the [UCLA Center for the Study of Women \(CSW\)](#), and the [UCLA Library](#). These collections expand the pool of primary source materials available to researchers and to the community at large. This partnership was initiated by CSW and is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to inventory, organize, preserve, and digitize more than eighty Mazer collections pertaining to lesbian and feminist activism and writings.

Biography

Ellen Bass was born in 1947 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is an American poet as well as co-author of the groundbreaking book, *The Courage to Heal: A Guide for Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse*. Bass grew up in Margate City, New Jersey. She attended Goucher College, receiving her bachelor's degree in 1968. She then earned her master's degree from Boston University, where she studied with poet Anne Sexton. From 1970-1974, Bass worked as an administrator at Project Place, a social service center in Boston. She is currently teaching in the Masters of Fine Arts program at Pacific University in Oregon and has been teaching workshops on "Writing About Our Lives" in Santa Cruz, California since 1974. Her poems have appeared in hundreds of journals, anthologies, and magazines including *Ploughshares*, *The American Poetry Review*, and *The Atlantic Monthly*. Her nonfiction books, including *The Courage to Heal* have sold over a million copies and have been translated into twelve languages. She has won several awards including a Pushcart Prize, The Missouri Review's Larry Lewis Award, the Greensboro Poetry Prize and the Elliston Book Award for

Poetry.

Scope and Content

This collection contains an interview transcript from 2002 with Ellen Bass and Laura Davis, authors of *The Courage to Heal*, addressing the publication of the book and Bass's activist work in Santa Cruz, California. Also included are Betacam tapes created to accompany *The Courage to Heal*, none of which were ultimately used.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

COLLECTION CONTAINS AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS: Audiovisual materials in this collection will require assessment and possible digitization for safe access. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Organization and Arrangement

Materials arranged by type.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Bass, Ellen -- Archives.

June L. Mazer Lesbian Archive at UCLA.

June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives.

Lesbian activists--Archives.

Box 1

Audiovisual materials 1990

Scope and Content

Includes three Betacam tapes that were created to accompany Bass and Davis' work, *The Courage to Heal*, but were not subsequently used.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

COLLECTION CONTAINS AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS: Audiovisual materials in this collection will require assessment and possible digitization for safe access. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Box 1, Folder 1

Interview transcript 2002

Scope and Content

The interview was conducted by Evelyn Richards and is part of a larger oral history project. This section specifically addresses how Ellen Bass and Laura Davis became involved in feminism and community activism in Santa Cruz, California.