Finding Aid for the Terri de la Peña Papers 1985-1996 LSC.1960

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Online finding aid last updated 20 November 2017.
Title: Terri de la Peña papers
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.1960
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 7.5 linear feet(15 document boxes)
Date (inclusive): 1985-1996
Abstract: Terri de la Peña is a novelist, short story writer, and children's book author whose writings deal with complex issues of identity, homophobia, assimilation and resistance focusing on the lives of Chicana lesbians. This collection contains materials related to the creation, dissemination, publication and revision of both fictional and nonfictional works by Terri de la Peña. The bulk of the collection is comprised of drafts of her first novel, Margins, also considered to be the first Chicana lesbian novel. The collection also includes correspondence, contractual information, promotional materials, drafts and notes.
Language of Materials : Materials are in English, with some Spanish words and phrases interspersed in the records.
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: Peña, Terri de la , 1947
Conditions Governing Access
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Terri de la Pena papers, (Collection 1960). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.
Provenance/Source of Acquisition
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 Note
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.
UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 6962949
Biography
Mary Theresa de la Peña was born on February 20, 1947 in Santa Monica, California. She is a fifth-generation Californian. Her father, Joaquin de la Peña, was a tire repair foreman while her mother, Juanita Escobedo, owned a beauty shop. De la Peña was educated in Santa Monica parochial schools and at Santa Monica Community College. She is a self-taught writer. She wrote her first novel, Margins, while employed as an academic affairs assistant with the College of Letters and Science at the University of California, Los Angeles. The majority of her work is in short story form although she also wrote several novels; she was nominated for the Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Fiction for her 1999 novel Faults. Her narratives revolve around the myriad cultural and social issues facing Chicana lesbians such as a search for identity, cultural assimilation, class consciousness, historical awareness, internal and external racism, homophobia, and visibility.
1989  The Original Coming Out Stories
1990  Lesbian Bedtime Stories Two
1991  Margins
1992  A is for the Americas (Children’s book co-written with Cynthia Chin-Lee and Enrique O. Sanchez)
1993  Happy Endings: Lesbian Writers Talk about their Lives and Work
1994  Out of the Class Closet: Lesbians Speak
1994  Latin Satins
1994  Chicana Blues
1994  Lavender Mansions: 40 Contemporary Lesbian and Gay Short Stories
1994  Another Wilderness: New Outdoor Writing by Women
1996  Night Bites: Vampire Stories by Women
1996  Lesbian Friendships: For Ourselves and Each Other
1996  Off the Rag: Lesbians Writing on Menopause
1999  Faults: A Novel
1999  Night Shade: Gothic Tales by Women
2002  At Home on This Earth: Two Centuries of U.S. Women’s Nature Writing
2003  Tortilleras: Hispanic and U.S. Latina Lesbian Expression
2008  The Chicano/Latino Literary Prize: An Anthology of Prize-Winning Fiction, Poetry and Drama

Scope and Content
This collection contains materials related to the creation, dissemination, publication and revision of both fictional and nonfictional works by Terri de la Peña. The bulk of the collection is made up of drafts of her first novel, Margins, also considered to be the first Chicana lesbian novel. The collection also includes correspondence, contractual information, promotional materials, drafts and notes.

Organization and Arrangement
Materials arranged into the following series:
  Series 1: Margins
  Series 2: Latin Satins
  Series 3: Other works
Series 4: Promotional materials and publications
  Terri de la Peña Poster . Available at Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.
  Sophia Corleone papers . Available at Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.
  Terry Wolverton papers . Available at Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
June L. Mazer Lesbian Archive at UCLA.
June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives.
Peña, Terri de la , 1947 -- Archives
Mexican American lesbians--California, Southern--Archives.
Mexican American women authors--California, Southern--Archives.

Series 1: Margins 1988-1991
Scope and Content
Drafts of Terri de la Peña’s novel Margins, some of which are annotated by reviewers.

Box 1, Folders 1-3  Through the Shadows 1988
Scope and Contents note
This folder contains an early draft of Margins titled Through the Shadows.

Box 1, Folders 4-6  Margins: First draft 1988
Box 2, Folders 1-3  Margins: Second draft 1988
Box 2, Folders 4-5  Margins: Second draft, annotated 1988
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 2, Folder 6</th>
<th>Margins: Third draft 1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folders 1-2</td>
<td>Margins: Third draft, version 2 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folders 3-5</td>
<td>Margins: Fourth draft 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 6</td>
<td>Margins: Fifth draft 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folders 1-2</td>
<td>Margins: Fifth draft, annotated 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folders 3-5</td>
<td>Margins: Sixth draft 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folders 6-7, Box 5, Folder 1</td>
<td>Margins: Sixth draft, version 2 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folders 2-4</td>
<td>Margins: Seventh draft 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 5-7</td>
<td>Margins: Seventh draft, revisions 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folders 6-7</td>
<td>Margins: Seventh draft, version 2 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 8</td>
<td>Margins: Synopsis 1991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Series 2: Latin Satins 1993**

**Scope and Content**

Drafts of Terri de la Peña's novel *Latin Satins*.

| Box 7, Folder 1, Box 6, Folder 9 | Latin Satins: Second draft circa 1992 |
| Box 7, Folders 2-5 | Latin Satins: Third draft 1993 |
| Box 7, Folders 6-7 | Latin Satins: Third draft, version 2 1993 |
| Box 8, Folders 1-2 | Latin Satins: Fourth draft 1993 |
| Box 8, Folders 3-7 | Latin Satins: Fourth draft, version 2 1993 |
| Box 8, Folders 8-9 | Latin Satins: Fourth draft, version 3 circa 1993 |

**Series 3: Other works 1987-1996**

**Scope and Content**

Short stories and articles written by Terri de la Peña, some of which were later developed into novels.

**Organization and Arrangement**

Materials arranged in chronological order by publication date with the exception of "The Secret Admirer" and *Lesbian News*, which were placed at the end of the series.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 9, Folder 2</th>
<th>&quot;Frankie&quot; 1988-1991</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 3</td>
<td>&quot;Frankie&quot; and &quot;Patty&quot; 1988-1989</td>
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<td>Box 9, Folder 4</td>
<td>&quot;A Saturday in August&quot; 1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 5</td>
<td>&quot;La Maya&quot; 1989</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Finding Aid for the Terri de la Peña Papers 1985-1996**

LSC.1960
"Tres Mujeres" 1989
Scope and Content
Materials related to a submission for a special issue of *Frontiers: a Journal of Women Studies* entitled "Las Chicanas," focusing on the growth of Chicana studies and the experience of women of the Americas. Included are the call for submissions, several drafts with notes and edits and the final submitted version of "Tres Mujeres".

"Tortilleras" 1988-1989
Scope and Content
Materials related to the publication of *Lesbian Bedtime Stories*, a collection of short stories focused on lesbian experiences and relationships released by Tough Dove Books. Includes several drafts of Terri de la Peña's piece "Tortilleras" (an excerpt from *Margins*) as well as the contributor's note and correspondence. This story was also published in the anthology *Lesbian Culture* edited by Julia Penelope.

"Mariposa" 1989-1990
Scope and Content
Materials related to the publication of *Lesbian Bedtime Stories 2*, the follow-up to *Lesbian Bedtime Stories*. Includes several drafts of the story "Mariposa."

Scope and Content
Materials related to the anthology *Lesbian Love Stories Volume 2*, including drafts and edits of de la Peña's submission "Mujeres Morenas."

"Once a Friend" 1985-1989
Scope and Content
Materials related to the publication of the anthology *The One You Call Sister: New Women's Fiction*, focusing on short stories written by women about lesbians and their sisters. Included are several drafts of de la Peña's short story "Once a Friend" as well as correspondence and publication information.

"Good-bye Ricky Ricardo; Hello Lesbianism" 1988-1989
Scope and Content
Materials related to the publication of the second edition of *The Original Coming Out Stories* edited by Susan Wolfe and Julia Penelope. Includes drafts and finals submissions for de la Peña's story "Good-bye Ricky Ricardo; Hello Lesbianism".

"Out For Lunch" 1989
Scope and Content
Submission materials for the gay and lesbian quarterly *Out/Look*. "Out for Lunch" was submitted and rejected, but later published in the UCLA LGBT publication *Ten Percent*, now known as *OutWrite News Magazine*.

"Bouquets" 1988-1991
Scope and Content
Correspondence and reviews for Silverleaf Press as well as drafts of the story "Bouquets," submitted to the Silverleaf Press' *Anthology of Lesbian Humor*, but later published in *Matrix*, a women's newsmagazine.

"Palabras" 1989-1990
Scope and Content
Submission and editorial materials as well as correspondence on a special issue on friendship for the lesbian magazine *Sinister Wisdom*. 
"Beyond El Camino Real" 1989-1991

Scope and Content
Submission and publication materials for a special issue of Third Woman featuring Chicana lesbians. Includes drafts and notes for "Beyond El Camino Real" as well as correspondence and the original call for submissions. This story was subsequently submitted to, but not published in, the anthology Women on Women.

"Catnap" 1990-1991

Scope and Content
Submission materials and edited versions of the story "Catnap" included in the anthology Cats (and their Dykes).

"El Cuñado" 1990

Scope and Content
Editorial materials and drafts of "El Cuñado" for the De las Otras/De los Otros anthology and another anthology by the Seal Press, both of which were never published. Also includes a CV and an autobiographical piece titled "Testimonio."

"Sequences" 1988-1990

Scope and Content
Submission and publication materials including drafts and correspondence for the anthology Finding the Lesbians, edited by Julia Penelope.

"Somewhere to Turn: Virginia Uribe and Project 10" 1990

Scope and Content
Submission and publication materials for Lesbian Teachers Anthology proposed by Irene Reti, editor of Cats (and their Dykes), that was never published.

"Desert Quartet" 1990

Scope and Content
Drafts of "Desert Quartet," a series of stories dedicated to de la Peña's lover Gloria for inclusion in Word of Mouth: Short-Short Writings By Women. Also included is correspondence with Irene Zahava, the editor of the anthology as well as notes for the stories.


Scope and Content
Correspondence and drafts of a story for an ultimately unpublished anthology on lesbian immigrants which would have included fictional and nonfictional works. "Finding out the Secrets" was ultimately published in Sinister Wisdom and was based on an oral herstory interview with Eva Ayala, a lesbian Mexican immigrant who was a bus driver for the City of Santa Monica at the time of the interview.

"Blue" 1989-1991

Scope and Content
Drafts of the story "Blue," initially submitted to Conditions magazine, but ultimately included in the anthology Riding Desire. Correspondence with editors is also included.

"Nullipara, 44" 1991-1992

Scope and Content
Includes correspondence with Irene Reti, editor of the collection Childless by Choice: A Multicultural Feminist Anthology for which this story was submitted.
Box 11, Folder 2

Scope and Content
Drafts of the essay "Chicana, Workingclass and Proud: The Case of the Lopsided Tortilla," which was included in the anthology Out of the Class Closet: Lesbians Speak edited by Julia Penelope about class issues within and without the lesbian community. Correspondence with the editor is also included as well as drafts of another piece titled "Testimonial de una Chicana Lesbiana: From Working Class to Working in Class," "Remarks for the Writer's Responsibilities: Gender, Race, and Class in Lesbian and Gay Fiction," and other pieces.

Box 11, Folder 3

Lesbian Culture: An Anthology 1993
Scope and Content
Solicitation from Dena Taylor from The Crossing Press for feedback on Lesbian Culture: An Anthology along with a pre-publication copy of the collection for review.

Box 11, Folder 4

"Pajaritos" 1993-1994
Scope and Content

Box 11, Folder 5

"At Home" 1994
Scope and Content
"At Home" would have been included in the collection Dyke Life: From Growing Up to Growing Old -- A Celebration of the Lesbian Experience.

Box 11, Folder 6

"Fiction into Fact" 1993-1995
Scope and Contents note
Correspondence with the editors, Rich Rasi and Lourdes Rodriguez-Nogues, about their collection Out in the Workplace, Telling Our Stories.

Box 11, Folder 7

"Refugio" 1996
Scope and Contents note
Receipts, notes, drafts relating to the story "Refugio" to be included in the collection Night Bites, edited by Victoria Brownworth and published by Seal Press.

Box 11, Folder 8

Scope and Contents note
Drafts of "The Secret Admirer" alternately titled "Bloody Sunday," which would eventually become Latin Satins. Also includes correspondence about submissions and reviews.

Box 12, Folder 1

Scope and Contents note
Reviews, articles and correspondence written for Lesbian News. Includes materials from when de la Peña was officially on staff and when she was freelance.

Series 4: Promotional materials and publications 1988-1996
Scope and Content
Includes correspondence, promotional materials, and publications by companies who published or promoted Terri de la Peña's work like Tough Dove Books and Cleis Press.
Organization and Arrangement
Materials arranged by publishing house or publication, listed in approximate chronological order.

Box 12, Folder 2

Correspondence, programming, and publication materials 1988-1996
Box 12, Folder 3  
**Lesbian and Gay Latina/o Anthology 1990**

Scope and Contents note
Correspondence materials from the unpublished *Lesbian and Gay Latina/o Anthology*.

Box 12, Folder 4  
**Contemporary Lesbian Writers of the United States 1991-1994**

Scope and Contents note
Correspondence concerning the publication of *Contemporary Lesbian Writers of the United States* edited by Sandra Pollack and Denise Knight with an introduction by Tucker Pamella Farley, in which de la Peña was featured.

Box 12, Folder 5  
**Tough Dove Books 1989-1991**

Scope and Contents note
Correspondence with publisher about advance copies, payment and editions as well as photocopied versions of stories in Tough Dove Books anthologies and collections.

Box 12, Folder 6  
**A Different Light's "Lesbian Writers Series" 1991-1993**

Scope and Contents note
Information regarding the longstanding "Lesbian Writers Series" talk in the gay and lesbian bookstore A Different Light. Included are logistical information, promotional materials, contact information and guidelines.

Box 12, Folder 7  
**Hurricane Alice: A Feminist Quarterly 1991-1993**

Scope and Contents note
Correspondence with editors and copies of the spring, summer and winter of 1991 issues of the *Hurricane Alice Feminist Quarterly*.

Box 12, Folder 8  
**We Came All the Way from Cuba So You Could Dress Like This? 1994**

Scope and Contents note
Galley for the collection *We Came All the Way from Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?* by Achy Obejas.

Box 12, Folder 9  
**"I Know You Know" t-shirt undated**

Scope and Contents note
T shirt with the words "I Know You Know".