
Guide to the Sheila Ortiz-Taylor Papers CEMA 13

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Title: Sheila Ortiz-Taylor Papers

Identifier/Call Number: CEMA 13

Contributing Institution: UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 4.0 linear feet 9 boxes

Date (inclusive): 1957-2006

Abstract: The Sheila Ortiz-Taylor collection contains material relating primarily to her work as a writer and a teacher. The collection takes up four linear feet and is continually being added to by Ortiz-Taylor, as her work as a scholar and writer continues. Most of the material in the collection focuses specifically on her novels and includes her drafts of these novels, many of them annotated for correction. The scope of the manuscript, as well as the notes on revisions to be made, are invaluable as they illuminate her method and style during the writing process. The collection contains samples of Ortiz-Taylor's writing from her work as a university student, and later, to her recognition as a noted and critically acclaimed novelist. Because of this comprehensive sampling of her work, the collection gives valuable insight into Ortiz-Taylor's growth as an icon of Chicana writing.

Series Description

Series 1 Personal and Biographical information. Series one is arranged as one series, in order of its creation where possible, and following chronological order where ever possible. The series covers the period from 1963 to 1997. It begins with Ortiz-Taylor's travel journal from a trip to Europe in 1963. Included is a journal which was periodically maintained from 1963 to 1965. This second journal contains quotes and some story ideas as well as samples of Ortiz-Taylor's early writing style. Series one contains several interviews with Ortiz-Taylor, covering such topics as, lesbian mothers and other aspects of her novels. These interviews help to describe her thought process during the writing of her novels, for example explanations on various themes she works with in her writing, and comments on writing in general. Lastly, series one contains a lecture written for a women's workshop on her experiences in becoming a published writer. This first series is contained within the first box of the collection. The material in this series is arranged from biographical information throughout the collection, which relate to this subject.

Series 2 Correspondence. The majority of the letters in series two were written to Sheila Ortiz-Taylor during the years 1992-2006. These letters were sent to her by the general public in response to her published books. Small collections of letters refer to Ortiz-Taylor's relationship with Naiad Press, publisher of *Faultline*, *Slow Dancing at Miss Polly's*, *Southbound*, and *Spring Forward/Fall Back*. The correspondence is arranged in four folders within the first box. Series two is further divided into two sub series, *Correspondence with Publishers and General Literary Correspondence*.

Series 3 Writings. This series, consisting of seven sub series, is by far the largest of the collection. There are seven sub series spanning six boxes. The first is, *Published works: manuscripts 1972-1996* consisting of four manuscripts/drafts of her published works arranged chronologically from *Faultline* in 1972 to *Coachella*, in 1998. The second sub series *Published works from journals and periodicals 1977-2003* contains excerpts of her work printed in various magazines and journals. Sub series three is self explanatory; titled *Miscellaneous Books*, consisting of two foreign language versions of *Faultline* and one book of poetry entitled *North of Wakulla*, annotated with comments to Ortiz-Taylor from her peers in literature. Also included in this sub series is the lesbian theme calendar, *Lesbian Muse*. Sub series four, *Unpublished works: manuscripts 1970-1999* contains manuscripts of Ortiz-Taylor's as of yet unpublished work arranged in chronological order. There are five complete draft manuscripts, as well as academic papers Ortiz-Taylor wrote while in college. These papers reveal some of Ortiz-Taylor's thought process in the writing of her unpublished dissertation *Surrealism in the Picaresque Novel*. The fifth sub series, *Unpublished academic papers and stories*, spans most of box 7 and contains 23 of Ortiz-Taylor's academic papers. Annotated by professors and spanning a variety of subjects from 1957 to 2006 (some of the papers are undated). This portion of the collection shows in detail the formation of Ortiz-Taylor's intellectual foundation in English literature. The sixth sub series, *Bibliographic Contributions* is a detailed accounting of her work in several bibliographic publications as well as correspondence relating to her bibliographic work. The seventh and final sub series, *Miscellany* contains free-writes and plot mapping giving an indication of Ortiz-Taylor's work habits.

Series 4 Reviews and Publicity. This series deals specifically with the reviews and critiques of Sheila Ortiz-Taylor's books and her relationship with Naiad press, the primary publisher of her work. It is separated into critiques dealing specifically with Naiad press and each book in chronological order of their publishing.

Series 5 Video and Audio Recordings. Series five contains one video and one audiotape. Both tapes were made at Florida State University, and detail the contributions Ortiz-Taylor has made to that university. The videotape is excellent visual documentation of her Martin Luther King award for teaching excellence.

Biography

Sheila Ortiz-Taylor is a critically acclaimed Chicana novelist, poet and lecturer, and winner of the Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award (1997). Born in Los Angeles in 1939, Ortiz-Taylor began writing poetry and plays as early as junior high school. She says of her upbringing: "Daughters of a tap dancer and a yo-yo painter, my sister and I were sitting ducks for the muses, who handed her a paint set and me three yellow pencils." Upon graduation from high school, Ortiz-Taylor enrolled at UCLA where she completed one year as an English Major with a Spanish Minor. The following year, in 1958, She was married and relocated to Iowa where she worked as a nurse's aid with handicapped children and as a secretary. She returned to Los Angeles and enrolled again as a sophomore in 1960 where she won the Mabel Wilson Richards Fellowship. In 1961, she transferred to California State University, Northridge, where she graduated with a Bachelors degree in English, (Cum Laude), and was named Outstanding Student of Language and Literature in 1963. After a summer of travel in Europe, Ortiz-Taylor returned to UCLA where she eventually received her M.A. in 1964 and her Ph.D. in 1972.

During the period from 1964 to 1972, Ortiz-Taylor also worked on her book *Emily Dickinson, a Bibliography*. This piece was heralded as one of the most complete and essential bibliographies of its kind. Ortiz-Taylor continued to contribute bibliographical pieces to *American Literary Realism* and to *Twentieth Century Literature* and it was during this time that she became the proud mother of two daughters, Andrea Bo Clendenning and Jessica Ann Clendenning. Eventually, through perseverance and hard work, Ortiz-Taylor became an important and critically acclaimed novelist. Her work includes the novels *Faultline* (Naiad, 1982,1995), *Spring Forward/Fall Back* (Naiad, 1985), *Southbound* (Naiad, 1990), and *Coachella* (University of New Mexico, 1998), as well as a volume of poetry, *Slow Dancing at Miss Polly's* (Naiad, 1989) and the memoir *Imaginary Parents* (University of New Mexico, 1996). *The Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States* called *Faultline* "the first Chicana lesbian novel."

Ortiz-Taylor was a Professor of English at Florida State University where she also served as Director of Women's Studies. She has received numerous awards for her work; she has been writer-in-residence at the Guadalupe Cultural Center, the Cottages at Hedgebrook, the Hambidge Center, the Dorland Mountain Arts Colony, and the Fundación Valparaíso. A former Fulbright Fellow, she has also been recipient of the Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund Grant and a Florida Individual Artist Fellowship. Her awards include but are not limited to, the Teaching Incentive Program Award (1994 and 1999), the William R. Jones Most Valuable Mentor award (1994-1995), the University Teaching Award 1995-96, (Graduate level), and the Professional Excellence Program Award, 1996-97.

Conditions Governing Access note

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Conditions Governing Use note

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Series 1: Personal/Biographical 1963-1997

Box 1, Folder 1
Box 1, Folder 2

Diary (European trip) June 27 - August 4, 1963
Journal (Quotes, sketches, notes and poems) 1963-1965

Interviews with Sheila Ortiz-Taylor 1986-1997

Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 3

1. a) Community News, (with Peters, Jeff G.) January 1997
1. b) Community News, (with Peters, Jeff G.) December 1996
2. Topic: Lesbianism April 18, 1990
3. Topic: Spring Forward Fall Back (with Brophy, Mary T.) December 21, 1987
4. Topic: Faultline (with McLane, Tania) March 18, 1986

Box 1, Folder 4

Lecture by Taylor to Women's Workshop, Azalea Grill January 20, 1989

Box 10

Photographs from Friends (2 photos from friends)

Series 2: Correspondence 1981-2006

Correspondence with Publishers 1981-2005

Box 1, Folder 5 **Outgoing February - July 1985**
Box 1, Folder 6 **Incoming 1981-2005**

General Literary Correspondence 1981-2006

Box 1, Folder 7 **Grants and awards 1985-1996**
Box 1, Folder 8 **Correspondence with readers, incoming 1981-1998**
Box 7, Folder 11 **General Correspondence 2002-2006**
Series 3: Writings 1957-2006

Published works: Books 1972-1996

Box 9 **Ed. Joan Nestle - Naomi Holoch. *Women On Women 2: A New Anthology of American Lesbian Fiction***
Box 9 **Ortiz Taylor, Sheila. *Southbound: The Sequel to Faultline***
Box 9 **Ortiz Taylor, Sheila. *Slow Dancing at Miss Polly's***
Box 10 **Ed. J.H. Blair. *¡Caliente! The Best Erotic Writing in Latin American Fiction***
Box 10 **Ortiz Taylor, Sheila. *Spring Forward/Fall Back***
Box 10 **Ed. Valencia, Alejandra Sánchez. *Tema Y Variaciones de Literatura 14: Espejos y reflejos: literature chicana***
Box 10 **Ed. Stelboum, Judith P. *HLFQ: Harrington Lesbian Fiction Quarterly. Volume 4, Number 3***
Box 10 ***Lesbian Voices. Volume 4, Number 2***
Box 10 ***Apalachee Quarterly. Number 28***
Box 10 **Ed. MacEnulty, Pat. *Sun Dog: The Southeast Review. Volume 13, Number 1***
Box 10 **Ed. Corbett, Edward P.J. *College Composition and Communication. Volume 29***
Box 10 ***Apalachee Quarterly. Volumes 36-37***
Box 10 **Ed. Francisco A. Lomelí - Karin Ikas. *U.S. Latino Literatures and Cultures: Transnational Perspectives***

Published works: manuscripts 1972-1996

Box 1, Folder 9 ***Faultline* ms. May 23, 1972.**
Box 1, Folder 10 **Chapters 1-9**
Box 1, Folder 11 **Chapters 10-16**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Chapters 17-21**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Bound copy (44,000 words) 1980**
***Southbound* ms.**
Box 2, Folder 1 **Chapters 1-8**
Box 2, Folder 2 **Chapters 9-12**
Box 2, Folder 3 **Chapters 13-20**
Box 2, Folder 4 **Chapters 21-32**
***Imaginary Parents* ms.**
Box 2, Folder 5 **First draft (originally called "Home Movies") Chapters 1-15**
Box 2, Folder 6 **Chapters 16-26**
Box 2, Folder 7 **Draft ms. Chapters 1-14**
Box 2, Folder 8 **Chapters 15-29**
Box 2, Folder 9 **Chapters 30-41**
Box 2, Folder 10 **Chapters 42-52**

Box 3, Folder 1	Bound draft for publishers titled "First Draft" February 20, 1994
Box 3, Folder 2	Third Draft. (Named, Imaginary Parent: A Memoir, Working copy) Chapters 1-11
Box 3, Folder 3	Chapters 12-23 (Chapter 24 missing.)
Box 3, Folder 4	Chapters 25-36
Box 3, Folder 5	Chapters 37-52
Box 3, Folder 6	Final publication page proofs, Book One July 1996
Box 3, Folder 7	Book Two
Box 3, Folder 8	Book Three
Box 4, Folder 1	Publisher's blueline copy 1996
Box 4, Folder 2	Talk given by Sheila Ortiz-Taylor on <i>Imaginary Parent</i> undated
	<i>Coachella</i> ms.
Box 4, Folder 2a	Two drafts of presentation "<i>Coachella: The Novel as Community</i>" Delivered at UNC Chapel Hill Winter 1999
Box 4, Folder 3	Early drafts (2) n.d. Draft 7 (37,718 words) July 1996
Box 4, Folder 4	Pages. 1-73
Box 4, Folder 5	Pages 74-120
Box 4, Folder 6	Pages 121-182. Draft 10. Titled "First Edition" 1998
Box 4, Folder 7	Pages 1-71
Box 4, Folder 8	Pages 72-125
Box 4, Folder 9	Pages 126-302
	<i>Assisted Living</i> ms.
Box 7, Folder 12	Early draft n.d. (36,898 words), Pages. 1-44 undated
Box 7, Folder 13	Pages 45-71
Box 7, Folder 14	Pages 72-106
Box 7, Folder 15	Pages 107-139
Box 7, Folder 16	Pages 140-173
Box 7, Folder 17	Pages 174-212
	Published works from journals and periodicals 1977-2003
	Miscellaneous contributions
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Episodic Structure and the Picaresque Novel in The Journal of Narrative Technique</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>La Frontera in Two Worlds Walking</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Dyke Patrol in Common Lives Lesbian Lives</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Selections from Imaginary Parents: A memoir in The Americas Review</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Southern exposure in Sinister Wisdom 34</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>A Friend of the Family (A chapter from the novel, Faultline) in Focus, a journal for lesbians</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Rearview Mirror in New Visions, Fiction by Florida writers</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Faultline; excerpt published in Christopher Street Magazine</i>
Box 4, Folder 10	<i>Esther Williams Sister, published in Innisfree magazine</i>
Box 7, Folder 18	<i>Strip in Harrington Lesbian Fiction Quarterly 2003</i>
	Miscellaneous Books
	<i>North of Wakulla</i>. Annotated anthology of poetry
Box 4, Folder 11	German edition of <i>Faultline</i>
Box 4, Folder 11	Spanish Edition of <i>Fautline</i>
Box 4, Folder 11	<i>Lesbian Muse</i>. Lesbian theme Calendar
	Unpublished works: manuscripts 1970-1999
Box 5, Folder 1	"Harley." Chapters 1-7 1970-1972
Box 5, Folder 2	Chapters 8-20. "Captain Jack and the Flying Girl."
Box 5, Folder 3	Preliminary draft. Pages 1-14
Box 5, Folder 4	Draft 1. Pages 1-15
Box 5, Folder 5	Draft 2. Pages 1-17. "The Flying Girl; Ace of Hearts." (Renamed from original ms.: Captain Jack and the Flying Girl.) 3,746 words
Box 5, Folder 6	Pages 1-18. "Extranjera."
Box 5, Folder 7	Early draft Chapter 1 and Chapter 22
Box 5, Folder 8	Journal. Draft Three 9/5/96- 9/4/98
Box 5, Folder 9	Pages 1-74. Chapters 1-18 (Some chapters renumbered)

Box 5, Folder 10	Pages 75-173. Chapters 17-39. (Some chapters renumbered) Draft Seven (49,166 words) 6/11/99
Box 5, Folder 11	Chapters 1-11
Box 5, Folder 12	Chapters 12-24
Box 5, Folder 13	Chapters 25-45. "Suprrealism in the Picaresque Novel." (An unpublished critical study based on Ortiz-Taylor's dissertation "Extranejera" Draft 8-A
Box 5, Folder 14	Chapters 1 & 2. Pages 1-62
Box 6, Folder 1	Chapters 3 & 4 plus notes for Chapters 1-6. Pages 63-164. (Pages 63-164 missing)
Box 6, Folder 2	Notes Chapters 1-2
Box 6, Folder 3	Notes Chapters 3-4
Box 6, Folder 4	Notes Chapter 5 plus miscellaneous notes
Box 6, Folder 5	Miscellaneous notes. Drafts (annotated)
Box 6, Folder 6-7	Chapters 2 & 3
Box 6, Folder 8	Chapters 4 & 5
Box 6, Folder 9	Academic works relating to "Suprrealism in the Picaresque Novel"
Box 6, Folder 10	Correspondence to publishers
Box 6, Folder 11	Unpublished Academic Papers and Stories
Box 7, Folder 1	Papers 1957-1961
Box 7, Folder 1	"Pain Child." 12/13/57
Box 7, Folder 1	"The Dramatic Function of two Minds Deceased" May 29, 1961
Box 7, Folder 1	"Virginia Woolf's <i>Mrs Dalloway</i>" April 18, 1961
Box 7, Folder 1	"Carmichael and Kilman: Their Raison D'Être" April 18, 1961
Box 7, Folder 1	"Plot and Character in <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>" 11/28/61
Box 7, Folder 1	"Marriage in " <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>" 12/7/61
Box 7, Folder 2	Papers 1962
Box 7, Folder 2	"Time as a Structural Device in the Novels of Virginia Woolf" 1/18/62
Box 7, Folder 2	"E. A. Robinson and the Spectrum of Tragedy" 4/30/62
Box 7, Folder 2	"Virginia Woolf: A Heuristic Study" 1/7/62
Box 7, Folder 2	"An Analysis of the Prose styles of Ben Jonson and John Donne" 4/9/62
Box 7, Folder 2	"Tragedy and Sad Countenance" May 14, 1962
Box 7, Folder 3	Papers 1963-1964
Box 7, Folder 3	"A Figure of the <i>Trotaconventos</i> in Spanish Courtly Love Literature" May 14, 1962
Box 7, Folder 3	"Courtly Love in Chaucer's <i>Troilus and Criseyde</i> and Dante's <i>Vita Nuova</i>" May 1, 1963
Box 7, Folder 3	Isabel the Archer: A Study in Military Imagery" 1/17/63
Box 7, Folder 3	"Romantic and Tragic Modes in <i>Mrs Dalloway</i>" 5/8/64
Box 7, Folder 3	Reconciliation of Opposites in <i>The Bridge</i>" 5/1/64
Box 7, Folder 3	"Mill, Tennyson, and <i>The Philosopher-Poet</i>" 7/6/64
Box 7, Folder 4	Papers 1971-1980
Box 7, Folder 4	"The Story-Weaver at His Loom: Plot in <i>Our Mutual Friend</i>" 6/11/71
Box 7, Folder 19	"The Woman in the yellow dress" 1980
Box 7, Folder 5	Papers "Doing Mestizaje in the Third Space" 2006
Box 7, Folder 5	Papers undated
Box 7, Folder 5	"Pythia Eleven" undated
Box 7, Folder 5	"Techniques of American Color Fiction" undated
Box 7, Folder 5	"Platonic Structure in Saul Bellow's, "Looking for Mr Green." (Also accompanying letter to Studies in Short Fiction, Newbury College, 1971, from Ortiz-Taylor) undated
Box 7, Folder 5	"That Great Sect: Marriage in the Novels of E.M. Forster"
Box 7, Folder 6	Bibliographic Contributions 1967-1976
Box 7, Folder 7	"Emily Dickinson Annual Bibliography for 1975"
Box 7, Folder 8	Correspondence incoming, relating to Ortiz-Taylor's contribution to bibliographical works
Box 7, Folder 9	Citations of Ortiz-Taylor's bibliographical work 1970-1976
Box 7, Folder 9	Samples of Ortiz-Taylor's bibliographical works 1967-1972

Miscellaneous
Box 7, Folder 10 **Collection of Ortiz-Taylor's notes, free-writes and plot-mapping**
Box 7, Folder 20 **Novel Worksheets - Coachella 1995**
Box 7, Folder 21 **Novel Worksheets - Extranjera/OutRageous 1996-2003**
Box 7, Folder 22 **Novel Worksheets - Assisted Living 1999-2005**
Box 7, Folder 23 **Novel Worksheets - Clarissa 2004**
Box 7, Folder 24 **Educational Materials - Lectures 2000-2001**
Box 7, Folder 25 **Educational Materials - Lectures undated**
Box 7, Folder 26 **Educational Materials - Lectures undated**
Box 7, Folder 27 **Educational Materials - Lesbians Inscribing Racial and Cultural Identity undated**
Series 4: Reviews and Publicity 1980-2006

Box 8, Folder 1 **Published criticism**
Box 8, Folder 2 **Relations with publisher, Naiad Press 1986-1991**
Box 8, Folder 3 **Relations with publisher, Naiad Press 1980-1985**

Faultline

Box 8, Folder 4 **Overview of *Faultline* by Ortiz-Taylor**
Box 8, Folder 5 **Copy of Ortiz-Taylor's promotional/history scrapbook of publication of *Faultline***
Box 8, Folder 6-7 **Reviews and publicity 1982-1990**
Box 8, Folder 8 **Reviews and publicity (outsized) 1981-1983**

Spring Forward Fall Back 1985-1986

Box 8, Folder 9 **Reviews and publicity**

Slow Dancing at Miss Polly's 1989-1990

Box 8, Folder 10 **Reviews and Publicity**

Southbound 1990-1991

Box 8, Folder 11 **Reviews and Publicity**

Imaginary Parents 1996

Box 8, Folder 12 **Reviews and Publicity**

Coachella 1996-1998

Box 8, Folder 13 **Reviews and Publicity**
Box 8, Folder 14 **Miscellaneous, reviews and publicity**

Box 9, Folder 1

Events Publicity 2002-2004

Box 9, Folder 2

Publicity 2003-2006

Series 5: Video and Audio Recordings 1997

Florida State University audio tape 1997

Box 9

FSU-Headlines

Box 9

Memoris-Finales

Florida State University television video recording 1997

Box 9

Presentation of the Martin Luther King Award