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Note
Area, Interdisciplinary, and Ethnic Studies--Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies

Collection number: MS 37

The University Library
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University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: HerBooks Feminist Press Archive,
Date (inclusive): 1984-2002
Collection number: MS 37
Creator: Reti, Irene
Extent: 5 cartons, 2 flats
6.75 linear ft.
Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Abstract: This collection includes correspondence, business records, manuscripts, and ephemera on the subjects HerBooks has published.

Physical location: Stored offsite at NRLF: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.
Language: English.
Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
Property rights reside with the University of California. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permission to publish or to reproduce the material, please contact the Special Collections Librarian.

Preferred Citation
HerBooks Feminist Press Archive, MS 37, Special Collections, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Acquisition Information
Gift of Irene Reti.

Agency History
HerBooks Feminist Press was founded in Santa Cruz, California in 1984 by Irene Reti, a poet and creative nonfiction writer. The emphasis of the press has been on publishing anthologies of creative writing, poetry, and other works by lesbians. HerBooks is known for its groundbreaking collections, such as The Lesbian in Front of the Classroom: writings by Lesbian Teachers (1988) and Childless by Choice: A Feminist Anthology, both of which were the first anthologies published in the
United States on these topics. Irene Reti’s Remember the Fire: Lesbian Sadomasochism in a Post Nazi-Holocaust World (1986) and Unleashing Feminism: Critiquing Lesbian Sadomasochism in the Gay Nineties (1993) were outspoken critiques of s/m and pornography which put the press on the forefront of radical feminist inquiry.

HerBooks is also known for publishing innovative books about lesbian culture, such as Cats (and their Dykes) and Garden Variety Dykes: Lesbian Traditions in Gardening. Another strength of the press is Jewish feminism.


HerBooks also distributed the first anthology of Pacific/Asian Lesbian writing, Between the Lines (Dancing Bird Press, 1987). In 1994 HerBooks published The Second Coming of Joan of Arc and Other Plays by Carolyn Gage, a finalist for the Lambda Book Award.

**Bibliography**


*Prepositions*, poetry by Linda Hooper (1986). Distributed by HerBooks.

*Nauseous in Paradise*, poetry by Abby Bee (Bogomolny) (1986). Distributed by HerBooks.


*Past, Present, and Future Passions: poetry by Barbara Ruth*. Distributed by HerBooks (1986).


*Between the Lines: An Anthology of Pacific/Asian Lesbians of Santa Cruz, California*, edited by Alison Kim, Christy Chung and A.K. Lemeshewsky, distributed by HerBooks (Dancing Bird Press, 1987).


**Collection Scope and Content**

The HerBooks Feminist Press Archive contains the general history of HerBooks, and materials related to the publication, promotion, and distribution. There are also materials on the Childless-by-Choice movement; lesbian feminism in the 1980’s and 1990’s; and materials on Holocaust studies, including on Lesbian Daughters of Holocaust Survivors and the Kindertransport program (which rescued Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Austria and Germany and brought them to England during 1938-1939); antipornography activism and theory; and the Women In Print Movement. The archive also contains writings by Irene Reti, including her memoir, The Keeper of Memory (published by HerBooks in 2001), as well as work by other Santa Cruz women writers.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

**Subjects**

Reti, Irene
Herbooks Feminist Press--Archive
Lesbian feminism
Children of Holocaust survivors
Authors, American--California--Santa Cruz County
Asian/Pacific Islander Lesbian Collection, MS 40
Papier-Mache Press Archive, MS 27 (unprocessed)
Shameless Hussy Press Archive, MS 92

Related Works


Sandra Martz: Papier-Mache Press and the Gentle Art of Consciousness Raising,

Date: 1984-1999
by the Regional History Project, University Library, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2001.
http://library.ucsc.edu/reg-hist/martz.html

Alta and the History of Shameless Hussy Press,

Date: 1969-1989
by the Regional History Project, University Library, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2001.
http://library.ucsc.edu/reg-hist/alta.html

Series 1 HerBooks Press, 1984-2000,

Physical Description: Box 1, 5-7
Scope and Content Note
This series contains general correspondence, promotional materials, interviews, audio cassettes and press ephemera relating to the business of HerBooks.
Arrangement
The material has been arranged by content.

Box-folder 1:1-5

History & Business

Box-folder 1:1
History of HerBooks.

Box-folder 1:2
General business & promotional materials (letterhead, bookmarks, business cards).

Box-folder 1:3
Herbooks catalogs.

Box-folder 1:4
Correspondence.

Box-folder 1:5
Financial records.

Box-folder 1:6
Irene Reti, 3/1/90 interview

Box-folder 1:6-8
Distribution

Box-folder 1:6
Herbooks distribution.

Box-folder 1:7
Diaspora Distribution Company.

Box-folder 1:8
Alamo Square Distributors.

Box-folder 1:9
Community Printers of Santa Cruz

Box-folder 1:10
The Women in Print Movement.

Box-folder 1:11
Feminist publisher catalogs.

Box-folder 1:12
Feminist publishers correspondence.

Box-folder 1:13
The Lesbians and Gays in Print Movement.

Box-folder 1:14
Outwrite! Conferences

Box-folder 1:15
Skills of Self-Publishing - proposed workshop.

Press ephemera

Carton 5
Sinister Wisdom, misc. issues

Carton 5
Common Lives/Lesbian Lives, misc. issues

Carton 5
Gossip, misc. issues

Carton 5
Lesbian Ethics, misc. issues

Carton 5
Conditions, misc. issues
Series 1. HerBooks Press, 1984-2000,

**Guide to the HerBooks Feminist Press Archive 1984-2002**

**Carton 5**
- HerBooks banner.
- HerBooks T-shirt
- "So Precious a Place" on women-only space - video tape

**Carton 5**
- Audio Cassettes - a collection of interviews and business related tapes.

**Box 6-7**
- Publications, 1984-2002,

  **Physical Description:** Boxes 1-4
  **Scope and Content Note**
  This series contains publication correspondence, corrected manuscripts, production materials, publicity, reviews, promotional materials, and archival copies of publications.
  **Arrangement**
  The material has been arranged by publication.

**Series 2.**

**Box-folder 1:16**
- *Lesbian Words: A Santa Cruz Anthology*, edited by Irene Reti and Sue McCabe

**Box-folder 1:17**
- *Lesbian Words II: Photographs and Writings*, edited by Irene Reti, Sue McCabe, and Terese Armstrong

**Box-folder 1:18-21**
- *The Lesbian in Front of the Classroom: Writings by Lesbian Teachers*, edited by Irene Reti and Sarah-Hope Parmeter

**Box-folder 1:18**
- Contributor Correspondence

**Box-folder 1:19**
- Lesbian Teachers

**Box-folder 1:20**
- Unpublished sequel

**Box-folder 1:21**
- Camera-ready copy

**Box-folder 1:22-26**
- *To Live with the Weeds*, by D.A. Clarke

**Box-folder 1:22**
- Correspondence

**Box-folder 1:23**
- Camera-ready copy

**Box-folder 1:24**
- Printed sheets - complete copy

**Box-folder 1:25-26**
- Reviews

**Box-folder 1:27-33**
- *Messages: Music for Lesbians*, by D.A. Clarke

**Box-folder 1:27**
- Lyrics and notes, and production notes.

**Box-folder 1:28**
- Correspondence

**Box-folder 1:29-33**
- Additional writing by D. A. Clarke.

**Box-folder 1:29-30**
- Articles, stories, etc.

**Box-folder 1:31**
- Clippings

**Box-folder 1:32**
- *Sinister Wisdom* no.35, 38; *Lesbian Ethics*, v.2:2

**Box-folder 1:33**
- Poetry

**Box-folder 1:34**
- Distribution - Ladyslipper.

**Box-folder 1:35**
- Reviews

**Box-folder 1:36-39**

**Box-folder 1:36**
- Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County grant

**Box-folder 1:37**
- Correspondence

**Box-folder 1:38**
- Publicity

**Box-folder 1:39**
- Archive copy

**Box-folder 1:40-42**
- *Nauseous in Paradise* by Abby Bogomolny

**Box-folder 1:40**
- HerBooks distribution and archive copy

**Box-folder 1:41**
- *Abby Lynn Bogomolny Collected Writing*

**Box-folder 1:42**
- Abby Bogomolny - misc. publications

**Box-folder 1:43**
- *Prepositions*, by Linda Hooper, distributed by HerBooks

**Box-folder 1:43**
- Research, distribution, and archive copy

**Box-folder 1:44**
- *Between the Lines: An Anthology of Pacific/Asian Lesbians of Santa Cruz, California*, edited by Alison Kim, Christy Chung and A.K. Lemeshwsky, distributed by HerBooks.

**Box-folder 1:45**
- Reviews

**Box-folder 2:1-2**
- Alison Kim - other writings

**Box-folder 2:1-2**
- *Lizards/Los Padres*, by Bettianne Shoney Sien

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**Guide to the HerBooks Feminist Press Archive 1984-2002**
Box-folder 4:4  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 2:1  Reviews
Box-folder 2:2  Archive copy
Box-folder 2:3  Love, Politics and "Rescue" in Lesbian Relationships, by Diana Rabenold
Box-folder 2:4  Past, Present and Future Passions: Poetry by Barbara Ruth, distributed by HerBooks
Box-folder 2:4  Distribution & archive copy
Box-folder 2:5-8  Bubbe Meisehs by Shayne Maideleh: An Anthology of Poetry by Jewish Granddaughters about our Grandmothers, edited by Lesléa Newman
Box-folder 2:5  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:6  Production
Box-folder 4:5  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 2:7  Publicity
Box-folder 2:8  Reviews & archive copy
Box-folder 2:9-10  Love Me Like You Mean It: Poems by Lesléa Newman
Box-folder 2:9  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:10  Reviews & archive copy
Box-folder 2:11-15  Sweet Dark Places: Poems by Lesléa Newman
Box-folder 2:11  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:12  Manuscript
Box-folder 4:6  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 2:13  Publicity, Reviews, archive copy
Box-folder 2:14-15  Lesléa Newman
Box-folder 2:14  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:15  Biographical Information
Box-folder 2:16-19  Remember the Fire: Lesbian Sadomasochism in a Post-Nazi Holocaust World, an essay by Irene Reti
Box-folder 2:16  Response Letters
Box-folder 2:17  Manuscript, comments by D. A. Clarke
Box-folder 2:18  Production
Box-folder 2:19  Reviews & archive copy
Box-folder 2:20-24  Unleashing Feminism: Critiquing Lesbian Sadomasochism in the Gay Nineties, edited by Irene Reti
Box-folder 2:20  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:21  Response letters
Box-folder 4:7  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 2:22  Publicity material
Box-folder 2:23  Reviews
Box-folder 2:24  Archive copy
Box-folder 2:25-29  Cats (And Their Dykes): An Anthology, edited by Irene Reti and Bettianne Shoney Sien
Box-folder 2:25  Contributor Correspondence
Box-folder 2:26  Response Letters
Box-folder 2:27  Production
Box-folder 4:8-9  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 4:8  Pgs. 1-80/81
Box-folder 4:9  Pgs. 82/83 - 158/159
Box-folder 2:28  "Toward a Feminist History of the Cat" by Irene Reti - handwritten draft
Box-folder 2:29  Reviews & archive copy
Box-folder 2:29-33  Childless by Choice: A Feminist Anthology, edited by Irene Reti
Box-folder 2:29  Contributor Correspondence
Box-folder 2:30  Correspondence
Box-folder 2:31  Outreach
Box-folder 2:32  Research
Box-folder 4:10  Camera-ready copy
Box-folder 2:33  Reviews & archive copy
Box-folder 2:34-37  Garden Variety Dykes: Lesbian Traditions in Gardening, edited by Irene Reti and Valerie Chase
Box-folder 2:34  Correspondence
| Box-folder 2:35 | Manuscripts w/corrections |
| Box-folder 4:11 | Camera-ready copy |
| Box-folder 2:36 | Publicity |
| Box-folder 2:37 | Reviews & archive copy |
| Box-folder 2:38-46 | The Second Coming of Joan of Arc and Other Plays by Carolyn Gage |
| Box-folder 2:40 | Corrected galleys |
| Box-folder 2:39 | Production |
| Box-folder 2:38 | Correspondence |
| Box-folder 2:41 | Publicity |
| Box-folder 2:42 | Reviews & archive copy |
| Box-folder 6:6 | The Second Coming of Joan of Arc, archive copy of audio cassette |
| Box-folder 2:43-46 | Carolyn Gage |
| Box-folder 2:43 | Miscellaneous writing |
| Box-folder 2:44 | Theatre Productions |
| Box-folder 2:45 | "Radical Propositions" - draft |
| Box-folder 2:46 | Other plays - not published in HerBooks collection |
| Box-folder 3:1 | Correspondence |
| Box-folder 3:2 | Oral history - transcript |
| Box-folder 3:3 | Research |
| Box-folder 3:4 | Production |
| Box-folder 3:5 | Galley proofs |
| Box-folder 3:6 | Photographs |
| Box-folder 3:7 | Publicity |
| Box-folder 3:8 | Donation letters |
| Box-folder 3:9 | Archive copy |
| Box-folder 3:10-12 | Kindertransport |
| Box-folder 3:10 | Research |
| Box-folder 3:11 | Kindertransport Association of America (KTA)- information & newsletter "Kinderlink", 1995-2001 |
| Box-folder 3:12 | Reunion of Kindertransport (ROK) -- Great Britain |
| Box-folder 3:13-14 | Jewish Lesbian Daughters of Holocaust Survivors |
| Box-folder 3:13 | Organization information |
| Box-folder 3:14 | Chosen of the Chosen |
| Box-folder 3:15 | Correspondence with women who didn't know they were Jewish until adulthood. |
| Box 5 | A Holocaust Family Album (videotape) |
| Box-folder 3:16 | Shards of Memory & other writing by Irene Reti |
| Box-folder 3:17-22 | The Keeper of Memory: A Memoir, by Irene Reti |
| Box-folder 3:17 | Background research notes |
| Box-folder 3:18 | Draft, with comments by Gloria Anzaldua |
| Box-folder 3:19 | Draft, with comments by Lori Klein |
| Box-folder 3:20 | Draft, with comments by Barbara Wilson |
| Box-folder 3:21 | Draft, with comments by Jeanne Freebody |
| Box-folder 3:22 | Reviews & Archive copy |
| Box-folder 3:23-25 | Women runners : stories of transformation, edited by Irene Reti and Bettianne Shoney Sien |
| Box-folder 3:23 | Manuscript, pt.1 |
| Box-folder 3:24 | Manuscript, pt.2 |
| Box-folder 3:25 | Promotion |
| Box-folder 3:26-32 | Writers |
| Box-folder 3:26 | Gloris Anzaldua |
| Box-folder 3:27 | Ellen Bass |
| Box-folder 3:28 | Roz Spafford |
| Box-folder 3:29 | Lesbian community of Santa Cruz |
| Box-folder 3:30 | Celeste West |
| Box-folder 3:31 | Irene Zahava |
| Box-folder 3:32-33 | Irene Reti |
Box-folder 3:32  Cottages at Hedgebrook Residency
Box-folder 3:33  Norcroft Residency