Descriptive Summary
Title: Charles Reznikoff Papers
Identifier/Call Number: MSS 0009
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, California, 92093-0175
Languages: English
Physical Description: 9.7 Linear feet (26 archives boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Date (inclusive): 1912-1976
Abstract: The papers of a distinguished American literary figure. Reznikoff was a prolific writer of poetry, prose, essays, and chronicler of Judaism and the American Jewish experience. He worked both as an editor and contributing author on The Menorah Journal and Family Chronicle, and was in close association with such noted writers as Ezra Pound, George Oppen, and William Carlos Williams. The correspondence, which provides documentation of the literary community of 40s, 50s, and 60s America, as well as providing insights into Reznikoff's personal life, includes letters from Robert Creeley, David Ignatow, Denise Levertov, George Oppen, John Perlman, William Carlos Williams, and Louis Zukofsky. Also included are the various exchanges between Reznikoff and his numerous publishers. The bulk of the collection consists of Reznikoff's writings, ranging from original source materials up to finished typescripts, and includes thousands of pages of revisions. Most of the materials in the collection date from the 1940's to the early 1970's. The 1989 addition to the Reznikoff papers consists primarily of letters written by Reznikoff to his wife Marie Syrkin between 1928 and 1939. Also included are Reznikoff's letter of will to his wife dated 1961; letters of condolence to Marie following the poet's death in 1976; and several miscellaneous correspondences. In addition, Reznikoff's personal copies (with annotations) of eight of his published works have been included. The 1991 addition to the Reznikoff papers contains personal letters from Reznikoff to Marie Syrkin written in 1930 before their marriage; financial records which detail Reznikoff's activities between 1947 and 1976; and miscellaneous memorabilia.
Creator: Reznikoff, Charles, 1894-1976
Scope and Content of Collection
Accession Processed in 1977
The Reznikoff collection is arranged in six series: 1) CORRESPONDENCE, 2) WRITINGS, 3) REVIEWS, 4) PERSONAL ARTIFACTS, 5) MATERIALS RELATING TO REZNIKOFF'S PARENTS, and 6) WORKS BY AND ABOUT REZNIKOFF'S FRIENDS.
SERIES 1: CORRESPONDENCE
The CORRESPONDENCE series fills five archives boxes and includes letters from such celebrated literary figures as Robert Creeley, David Ignatow, Denise Levertov, George Oppen, John Perlman, William Carlos Williams, and Louis Zukofsky. Also included are the various exchanges between Reznikoff and his numerous publishers. These are revealing of the unending energy with which Reznikoff pursued the publication of his works -- in both Europe and America -- and include a surprising amount of rejection letters! The correspondence section is in alphabetical order, with each particular correspondent assigned one file.
SERIES 2: WRITINGS
The WRITINGS series is broken into eight subsets: "books," "the idea file," "lectures and readings," "Menorah Journal materials," "miscellaneous notes," "notes on composition theory," "poetry," and "miscellaneous writings. The "books" section includes original drafts, typescripts, manuscripts, carbons, hand-written notes, paste-ups, and reviews; organized according to the title of each book, with the books listed alphabetically. The "books" subset comprises 12 archive boxes, more than half the entire Reznikoff collection. The "idea file" subset was organized by Reznikoff. It is a collection of short sketches, observations, verse fragments, and "situations"; organized alphabetically, with an index. The "lectures and readings" subset consists of drafts of public readings of both prose and verse. The "Menorah Journal materials" subset consists of eight short stories written for MJ, as well as an article on MJ written by Reznikoff for Midstream. The "miscellaneous notes" subset is made up of character sketches and other random notes concerning possible subjects for later works. The "notes on composition theory" subset contains notes on some aspects of writing dialogue, the use of rhythm, and the problem of writing history. The "poetry" subset includes finished works, with some corrections, from 1973-1975. The "miscellaneous writings" subset includes random unfinished notes for prose and verse from as early as the 1930s. Included in the "Miscellaneous Writings" section are materials concerning Julius Rosenmann, an old man Reznikoff met while walking in New York. Rosenmann provided Reznikoff with much material for writing, along with a $10,000 legacy.
SERIES 3: REVIEWS
The REVIEWS series contains only those reviews not previously listed under their respective titles in the Writings series. Thus all reviews pertaining to Holocaust are listed under Holocaust in the Writings section.

SERIES 4: PERSONAL ARTIFACTS

The PERSONAL ARTIFACTS series contains mailing lists, address books, Reznikoff's law school notes, photos, and other personal ephemera.

SERIES 5: MATERIALS RELATING TO REZNIKOFF'S PARENTS

MATERIALS RELATING TO REZNIKOFF'S PARENTS includes writings by Nathan and Sarah Reznikoff, both of whose memoirs were used by Charles as the basis of later writings. The original manuscript of Sarah Reznikoff's autobiography is in an extremely fragile condition, and photocopies on acid-free paper have been made for preservation purposes.

SERIES 6: MATERIALS RELATING TO REZNIKOFF'S FRIENDS

MATERIALS RELATING TO REZNIKOFF'S FRIENDS include materials by George Oppen and Marie Syrkin (Reznikoff’s wife), as well as reviews of other poets’ works.

The Charles Reznikoff papers provide a fascinating look into the life and writings of an important American author. Perhaps the most useful aspect of the collection is its opening-up for review the very processes by which Reznikoff wrote and re-wrote, for we can here follow his thoughts from early notes and rough drafts up through his multiple revisions. The insights provided by the materials, coupled with the wealth of biographical information contained in the collection, offer the reader a rich source of information on the personal life and aesthetic praxes of this remarkable author.

Accession Processed in 1990

The accession to the papers of Charles Reznikoff processed in 1990 is comprised of two archives boxes and contains two series: 1) CORRESPONDENCE and 2) AUTHOR’S COLLECTION.

In the CORRESPONDENCE series, there are two folders of letters written by the poet to his wife between 1928 and 1939; an informal letter of will dated 1961; several letters written to Marie following Reznikoff’s death in 1976; and a few miscellaneous correspondences.

The AUTHOR’S COLLECTION series includes the author’s annotated copies of the following published works: Five Groups of Verse (1927); Going To And Fro And Walking Up And Down (1941); By The Waters of Manhattan (1962); Testimony: The United States (1885-1890) (1965); "JOB" in Chelsea 24/25 (October, 1968); Testimony: The United States(1891-1900) (1968); By the Well of Living and Seeing and The Fifth Book of the Maccabees (1969); and By the Well of Living and Seeing: New and Selected Poems (1974). These items were acquired along with the original collection of Reznikoff’s papers, but they were previously shelved in the Archive for New Poetry’s “Author Collection.”

Accession Processed in 1991

The accession to the Charles Reznikoff Papers processed in 1991 contains a significant collection of letters from Charles to his future wife, Marie Syrkin; financial records; and memorabilia. The materials are organized into four series: 1) CORRESPONDENCE; 2) CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS; 3) FINANCIAL RECORDS; and 4) MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS.

SERIES 1: CORRESPONDENCE

The most important element in the CORRESPONDENCE series is the strikingly personal collection of love letters from Reznikoff to Marie Syrkin, written before their marriage in 1930. The letters are undated.

SERIES 2: CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS

The CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS series contains various personal documents including Reznikoff’s high school diploma and his law degree.

SERIES 3: FINANCIAL RECORDS

In the FINANCIAL RECORDS series, a record of Reznikoff’s activities between 1947 and 1976 can be traced through entries in income and expense journals and notebooks. Reznikoff meticulously noted all his expenses including income derived from poetry readings.

SERIES 4: MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS

Finally, the MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS contain a photograph of Reznikoff, two poems by the poet, and Al Lewin memorabilia.

Biography

Charles Reznikoff’s long and productive life began 31 August 1894 in Brooklyn, New York. His parents, Nathan Reznikoff and Sarah Yetta Wolvovsky Reznikoff, were Russian Jews who had recently immigrated to the United States. Reznikoff’s family moved throughout the city, and the anti-Semitism which Charles often encountered had a lasting effect on his work. When he was twelve Reznikoff’s family moved to a section of Brooklyn that was isolated from the Jewish community; Reznikoff once described it as a place where “the hatred for Israel smoldered.” He later wrote that he would have to rush
home from high school in order to avoid the taunts of children leaving their grade school. Despite his self-consciousness and feelings of insecurity, Reznikoff was an excellent student. He finished grammar school three years ahead of the rest of his class and graduated from Boys High School in Brooklyn in 1909 at the age of fifteen. By the time he was sixteen Reznikoff was already certain that he wanted to become a writer. He studied journalism at the University of Missouri, but soon found that journalists' priorities were different than his -- they were more interested in news than in writing, while it was the writing itself that Reznikoff cared about.

Reznikoff left the University of Missouri after one year and returned to New York. He first worked at his parents' hat manufacturing business. Ten in 1912 he entered New York University's Law School. In 1915 he graduated second in his class, and the next year at the age of twenty two was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York. Although his training as a lawyer proved to be a long lasting influence on his poetry, Reznikoff actually practiced for a very brief period. He once said "I wanted to use whatever mental energy I had for my writing."

Reznikoff's first book of poetry, Rhythms, was published in 1918. It was a small volume that he printed on a press he had installed in the basement of his parents' home. After 1918 he held a number of jobs in order to support himself, but from this time on found ways to devote the majority of his time to writing. In 1919 he privately printed Rhythms II; then in 1920 Samuel Roth published Poems the first of his works to be published commercially. During the 1920's Reznikoff's reputation slowly grew, and he was able to publish some of his work in magazines; he also wrote four plays during that decade. In 1930 Reznikoff married Marie Syrkin, who later became a distinguished professor at Brandeis University. Although his work still failed to make a commercial impact, Reznikoff continued to gain attention in the 1930's. Along with Louis Zukofsky, George Oppen, and Carl Rakosi, he became known as one of the principal proponents of the Objectivist group of poets. The poets formed the Objectivist Press, with whom Reznikoff published three of his works.

During the late thirties Reznikoff worked as a screen writer in Hollywood. When he returned from the West Coast he again took up his life of free lance writing. Marie Reznikoff has written that she and Charles grew estranged during the forties; when she was hired by the English department at Brandeis University, her husband stayed in Manhattan, and the Reznikoffs usually spent only holidays and weekends together. Charles supported himself by working on a number of projects, many of which dealt with the place of the Jewish community in America.

Reznikoff did not publish any poetry from 1941 through 1959, when Inscriptions: 1944 1956 appeared. Three years later, New Directions published By the Waters of Manhattan: Selected Verse, and in 1965 New Directions published Testimony, which, along with Holocaust, has been called one of Reznikoff's two major works. Marie Syrkin retired in 1966, and the Reznikoffs moved into a luxurious Manhattan apartment. Reznikoff continued to write through these years; the final work to be published during his lifetime was Holocaust. He died on 22 January 1976 after suffering a heart attack the previous day.

Selected Bibliography:


Preferred Citation

Charles Reznikoff Papers, MSS 0009. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.

Acquisition Information


Publication Rights

Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Barnes, Djuna -- Correspondence
Creeley, Robert, 1926-2005 -- Correspondence
Degnan, June Oppen -- Correspondence
Dembo, L. S. -- Correspondence
Fauchereau, Serge -- Correspondence  
Hindus, Milton -- Correspondence  
Ignatow, David, 1914-1997 -- Correspondence  
Laughlin, James, 1914-1997 -- Correspondence  
Lowenfels, Walter, 1897-1976 -- Correspondence  
Martin, John, 1947 -- Correspondence  
Niedecker, Lorine -- Correspondence  
Oppen, George -- Correspondence  
Padgett, Ron, 1942- -- Correspondence  
Rakosi, Carl, 1903-2004 -- Correspondence  
Reznikoff, Charles, 1894-1976 -- Archives  
Williams, William Carlos, 1883-1963 -- Correspondence  
Zukofsky, Louis, 1904-1978 -- Correspondence  
American poetry--20th century  
Diaries--20th century.

Accession Processed in 1977

CORRESPONDENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Correspondence</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 1</td>
<td>Academy of American Poets. 7 ALs, 22 TLs, 4 D; 8 Rc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>American Jewish History Center. 10 TLs, 8 D; 8 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 3</td>
<td>American Poetry Review. 1 TLs; 2 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 4</td>
<td>Anonymous. 8 ALs; 2 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Auster, Paul. 2 ALs, 1 TLs, 1 D; 2 Rc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6</td>
<td>Axelrod, Susan. 1 ALs, 7 TLs; 4 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>A (misc.) 1 ALs, 7 TLs; 4 Rc</td>
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<td>General note</td>
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<td>See Box 18, Folder 3.</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 9</td>
<td>Berkson, Bill. 3 ALs, 2 TLs; 2 Rc</td>
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<td>Buck, Fred (Bezoar Magazine). 2 TLs; 2 Rc</td>
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<td>Business. 1 AL, 4 TLs; 7 Rc</td>
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<td>Business (cont.) 33 D</td>
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<td>Caplan, Ron. 3 TLs, 1 D; 1 Rc</td>
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<td>Carruth, Hayden. 1 ALs, 3 TLs, 1 D; 6 Rc</td>
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<td>Chapman, Abraham. 3 TLs, 1 D; 2 Rc</td>
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<td>Clark, Tom. 1 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 18</td>
<td>Commentary Magazine. 1 ALs, 8 TLs; 3 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 19</td>
<td>Cook, Albert. 5 TLs; 4 Rc</td>
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<td>Cooney, Seamus. 4 ALs, 14 TLs, 4 D; 14 Rc</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 21</td>
<td>Corman, Cid. 4 TLs, 2 PP; 1 Rc; see also 19.1/2/3</td>
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<td>Creeley, Robert</td>
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<td>See Box 19, Folders 1-3.</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 22</td>
<td>Crozier, Andrew. 4 ALs, 8 TLs, 4 D; 15 Rc</td>
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<td>Cuddihy, Michael. 2 TLs; 2 Rc</td>
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Box 1, Folder 24
C (misc.) 6 ALs, 6 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 1, Folder 25-27
Degnan, June Oppen. 13 ALs, 3 TL, 50 TLs, 32 D, 1 AR, 36 Rc
Box 1, Folder 28
Deemer, Bill. 1 ALs, 1 TLs; 2 MS; 1 Rc
Box 2, Folder 1
Dembo, L.S. 3 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 2
D (misc.) 1 ALs, 1 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 3
Enslein, Theodore. 2 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 2, Folder 4
Enters, Angna. 1 TLs, 3 D; 1 Rc
Box 2, Folder 5
Evanier, David. 8 TLs, 1 D; 7 Rc
Box 2, Folder 6
E (misc.) 1 ALs, 1 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 7
Fagin, Larry. 1 ALs
Box 2, Folder 8
Falk, Marcia. 1 ALs, 3 TLs, 2 D; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 9
Faucherau, Serge. 3 ALs, 1 TL; 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 10
Finley, Ian Hamilton. 1 ALs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 11
F (misc.) 2 ALs, 2 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 12
Gitin, David and Marcia. 2 ALs
Box 2, Folder 13
Gotham Book Mart. 12 TLs, 13 D; 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 14
Guedalla, Roger. 5 TLs; 4 Rc
Box 2, Folder 15
G (misc.) 7 ALs, 5 TLs; 9 Rc
Box 2, Folder 16
Halper, Albers and Lorna. 4 ALs, 2 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 2, Folder 17
Halpern, Daniel. 2 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 18
Harper's Magazine. 4 TLs; 7 Rc
Box 2, Folder 19
Hays, H. R. 1 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 20
Heilman, Robert. 5 TLs, 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 21
Hindus, Milton. 11 TLs; 2 MS; 7 Rc
Box 2, Folder 22
Hoffman, Stanton. 5 TLs; 2 E; 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 23
Hoberger, Eric. 2 TLs, 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 24
H (misc.) 5 ALs, 16 TLs; 1 MS; 8 Rc
Box 2, Folder 25
Ignatow, David. 1 ALs, 6 TLs; 1 MS; 1 AR, 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 26
Ishlilf, Joseph. 1 ALs
Box 2, Folder 27
I (misc.) 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 2, Folder 28
Jewish Frontier. 1 ALs, 3 TLs, 1 D; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 29
Jewish Magazines. 2 ALs, 7 TLs, 1 D; 6 Rc
Box 2, Folder 30
Jewish Organizations. 2 ALs, 56 TLs, 11 D; 25 Rc
Box 2, Folder 31
J (misc.) 1 ALs, 3 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 32
Katz, Steve. 1 TLs, 1 D; 4 Rc
Box 2, Folder 33
Kesslar, Milton. 2 ALs, 1 TLs; 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 34
Kherdian, David. 1 ALs, 1 TLs; 3 Rc
Box 2, Folder 35
Kosakoff, Reuven. 2 ALs
Box 2, Folder 36
K (misc.) 1 ALs, 13 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 2, Folder 37
Laughlin, James. 3 ALs, 6 TLs, 2 D; 5 Rc
Box 2, Folder 38
Levendosky, Charles. 2 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 3, Folder 1
Levertov, Denise. 2 ALs
Box 3, Folder 2
Libraries. 99 D
Box 3, Folder 3
Lopate, Phillip. 2 TLs; 1 MS; 1 Rc
Box 3, Folder 4
Lowenfels, Walter. 3 TLs; 1 MS; 1 Rc
Box 3, Folder 5  Luce, Gay. 1 TLs
Box 3, Folder 6  L (misc.) 5 ALs, 10 TLs, 3 D; 10 Rc
Box 3, Folder 7  Magazines (misc.) 5 ALs, 10 TLs, 3 D; 10 Rc
Box 3, Folder 8  Malanga, Gerard. 5 TLs, 1 D; 4 Rc
Box 3, Folder 9  Marshall, James. 6 TLs; 4 Rc
Box 3, Folder 10  Martin, John (Black Sparrow Press). 33 TLs, 11 D
Box 3, Folder 11  Martin, John. 1 AR, 25 Rc
Box 3, Folder 12  Melitzer, David. 4 TLs; 3 Rc
Box 3, Folder 13  *Menorah Journal* by Marie Syrkin. 6 TLs; 16 Rc; 1 AL
Box 3, Folder 14  *Midstream*. 7 TLs, 1 D; 1 MS; 3 Rc
Box 3, Folder 15  Montgomery, Stuart and Deirdere (Fulcrum Press). 7 TLs, 5 D; 1 AR, 6 Rc
Box 3, Folder 16  Museum of Modern Art (Lita Hornick). 2 TLs, 1 D
Box 3, Folder 17  M (misc.) 1 ALs, 7 TLs; 7 Rc
Box 3, Folder 18  National Institute of Arts and Letters. 5 TLs, 3 D, 3 Rc
Box 3, Folder 19  National Poetry Festival, Allendale, Mich. 1 ALs, 7 TLs, 4 D; 7 Rc
Box 3, Folder 20-21  New Directions. 2 ALs, 26 TLs, 34 D; 1 AR, 16 Rc
Box 4, Folder 1  Niedecker, Lorine. 2 TLs; 2 MS
Box 4, Folder 2  N (misc.) 3 ALs, 6 TLs, 2 D; 5 Rc
Box 4, Folder 3  Objectivist Press. 1 D
Box 4, Folder 4  Oppen, George and Mary. 7 ALs, 3 TL, 10 TLs, 4 D; 4 Rc
Box 4, Folder 5  O (misc.) 2 ALs, 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 6  Padgett, Ron. 5 ALs, 5 TLs, 3 D; 5 Rc
Box 4, Folder 7  Perlman, John. 2 TLs; 1 MS; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 8  Pickard, Tom. 1 ALs
Box 4, Folder 9  Poetry Conference, Readings. 1 ALs, 1 TL, 9 TLs, 4 D; 3 Rc
Box 4, Folder 10  Publishers. 3 ALs, 1 TL, 35 TLs
Box 4, Folder 11  Publishers (cont.) 9 D; 24 Rc
Box 4, Folder 12  P (misc.) 2 ALs, 2 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 4, Folder 13  Rokosi, Carl. 2 ALs, 3 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 14  Reznikoff, Charles (family papers). 2 D
Box 4, Folder 15-16  Reznikoff, Charles. 5 ALs, 15 TLs, 5 MS
Box 4, Folder 17  Riley, Peter. 2 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 4, Folder 18  Rosenblum, Martin J. 4 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 19  Rosenmann, Julius
Box 4, Folder 20  Ross, James. 1 TLs
Box 4, Folder 21  Rudolf, Anthony. 1 ALs, 3 TLs, 3 D; 2 Rc
Box 4, Folder 22  R (misc.) 7 ALs, 15 TLs, 4 D; 9 Rc
Box 4, Folder 23  Samperi, Frank. 2 ALs; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 24  San Francisco State Poetry Center. 4 TLs, 3 D; 7 Rc
Box 4, Folder 25  Savitt, Lynne. 1 ALs; 1 Rc
Box 4, Folder 26  Schneider, Duane. 5 TLs, 8 D; 4 Rc
Box 4, Folder 27  Seed, John. 6 ALs, 1 TLs, 2 D; 12 MS; 5 Rc
Box 4, Folder 28  Shapiro, Harvey. 1 TLs; 2 Rc
Box 4, Folder 29  Snow, C.P. 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 1  Tarn, Nathaniel. 1 ALs
Box 5, Folder 2  Tobias, Thoma. 1 ALs, 5 TLs; 3 Rc
Box 5, Folder 30  Spann, Marcella. 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 31  Syrkin, Marie. 11 ALs, 5 D; 2 Rc
Box 5, Folder 32  S (misc.) 9 ALs, 13 TLs, 1 TL; 10 Rc
Box 5, Folder 1  Tarn, Nathaniel. 1 ALs
Box 5, Folder 2  Tobias, Thoma. 1 ALs, 5 TLs; 3 Rc

*General note*

Letters of condolence and tributes sent to Marie Syrkin on CR's death.
Box 5, Folder 3
Tucker, Harvey. 1 TLs, 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 4
T (misc.) 3 TLs, 1 D; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 5
U (misc.) 1 TL, 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 6
V (misc.) 1 TLs
Box 5, Folder 7
Waldman, Anne. 2 TLs, 1 D; 2 Rc
Warshow, Robert
General note
See Box 18, Folder 18.

Box 5, Folder 8
WBAI Radio. 1 ALs, 5 TLs, 2 D; 2 Rc
Box 5, Folder 9
Weil, James. 5 TLs, 1 D; 5 Rc
Box 5, Folder 10
Weinberger, Eliot. 1 ALs, 5 TLs, 1 D; 4 Rc
Box 5, Folder 11
Williams, Gil. 4 TLs, 4 D; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 12
Williams, Jonathan. 1 TL, 1 TLs; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 13
Williams, William Carlos. 1 ALs, 1 TLs, 1 D
Box 5, Folder 14
W (misc.) 3 ALs, 8 TLs, 2 D; 1 AR, 7 Rc
Box 5, Folder 15
YMHA. 6 TLs, 2 D; 2 Rc
Box 5, Folder 16
Y (misc.) 1 ALs
Box 5, Folder 17
Zukofsky, Louis and Celia. 3 ALs, 3 D; 1 Rc
Box 5, Folder 18
Zychlinska, Rajzel. 6 ALs, 3 D; 7 MS
Box 5, Folder 19
Z (misc.) 2 TLs, 1 D

WRITINGS

Books

By the Waters of Manhattan
Corrected proofs - Includes New Directions Volume

Script for dramatic reading. Performed by the Sharon Temple Players,
Temple Israel; Sharon, Mass

Reviews

By the Well of Living and Seeing
Ts of early draft, with corrections. Sections titled: A) "Notes for an
Autobiography", B) "Notes for a Commonplace Book", C) "Family Chronicle:
Notes for an Autobiography"

Corrected 1968 TS
Carbon TS with extensive revisions
TS and paste-ups with corrections. Note from C.R. to publisher entitled
"Printing Guide," concerning type, spacing, paper, etc
TS of selected verse with heavy corrections
Page paste-ups, version with corrections 1972 - 1972
Omitted materials - Omitted from 1969 and 1974 versions
"Notes for an Autobiography" - Prose TS with corrections of material that
later appeared in BTWoLAS. Also find paste-ups with corrections of "From a
Notebook," material that appeared in BTWoLAS and was published
separately in Midstream, Winter 1968
Reviews

Holocaust
Early draft with corrections
Early drafts - Incomplete TS, complete TS marked "second draft" with
corrections
TS marked "third revision" - Also carbon with corrections and paste-ups
TS marked "third revision" and arranged as script for dramatic reading
Accession Processed in 1977

WRITINGS

Charles Reznikoff Papers

MSS 0009

Box 7, Folder 9
TS marked “fourth revision” - Also carbon of letter sent to John Martin of Black Sparrow Press concerning proofs
Xeroxed transcripts of Nazi War Trials, the basis for Holocaust
Notes and news clippings with an "Introductory Note" by C.R. Also Night Words; a Midrash on the Holocaust by David Ruskies
Miscellaneous TS and MS notes. Includes preface to a reading of Holocaust Verse fragments (carbon) and handwritten notes on chapter organization
Reviews
Jews of Babylonia
Early drafts 1969 - 1969
Completed Portuguese translation by Maximo Siminovich, published in Mundo Israelita, Buenos Aires
Manner Music
Early drafts
Reviews
Nine Plays - “Uriel Acosta,” paste-ups with corrections 1961
Persons and Places
TS with corrections 1974 - 1974
Carbon TS with corrections 1974 - 1974
Rejoice Young Man - Original typescript
Testimony: The United States, 1885-1915
Testimony: The United States, 1885-1890
TS with preface and corrections
Unmarked carbon of final TS
Final printing version, corrections
Proof sheets, with corrections
Carbon of title page with notes on page and separate note on “the right of privacy”
Outline of sections and lists of characters
Reviews from 60s and early 70s
Testimony: The United States, 1891-1895
First TS with corrections
Carbon of first TS, corrections
Carbon - Marked "as submitted to New Directions and afterwards revised"
Carbon of TS, sent to New Directions, with corrections
Early TS draft, with source materials
"South" section
"West" section
"North" section
Revision of "South" section
Testimony: The United States, 1896-1900
First draft - Handwritten outline, with xerox of original source materials
Cover, with markings
Original MS. 1892-1895 and 1896-1900 were originally conceived as separate books, this is the first attempt at merger, with corrections
Carbon TS
Final copy for private printing
Testimony: The United States, 1901-1905
Source materials from law journals, with notes
TS with numerous corrections
Carbon of original TS. First assimilation of materials from 1901-1905 and 1906-1910
Testimony: The United States, 1901-1910
Original MS with corrections, with some carbon and TS pages
Carbon of original sent to England for Ferry Press edition (1968) with paste-ups and corrections, pages 1-236
Box 16, Folder 1-3  Carbon of original sent to England for Ferry Press edition (1968) with paste-ups and corrections, pages 238-308
Box 16, Folder 4-16  Carbons and discards, items with corrections

Testimony: The United States, 1911-1915
Source materials from law journals
Box 17, Folder 1  TS with corrections and additional law journal notes
Box 17, Folder 2  Early drafts and source materials
Box 17, Folder 3  Copy sent to Stephen Berg of American Poetry Review, letter enclosed

Idea File
Idea File - index
Idea File - a
Idea File - b
Idea File - c
Idea File - f
Idea File - j
Idea File - k
Idea File - m
Idea File - p
Idea File - r
Idea File - s
Idea File - t
Idea File - w

Lectures and Readings
American Jewish Historical Society
Introduction to lecture titled "The Jews in American and English Poetry" 1965 - 1965
Box 18, Folder 1
Xeroxes and paste-ups of poems organized with notes as materials for lecture series
Box 18, Folder 2-5
"Introductions," file compiled by C.R. including introductions for readings
Box 18, Folder 6
Sparrow Lecture Series - TS of lecture given as part of series and carbon copy of speech for series

The Menorah Journal materials
Short stories by C.R. for MJ, including: "Aprocrpyha," offprint; "In the Country," offprint; "Meetings and Partings, Friends and Strangers," offprint; Murder will Out," TS; "Nudnik," offprint; "Passage after Arms," offprint; "The Snow on the Garage," TS; untitled story on David Franks, TS
Box 18, Folder 8-9
Article by C.R. on The Menorah Journal for Midstream, and Reviews of The Menorah Journal
Box 18, Folder 10

Notes, Miscellaneous
Notes for a Diary 1959 - 1959
Notes on "Projects to Finish"
Notes by C.R. concerning himself, his writings, thoughts, etc
Notes and source materials for article on Mayer Sulzberger
Notes for prose on Salvador, and Bennetto and Major Noah
Notes concerning the Jews of Cleveland - Includes letters sent to Sidney Vincent, a Cleveland Jew
Box 18, Folder 12
Notes and TS of historical prose fragments - Prose fragments on a newspaper reporter for the New York Herald in mid 1850s
Box 18, Folder 13
Notes and prose fragments 1946 - 1946
Box 18, Folder 14
Notes for article on Karl Shapiro
Notes on Composition Theory
Box 18, Folder 15
Articles from The Nation (1961), with passages underlined with regards to the problem of "writing history," and untitled poem on the difference between writing prose and verse
Box 18, Folder 16
Box 18, Folder 17
Box 18, Folder 18
Box 18, Folder 19
Box 18, Folder 20
WRITINGS

Box 19, Folder 2
"The Method of Revision," file titled by C.R. with originals and xeroxes of both notes and newspaper clippings; underlined, with notes in margins

Box 19, Folder 3
"The Objectivist Press," notes by C.R.

Box 19, Folder 4
"The secret of effective narrative verse," and "as to method"

Box 19, Folder 5
"Studies in the Rhythm of Dialogue"

Box 19, Folder 6
Cut out page from book (title?) with excerpts by C.R. on "writing biography"

Poetry

Box 19, Folder 7-8
Collection of Poetry from 1973-1975

Box 19, Folder 9
Items with corrections

Box 19, Folder 10
Curse, poem with corrections

Box 19, Folder 11

Box 19, Folder 12
Recitative, carbon

Box 19, Folder 13

Miscellaneous Writings

Box 19, Folder 14
Character sketches in prose

Box 19, Folder 15
Charleston Jews

Box 19, Folder 16
Proposal for novel based on life of Frances Marion

Box 19, Folder 17
Notes on Charleston Jews

Box 19, Folder 18
Notes and prose drafts for early history Charleston Jews, also find New York City Public Library receipts for newspapers from the 1830's, presumably check-out by C.R. as source materials

Box 19, Folder 19
Notes from McCrady, book of history of South Carolina, with notes and prose fragments by C.R. drawn from the text

Box 19, Folder 20
Note on ironical close to Charlestown; 1780

Charleston: A Historical Novel

Box 19, Folder 21
Typescript

Box 19, Folder 22
The Palmetto Fly

Box 19, Folder 23
Notes and TS of 2nd version of novel's opening

Box 19, Folder 24
Speech, typescript. Titled "The Life and times of Early American Jews, 1645-1800, in Charleston, South Carolina, and in the Beginning of the Congregation Beth Elohim"

Box 19, Folder 25
Current Prose 1954. File titled by C.R. containing notes for a novel on David Franks and Aaron Lopez, theme of American Jewry

Encyclopedia Judaica materials

Box 19, Folder 26
MS of article on Irving Kauffman

Box 19, Folder 27
Collected articles

Box 19, Folder 28
First There is Need - Xerox with corrections; essay published by Black Sparrow Press as Sparrow 52

Box 19, Folder 29
Four Themes for a Novel

Box 19, Folder 30
General note

Box 19, Folder 31
File titled by figure from Elizabethan history and murder of Pesach Rubenstein, for more on C.R.'s writings on Rubenstein, see Pesach Rubenstein Materials

Box 20, Folder 1
Imaginative Prose ca. 1955

Box 20, Folder 2
General note

Box 20, Folder 3
File titled by C.R. with: notes and outlines for stories, two poems, and TS for Diaspora; 1st Century B.C.E.

Julius Rosenmann materials

Box 19, Folder 4
In Memoriam: Julius (Judah) Rosenmann (d.1961)

Box 19, Folder 5
Prose concerning Julius Rosemann from diary entry 1951 - 1951

Box 20, Folder 1
Man of Honour - Thoughts on Louis Marshall
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 20, Folder 2-3</th>
<th>Manuscript of a Novel Never Completed. A folder labeled by C.R., containing short prose from late 1930s early 1940s and verse fragments from the same period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 4</td>
<td>Pesach Rubenstein materials. Notes and rough draft (ca. 1947-50) on the Pesach Rubenstein murder case, including xerox of pamphlet “Thrilling Mysteries of the Pesach Rubenstein Murder” (1876)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 5</td>
<td>Story of Old Woman - Based on conversations with Julius Rosenmann ca. 1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 6</td>
<td>Tales of Benjamin III - TS and notes</td>
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</table>

### Reviews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 20, Folder 7</th>
<th>Black Sparrow Press editions of C.R.’s work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 8</td>
<td><em>Family Chronicle</em> 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 9</td>
<td><em>Five Groups of Verse</em> 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 10</td>
<td><em>Nine Plays</em> 1927</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 11</td>
<td>Poems 1920</td>
</tr>
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<td>Box 20, Folder 12</td>
<td>Reading in Cleveland 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 13</td>
<td><em>Inscriptions: 1944 - 1956</em>, in <em>Newleader</em></td>
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### Personal Artifacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 20, Folder 14</th>
<th>Address list</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 15</td>
<td>Addresses, in composition book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 16</td>
<td>Addresses/mailing list for <em>Family Chronicle</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 17</td>
<td>Books to Read, list suggested by Kenneth Roxroth, and list compiled by C.R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 18</td>
<td>Brief biography of C.R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 19</td>
<td>Draft card and autographed copy of the U.S. Army’s <em>Infantry Drill Regulations</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 20</td>
<td>Law school notes 1912 - 1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 21</td>
<td>Men of Achievement Award 1973 - 1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 22</td>
<td>Photos - George Oppen, Allen Ginsberg and others from the National Poetry Festival, Allendale, Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 23</td>
<td>Xeroxes of biographical information on Reznikoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 24</td>
<td>Things to do today - memo pad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Materials Relating to Reznikoff’s Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nathan Reznikoff</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 20, Folder 25</td>
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<td>Box 20, Folder 26</td>
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<td>Box 20, Folder 27</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sarah Reznikoff</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Box 21, Folder 2-3</td>
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<td>Box 21, Folder 4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 21, Folder 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 22, Folder 1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 22, Folder 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 22, Folder 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Writings by and About Reznikoff’s Friends
Accession Processed in 1977

WRITINGS BY AND ABOUT REZNIKOFF’S FRIENDS

Box 22, Folder 4

Oppen, George, *Discrete Series* - TS of Oppen’s first book

General note
Enclosed in boards and titled "1930's" on first page. "Zukofsky" is written on title page, with "George Oppen" written over it in C.R.'s handwriting. TS has numerous revisions and different arrangement than published version.

Box 22, Folder 5
Box 22, Folder 6

Syrkin, Marie, *Gleanings* - Review
Reviews and newscaps relating to other poets
Accession Processed in 1990

CORRESPONDENCE

Box 23, Folder 1-2

Letters from Reznikoff to Marie Syrkin - Includes journal entries. AL, TL, typescript carbons 1928 - 1961

Letters to Marie Syrkin after Reznikoff's death

Box 23, Folder 3

From Black Sparrow Press, (TL) 1976

Box 23, Folder 4

Miscellaneous Correspondence, (TL)

Box 23, Folder 5

Unidentified Correspondence, (TL) 1933 May 16

AUTHOR’S COLLECTION

Box 23, Folder 6

*Five Groups of Verse* - Annotated copy (hard-bound book) 1927

Box 23, Folder 7

*Going To and Fro and Walking Up and Down* - Annotated copy (hard-bound book) 1941

Box 24, Folder 1

*By the Waters of Manhattan* (soft-bound copy) - Copy has some missing sections and pages 1962

Box 24, Folder 2

*Testimony: The United States (1885-1890)* (two paperback books) - Copy has missing pages 1965

Box 24, Folder 3

*JOB in Chelsea 24/25* - Annotated copy 1968

Box 24, Folder 4

*Testimony the United States (1891-1900)* - Annotated copy (paperback book) 1968

Box 24, Folder 5

*By the Well of Living and Seeing and The Fifth Book of the Maccabees* - Annotated copies (3 paperback books) 1969

Box 24, Folder 6

*By the Well of Living and Seeing: New and Selected Poems* - Annotated copy with individual inserted notes (paperback book) 1974

Accession Processed in 1991

CORRESPONDENCE

Box 25, Folder 1

Boni, Charles 1930

Box 25, Folder 2-3

Syrkin, Marie 1930

Box 25, Folder 4

Pool, David de Sola 1953

CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS

Box 25, Folder 5,
Oversize MC-037-05

Miscellaneous

FINANCIAL RECORDS

Income and Expense Journals

Box 25, Folder 6

1947 - 1962

Box 25, Folder 7

1948 - 1962

Box 25, Folder 8

1965 - 1974

Box 25, Folder 9

1968 - 1975
### FINANCIAL RECORDS

#### Expense Notebooks
- Box 26, Folder 1: 1975
- Box 26, Folder 2: 1976

#### MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS
- Box 26, Folder 3: Al Lewin memorabilia
- Box 26, Folder 4: Photograph of Reznikoff
- Box 26, Folder 5: Two poems by Reznikoff ("Sonnet I" and "Day by Day")