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Finding Aid - Deborah Barnett fonds (F29)

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Deborah Barnett fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of St. Michael's College, John M. Kelly Library, Special Collections
Title:	Deborah Barnett fonds
Reference code:	F29
Accession [alternative] :	2023 10
Date:	1974-2018, predominantly 1997-2018 (creation)
Physical description:	Approximately 492 cm of textual records and graphic material Approximately 450 polymer plates Approximately 10 sets of film negatives 56 Published books 22 CDs 4 DVDs 1 Hard drive (2SHD) 1 iPod Shuffle
Language of the material:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Created by H Chazan 20 February 2024 Revised by S Rogers 2 May 2024

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Deborah Barnett (born December 15, 1953) is a Canadian creative director, fine press printer, and graphic designer based in Toronto.

She attended high school at Central Technical School in Toronto and was accepted into the school's art program, where she took an interest in sculpture and drawing. Shortly after graduating, she became a founding member of Dreadnaught Press, working first as an apprentice, and later as an art director. The fine press printing collective was well-known in the Canadian literary and publishing community, and served as a space for Barnett to hone her print, design, and typography skills.

Beginning in 1981, Barnett lectured at the annual Banff Publishing Workshop in Alberta for nearly a decade, teaching design, art direction, and colour theory. After Dreadnaught Press disbanded in the mid 1980s, she started her own commercial design studio under the name Dreadnaught Design. Clients included Price Waterhouse Cooper, The National Arts Centre, The

National Ballet of Canada, the AIDS Committee of Toronto, and Reed Books Canada. In 2001, Dreadnaught Design became Someone.ca. Launched by Barnett and business partner Aaron Benson, Someone.ca specialized in website development, web design, and communications. During this time, Barnett also took on creative director roles for several large investment firms. She returned to more extensive fine press printing in 2010, collaborating on letterpress projects and creating custom materials for clients. In 2015, she launched Someone Editions, a specialty letterpress imprint in the spirit of Dreadnaught Press, alongside editor and poet Beatriz Hausner. In 2018, Barnett took on the role of Master Printer at Kelly Library at St. Michael's College, where she taught printing and typesetting workshops, and led production of a series of limited edition chapbooks for the Kelly Library Print Studio. In 2021, she earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Interdisciplinary Art, Media, and Design (IAMD) from OCAD University.

Scope and content

Textual records, graphic material, published books and digital records related to commercial and artistic graphic design by Deborah Barnett. Graphic materials include proofs, sample prints, polymer plates, photographs and film negatives.

Notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated to Special Collections by Deborah Barnett.

Note [General]

In processing.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
 - **Status description:** Draft
-

Access points

- Barnett, Deborah (subject)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Publications (documentary form)
- Photographs and art (documentary form)

Descriptions

Series F29-1: Dreadnaught Press

Date: 1974-1989 (creation)

Scope and content: The series includes materials published for Dreadnaught Press, and design and print work completed for various clients. Includes chapbooks, books, printing proofs, bound volumes, broadsides, prospectuses, posters, cards, stationery, textual records, and ephemera.

Physical description: Approximately 121 cm of textual records

Note [General]: File names derived from Deborah Barnett's arrangement unless otherwise indicated by square brackets.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F29-1-1	File - Dreadnaught publications lists <i>Note [General]</i> : Flyers, brochures/pamphlets, and prospectuses showcasing various pieces published by Dreadnaught, including 52 Pickup, Whale Sound, and Testament for Man. <i>Scope and content</i> : Flyers.	~1980-1982	<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-2	File - Proofs and Broadsides <i>Note [General]</i> : Unsorted materials; file name assigned by archivist based on contents <i>Scope and content</i> : Letterpress proofs and broadsides for Dreadnaught press.	1976-1977	<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-3	File - Flat 52 pickup <i>Note [General]</i> : flat or folded to 5 x 6.5 x 1.25" Each week in 1976, one of the broadsides was to be printed; each of 52 poems was to benefit from an original design layout, employing illustrations, paper, ink colours, typefaces and treatments gathered together. <i>Scope and content</i> : Broadsides - 52 Pick up and misc.	1976	Approximately 1 cm of textual records.
F29-1-4	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 3 <i>Scope and content</i> : Broadside. Magic. Jan Bartley.	1976	<1 cm of textual records

F29-1-5	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 10 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadside. Auburn Photograph. Greg Gatenby.
F29-1-6	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 18 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Note [General] :</i> Broadside. The Lion. Gwendolyn MacEwan. <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadside. The Lion. Gwendolyn MacEwan.
F29-1-7	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 24 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadside. Into the Soups of Rivers. Joe Rosenblatt.
F29-1-8	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 27 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadside. Marsh, Hawk. Margaret Atwood.
F29-1-9	File - Dreadnaught 52 pickup 37 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadside. Of Beds and Manuscripts. Ralph Gustafson. 3 copies.
F29-1-10	File - 52 pickup 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press
F29-1-11	File - Afterword (editor Greg Gatenby) 1976 <1 cm of textual records <i>Note [General] :</i> Proofs of the afterword to the 52 Pickup print object. Text provides insight into the planning process of 52 Pickup, accrual of various pieces for publication, distribution methods, and contextualizes the ethos behind the project. <i>Scope and content:</i> 52 pickup -- Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press
F29-1-12	File - Hail & Farewell Johann Wolfgang von Goethe <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught broadside. 2 copies
F29-1-13	File - Georges Ivanovitch Gurdjieff <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught Broadside.
F29-1-14	File - Chuang Tsu <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught Broadside featuring a translation of a portion of 'Nan-Hua Chen Ching'. Translated by Gia-fu Feng and Jane English.
F29-1-15	File - Ralph Waldo Emerson <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught Broadside.

F29-1-16	File - The Rise & Fall of Nature Marshall McLuhan <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press		<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-17	File - Poem by the Bridge at Ten Shin <i>Scope and content:</i> Proofs		<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-18	File - Percy Bysshe Shelley Sonnet Ozymandias <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press		<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-19	File - Hail & Farewell Johann Wolfgang von Goethe <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press		<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-20	File - To Have Friends, Be One <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs for Dreadnaught press		<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-21	File - "Lies" illustration broadsheets <i>Scope and content:</i> Proofs	1976	Approximately 2 cm of textual records
F29-1-22	File - The Brief Case of a Fat Man <i>Note [General] :</i> Copyright John Sandman & Bob Snider 1974. Designed, composed, & printed at the Dreadnaught Press between March & November 1974, in an edition of 250 copies. The type is Century Nova and the paper Canadian wood pulp. <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught chapbook. The Brief Case of a Fat Man. John Sandman.		1974 <1 cm of textual records
F29-1-23	File - Lies <i>Note [General] :</i> From a limited edition run of 500 copies, June 1976. The type is Peignot, the paper is Hopper Opaque and Mayfair. <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught chapbook. Lies. Sarah McCoy. Martin Vaughn-James.		1976 <1 cm of textual records
F29-1-24	File - Wheat Fields <i>Note [General] :</i> Handset in Monotype Garamond and handprinted on Monadnock Caress. 500 copies, September 1980. Written by Helen Albright and illustrated by Deborah Barnett. <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught chapbook. Wheat Fields. Helen Albright.		1980 <1 cm of textual records

F29-1-25	File - For the coming surface 1980 <1 cm of textual records <i>Note [General] :</i> Composed in Linotype Granjon, and handprinted on Zephyr text and Hopper Rotunda cover papers in an edition of 200 copies in September 1980. <i>Scope and content:</i> Dreadnaught chapbook. For the coming surface. Jack Hannan.
F29-1-26	File - Sadness of Spacemen hardbound 1980-1989 Approximately 1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Proofs and notes.
F29-1-27	File - Nova Dreadnaught 1979? 1979? <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Photocopy of a document
F29-1-28	File - Dreadnaught Literary Book Sale 1983 <1 cm of textual records <i>Note [General] :</i> Notes on revenue, a letter, and brochures for international book sales. <i>Scope and content:</i> Notes
F29-1-29	File - Book Sales 1982-1984 <1 cm of textual records <i>Note [General] :</i> Handwritten notes (pencil on ruled paper) that track sales, inventory, and connections with various libraries and book buyers. <i>Scope and content:</i> Notes
F29-1-30	File - Book Arts Fair - Fine Print Book Fair 1988 <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Proofs, notes, a letter, and order forms
F29-1-31	File - California job case work sheet <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Letterpress proofs
F29-1-32	File - Single broadsides - Dreadnaught <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Various broadsides and letterpress printings mainly for Dreadnaught Press, also Dreadnaught Design and Someone
F29-1-33	File - Business <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Various broadsides and letterpress printings mainly for Dreadnaught Press, also Dreadnaught Design and Someone
F29-1-34	File - Display copies vintage <1 cm of textual records <i>Scope and content:</i> Broadsides, mainly for Dreadnaught press

F29-1-35	File - Misc. Posters <i>Note [General] :</i> Some damage from being folded. File contains five posters that are marked up, with comments left in pencil by printer. Comments pertain to typesetting mistakes. <i>Scope and content:</i> Poster proofs for Dreadnaught press, marked with pencils.	<1 cm of textual records
F29-1-37	File - Spielereien Spass Und Spiele 1980/1985 <i>Creator:</i> Dreadnaught Press <i>Scope and content:</i> 2 copies of book: Spielereien Spass Und Spiele. Rudi McToots. Lesen und Freizeit Verlag. ISBN 3-88884-172-0	Approximately 8 cm of textual records
F29-1-38	File - Selected Poems of Christina Logan 1981 <i>Creator:</i> Dreadnaught Press <i>Note [General] :</i> paperbacks, good condition. <i>Scope and content:</i> 2 copies of book: Selected Poems of Christina Logan. Christina Logan. Dreadnaught. ISBN 0-919567-16-9	Approximately 2 cm of textual records
F29-1-39	File - The Pocket Canada 1982, 1984-1985 <i>Creator:</i> Dreadnaught Press <i>Note [General] :</i> paperbacks, good condition. <i>Scope and content:</i> 6 copies of book: The Pocket Canada. Dreadnaught; Van Nostrand Reinhold Publishers. ISBN 07706-0010-7; 0-9199567-24-X	Approximately 17 cm of textual records
F29-1-48	File - The 1984 Canadian Engagement Diary 1984 <i>Scope and content:</i> 1 copy of book: The 1984 Canadian Engagement Diary. Dreadnaught; D.W. Friesen & Sons Ltd. ISBN 0-919567-23-1	Approximately 2 cm of textual records
F29-1-49	File - The 1985 Canadian Engagement Diary 1985 <i>Scope and content:</i> 2 copies of book: The Canadian Engagement Diary 1985. Dreadnaught; firefly Books Ltd. ISBN 0-919567-25-8	Approximately 9cm of textual records

F29-1-50	File - Food 101 - A Student Guide to Quick & Easy cooking <i>Scope and content:</i> 2 Copies of book: Food 101 - A Student Guide to Quick & Easy cooking. Cathy Smith. Pacific Search Press. ISBN 0-914718-75-4	1982	Approximately 4 cm of textual records
F29-1-51	File - Black Orchid <i>Scope and content:</i> 4 copies of book: Black Orchid. A. F. Moritz. Dreadnaught.	1981	Approximately 5 cm of textual records
F29-1-52	File - Testament for Man <i>Scope and content:</i> 3 copies of book: Testament for Man. Gilberto Meza. Dreadnaught.	1982	Approximately 3 cm of textual records
F29-1-53	File - The Kids' Book of Games For Cars, Trains& Planes. Fun and Games <i>Scope and content:</i> 4 copies of book: The Kids' Book of Games For Cars, Trains& Planes. Rudi McToots. Dreadnaught. Bantam Books. ISBN 0-553-01230-4; 0-600-20477-4; 2 copies each: Fun and Games 2; Fun and Games 3; Fun and Games 4	1980	Approximately 10 cm of textual records

Series F29-2: Dreadnaught Design

Date: [1980s]-2001 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of promotional materials and commercial work created by Dreadnaught Design. Includes books, magazines, stationary, prints, photographs, film slides, negatives, bookmarks, textual records and ephemera.

Physical description: Approximately 37 cm of textual records and graphic material

Note [General] : File names derived from Deborah Barnett's arrangement unless otherwise indicated by square brackets.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F29-2-3	File - Muse Promotional Materials <i>Note [General]</i> : Promotional materials for Barnett's 'Muse' project. <i>Scope and content:</i> Proofs and hard disk	1996	<1 cm of textual records
F29-2-4	File - Muse - Print <i>Scope and content:</i> Black binder holding proofs and 2 photographs	1996	<1 cm of textual records2 photographs

F29-2-5	File - Muse Site <i>Scope and content:</i> Internal documents	1996	<1 cm of textual records
F29-2-6	File - Muse Copy <i>Scope and content:</i> Photographs, proofs, and internal documents	1996-1997	<1 cm of textual records and graphic material
F29-2-7	File - [Torsos fliers] <i>Creator:</i> Barnett, Deborah <i>Note [General] :</i> These four fliers were created to promote Deborah Barnett's 'Tell Tale Torsos' art show, which took place at Illuminary Art Gallery (96 Spadina Ave Suite 606) in Toronto, between the dates of May 3 1997 and May 14 1997. The closing date on some of the fliers reads May 21, but has been covered with a sticker that says '14' on others, denoting the fact that the show was shortened sometime after being announced. <i>Scope and content:</i> Four fliers for gallery exhibition "Torsos" Deborah Barnett, Illuminary Art Gallery May 3-14 1997	1997	<1 cm of textual records
F29-2-8	File - Deborah Barnett <i>Scope and content:</i> Black binder holding photographs		<1 cm of graphic material
F29-2-9	File - [red binder] <i>Creator:</i> Barnett, Deborah <i>Note [General] :</i> A red 3 ring binder featuring 6 dividers and several photographs, film strips, and film slides. Dividers are labelled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Muse promo + Photos' (film primarily depicting paintings and sculptures) • Family: Big as a House (film primarily depicts Barnett's family) • 3D BAAH Photo Bank (film primarily depicting sculptures) • BAAH photos (primarily artistic photographs) • 2D images (film depicts paintings) • 35 mm 3D (35mm slides of paintings and sculptures) There is also a paper envelope that was hole-punched and placed within the binder. The paper envelope originally contained a collection of 12 polaroid photos, which have been removed and placed in clear plastic archival sleeves beside it. 3 photographs depict different paintings and are labelled with their dimensions, medium, and titles. 5 photographs depict a poster for the play 'The Europeans: Struggles to Love' at Necessary Angel Theatre. <i>Scope and content:</i> Red binder containing photographs and film strips from 1997-1998. Photo from Muse art series on front.	1998	Approximately 1 cm of textual records and graphic material