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BERRY (Michelle) Papers

Gift of Michelle Berry, 2016

Dates of creation:

1970-2014

Extent:

52 boxes and items (7.6 metres)

Biographical note:

Michelle Berry is the author of three books of short stories, *How to Get There from Here* (1997), *Margaret Lives in the Basement* (1998), and *I Still Don't Even Know You* (which won the 2011 Mary Scorer Award for Best Book Published by a Manitoba Publisher and was shortlisted for the ReLit Award, 2011), as well as five novels, *What We All Want* (2001), *Blur* (2002), *Blind Crescent* (2005) and *This Book Will Not Save Your Life* (which won the 2010 Colophon Award and was longlisted for the ReLit Award, 2011), and *Interference* (2014). Her writing has been optioned for film and published in the U.K. She is also co-editor with Natalee Caple of *The Notebooks: Interviews and New Fiction from Contemporary Writers* (2002), and has collaborated on an art book with Winnipeg artist Andrew Valko called *Postcard Fictions* (2001). Michelle taught creative writing at Ryerson University, Humber College and Trent University, was on the board of PEN Canada and the authors' committee of the Writer's Trust and served as Second Vice-Chair of The Writer's Union. Michelle is a contributing reviewer for The Globe and Mail, with over 50 reviews published. She presently teaches online for The University of Toronto, in-class at Trent University, and is a mentor at Humber College. She lives in Peterborough, Ontario, where she currently runs her own bookstore, Hunter Street Books.

Scope and content:

This first accession of Michelle Berry's papers contains manuscript drafts of novels and books of short stories; early writing drafts; reviews written by Michelle Berry for the Globe and Mail, as well as reviews of her work; correspondence, and other material related to her life and work.

Contains series:

1. Manuscripts and other writing
2. Reviews
3. Professional files
4. Correspondence
5. Personal and miscellaneous files
6. Early writing
7. Other files
8. Restricted files

Custodial history:

This is the first donation from Michelle Berry to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

Notes:

Folder descriptions are taken directly from titles given by Berry.
Located at **Downsview Offsite Storage**.

SERIES 1: Manuscripts and other writing

Organized chronologically.

BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
	Interference (2014)	
1:1-1:5	Correspondence from Ontario Arts Council (Jack Illingworth) re: OAC grant for book + correspondence from Chris Casuccio re: edits of 'Interference'. Includes draft of 'Interference' as well.	2012-2013
1:6-1:8	Draft: 'Interference' – Heidi's edits.	[2012-2013]
1:9-1:13	Draft: 'Interference' – Jonathan Bennett's edits. Includes correspondence.	2013
1:14	Correspondence + revisions from Chris Casuccio (cc: Hilary McMahon), Edward Berry, Margaret Berry. Includes draft.	[2012-2013]
1:15-1:20	Draft: 'Interference' – Margaret Berry edits. Includes correspondence.	[2012-2013]
2:1-2:3	Draft: 'Interference' [includes revisions].	[2013]
2:4-2:7	Draft: 'Interference'. Includes many revisions.	[2012-2013]
2:8-2:11	Interference publicity. Includes press clippings and interviews.	2014
	This Book Will Not Save Your Life (2010) A novel. Enfield & Wizenty, Great Plains Publications, winner of the Enfield & Wizenty \$5000 novel award.	
2:12-2:13	Draft: 'You Know More Than You Think You Do' - early title [partial drafts with revisions].	[2008]
2:14-2:18	Draft: 'You Know More Than You Think You Do' – Stu Baird edits.	2008 (Sep.)
3:1-3:5	Draft: 'You Know More Than You Think You Do' – Stu Baird edits.	2008
3:6	Comments on the novel: Hilary McMahon (editor), Chris Casuccio, David Carr.	2008
3:7-3:12	Draft: 'Trust Yourself' or 'Just Breathe: A Novel in Four Parts' [?]. Includes some notes and revisions.	[2008-2009]
3:13-3:17	Draft: 'This Book Will Not Save Your Life' – Stu Baird edits. Also includes comments from Hilary McMahon.	2009 (June)
3:18-3:19	Draft: 'This Book Will Not Save Your Life'. Includes	2009

	correspondence and edits by Charlie Foran.	
4:1-4:6	Draft: 'This Book Will Not Save Your Life'. Includes Maurice Mierou edits and correspondence.	2010
4:7-4:8	Other drafts.	[2008-2009]
4:9	Correspondence re: Ontario Arts Council grant/funding for 'You Know More Than You Think You Do'.	2008-2009
4:10	Contracts and correspondence for 'This Book Will Not Save Your Life'.	2010
4:11-4:12	Correspondence with Mary Morgan (Dr. Spock's widow) and Rosemarie Cerminaro re: copyright permissions for book.	2008-2010
4:13-4:14	Research for book.	2007-2008
4:15	Book cover.	2010
4:16	Information re: book launch and writing series with Michelle Berry.	2010
4:17-4:19	Publicity and reviews.	2010
Box 4	Notes [in black notebook].	[2008]
	I Still Don't Even Know You (2010) Turnstone Press, 2010 short story collection.	
5:1	Book contract (Turnstone Press).	2008
5:2-5:18	Various drafts of stories from 'I Still Don't Even Know You' including a table of contents and revisions.	[2005-2010]
5:20	Book covers.	2010
5:21	Interview with Michelle Berry.	2020
5:22-5:23	Book launch, readings, press events.	2010
5:24-5:26	Reviews.	2010
5:27	Book club questions for book.	2010
	Blind Crescent (2005)	
6:1-6:4	Partial drafts [with revisions].	2002
6:5-6:6	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' (alternative title: 'Hold On').	2002
6:7-6:8	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' [with correspondence to parents]. Includes note: 'second part – cul de sac story.'	2002
6:9-6:13	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – revisions by: Aaron.	2003
6:14-6:15	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' [with revisions on select pages].	[2003]
6:16-6:20	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – with revisions and correspondence by Margaret and Edward Berry (parents).	2003
7:1	Correspondence to Margaret and Edward Berry re: 'Blind Crescent' ("2 nd time").	2003 (March)
7:2-7:6	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – with revisions by Margaret and Edward Berry.	2003
7:7-7:10	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – 3 rd draft with revisions.	2004
7:11-7:13	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – Includes correspondence and revisions by Natasha Fairweather.	2004
7:14-7:16,	Drafts (2): 'Blind Crescent' – Correspondence and editorial	2004

8:1-8:3	revisions by Barbara Berson.	
8:4-8:5	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – fragmented drafts.	2004
8:6-8:9	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – Includes revisions and correspondence by Tracy Bordian.	2005
8:10-8:14	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – edited by Ann Ireland, rejected by Ann Collins as “too flat”.	2005
9:1-9:7	Draft: 'Blind Crescent' – Last edit: Tracy Bordian.	2005
9:8	Review quotes – interior of 'Blind Crescent'.	[2005]
9:9	Miscellaneous correspondence and clippings.	2005
9:10	Summer publishing workshop (SFU) + symposium on 'Blind Crescent'.	2005
9:11-9:15	Promotional materials for book – including tours, readings, events, information regarding the LCBO Cocktails and Conversation book club.	2005
9:16-9:19	Reviews, articles, correspondence.	2005
	Blur (2002) Novel. Random House in Canada and Weidenfeld and Nicholson in the UK, 2002. Vintage paperback and W&N paperback, Spring 2003.	
10:1-10:5	Drafts of 'The Pool' (working title). Includes revisions by Margaret Berry.	2000
10:6	'Blur' beginnings.	[1999-2000]
10:7-10:11	Draft: 'Blur'.	[1999-2000]
10:12-10:13	Correspondence, re: 'Blur' with Edward Berry.	1999-2001
10:14-10:21, 11:1-11:6	Various drafts of 'Blur' with edits and correspondence from Michele Hutchison, Sarah Davies, Christine Kidney, David Fairgrieve.	2000-2001
11:7-11:12	Draft: 'Blur' [with many revisions]	[2001]
11:13-11:18	Draft: 'Blur' – includes revisions and correspondence with Pamela from Random House.	2001
12:1-12:5	Draft: 'Blur' (UK) – edits by Christine Kidney.	[2002]
12:6	'Blur' – UK final edits.	2001
12:7	Cover images.	2001-2002
12:8-12:11	Notes and research.	[1999-2001]
12:12	General correspondence regarding the novel.	2001-2003
12:13	British reviews.	2002
12:14	Canadian reviews.	2002-2003
12:15-12:19	General reviews and publicity.	2002-2003
Box: 13	Galley proofs of 'Blur' (UK edition), 2002. Floppy disks (4) with drafts of 'The Pool' + 'Blur', 2000-2001. CIUT radio show cassettes (2), 2002.	2000-2002

	ROB TV, 'The Bottom Line' featuring Blur, 2002.	
	The Notebooks: Interviews and Fiction From Contemporary Writers (2002) Collaborative project with author, Natalee Caple. Includes original stories and interviews from some of Canada's best young writers. Doubleday, Spring 2002.	
14:1	Draft: introduction to 'The Notebooks' anthology [first draft].	[2000-2001]
14:2	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Eliza Clark.	2001
14:3-14:5	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Lynn Coady.	2000-2002
14:6-14:9	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Derek McCormack [includes a cassette].	2001
14:10-14:11	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Michael Redhill.	2001
14:12	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Eden Robinson.	2001
14:13-14:15	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Russell Smith (cassette with interview in box 36).	2000-2001
14:16	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Michael Turner.	2001
15:1-15:2	Interviews, stories and correspondence: Marnie Woodrow.	2001
15:3-15:8	Files regarding the book, including contracts and correspondence [e-mails] with Natalee Caple.	2000-2002
15:9	Publicity and reviews.	2002
15A:1	Floppy disks (2)	[2000-2002]
15A:2-15A:9	Files printed out from the floppy disks including interviews and correspondence with Lynn Coady, Derek McCormack, Russell Smith, Michael Redhill, Eden Robinson, and Marnie Woodrow.	[2000-2002]
	Postcard Fictions (2001) Collaborative art project/art book done with Andrew Valko (Winnipeg artist). Key Porter, 2001.	
15:10-15:11	Draft: 'Postcard Fictions'. Paintings by Andrew Valko, text by Michelle Berry.	[2000-2001]
15:12-15:15	Drafts and other files related to 'Postcard Fictions'.	[2000-2001]
15:16	Draft [includes projection copy and slides of images].	[2000-2001]
16:1	Booklet: 'Dusk to Dawn'. Paintings by Andrew Valko, story by: Michelle Berry.	[2001]
16:2	Art by Andrew Valko.	n.d.
16:3-16:8	Promotional materials, publicity and correspondence re: Postcard Fictions.	2001
	What We All Want (2001) Novel. Random House, 2001. UK edition: Weidenfeld and Nicholson, Spring 2003. Vintage paperback edition – January 2002, and W&N paperback, Spring 2004. The film option was sold to Trailopolis Entertainment Group, LLC in Los Angeles,	

	with Maureen Bradley in Victoria, B.C. and Burning Bridge Entertainment Inc. in Calgary.	
17:1-17:3	Draft: 'Home' [unedited version].	[1998-1999]
17:4-17:8	First draft: 'Home' (early title) Initial copy to Patrick Crean in October 1998, with some edits by Stu B.	1998
17:9-17:13	Draft: 'Home' / 'What We All Want' Copy given to Patrick Crean in October 1998 without changes Stu B. made.	1998
17:14-17:15	Partial draft: 'Home'. Includes correspondence from Patrick Crean.	1999
18:1-18:4	Draft: 'Home' [edits by Eliza].	1999
18:5-18:9	Draft: 'Home' [with editorial revisions].	[1998-1999]
18:10-18:17, 19:1-19:18, 20:1-20:11	Drafts [including partial drafts] of 'What We All Want' with edits and re-writes by Patrick Crean (Key Porter). Eventually the manuscript was sold to Random House (Sarah Davies) and published by them.	1999-2000
20:12-20:16	Draft: 'What We All Want' [master copy edit]	2000
21:1-21:2	Correspondence with Edward Berry.	1999
21:3	Correspondence with David S. Berry.	1998
21:4	Correspondence [with Patrick Crean] + prologue.	1998
21:5-21:6	Correspondence for novel.	1998-1999
21:7-21:9	Notes and research (medical questions) for novel.	1990s
21:10	Book launch: 'What We All Want'.	2001
21:11	Random House press kit.	2001
21:12	Promotional materials.	2001-2002
21:13-21:14	Publicity and reviews [includes British reviews].	2001-2002
21:15-21:16	Cover images.	2000

21:17-21:21	Festivals, talks, correspondence re: novel.	2001-2002
22:1-22:3	E-mails with Burning Bridge Entertainment for movie option to 'What We All Want'.	2005-2011
22:4	Film deal for 'What We All Want' (Trailopolis)	2003
22:5-22:7	Script: 'What We All Want' [with revisions].	2003
22:8	Film deal for 'What We All Want' (correspondence with Maureen Bradley).	2005
22:9-22:11	Film adaptation script drafts: 'What We All Want' by: Mitch Paradise.	[2005]
	Margaret Lives in the Basement (1998) Collection of short fiction. Somerville House – a Patrick Crean Book, 1998.	
22:12	Contract agreement.	1997
22:13	Correspondence with Somerville House and Patrick Crean.	1997
22:14-22:24, 23:1-23:20	Various drafts of stories from 'Margaret Lives in the Basement' [with editorial revisions]. Also contains correspondence with Patrick Crean.	[1996-1998]
23:21-23:26	Complete draft of 'Margaret Lives in the Basement'.	[1998]
23:27	Correspondence.	1998
23:28	Book launch ephemera.	1998
23:29-23:20	Reviews.	1998
23:31	Royalties.	
	How to Get There From Here (1997) Collection of short fiction. Turnstone Press, 1997.	
24:1-24:2	Contract agreements for 'Did You Ever Hear Such A Tale?' [early title].	1996
24:3-24:10	Drafts of stories from 'Did You Ever Hear Such A Tale?' (Includes original copy sent to Turnstone Press in 1995).	[1995-1996]
24:11-24:18	Turnstone Press files re: novel. Includes correspondence.	1995-1997
24:19	Cover images – 'How to Get There From Here' [title change].	1997
24:20	Royalties.	1998
24:21-24:23	Reviews.	1997-1998
	Anthologies	
	Little Black Dress - 'Five Old Crows' (2006) An anthology of stories by women. Scotland : Polygon Press, 2006. Edited by Susie Maguire.	

25:1-25:7	Drafts of: 'Five Old Crows' [includes editorial revisions].	2005
25:8	Promotional materials, correspondence, reviews, cover image.	2005
25:9	Correspondence and contracts (Polygon Press).	2005
25:10	Author biography + draft.	2005
25:11	Authors' mini biographies for anthology.	2005
	Passages to Canada – 'Between Two Thanksgivings' (2002) Anthology of tales of immigration with contributors such as Rohinton Mistry, Nino Ricci, Moses Znaimer, Michael Ignatieff. Doubleday, 2002.	
25:12-25:15	Drafts of piece for anthology, first titled 'Playing Dominoes', eventually changed to 'Between Two Thanksgivings'. Also includes correspondence and editorial revisions.	[2001-2002]
25:16	Page proofs.	2002
25:17-25:19	Publicity [includes reviews].	2002
	Story of a Nation – 'Henderson Has Scored for Canada!' (2001) Anthology of historical fiction with contributors such as Margaret Atwood, Timothy Findley, John Ralson Saul and Alberto Manguel. Doubleday, 2001.	
25:20-25:22	Drafts of piece for anthology: 'Henderson Has Scored For Canada!' Also includes correspondence, editorial revisions, contracts and research.	2000-2001
25:23-25:25	Publicity [contains correspondence].	2000-2001
25:26	Clippings.	2001
	Other writing drafts	
26:1-26:16	Short story collection – includes a list in folder 26:2 with the publications each story has been published in.	1999-2012
26:17-26:23	Other short stories. Also includes an untitled manuscript.	[1990s]
26:24	Possible screen play idea with Scott Gardiner.	2012
	Being Erika script	
26:25-26:29, 27:1-27:5	A novel Michelle Berry was contracted to write based on the show 'Being Erika'. Not sure if it was published. Files contain correspondence about the show, episode descriptions, character descriptions, and ideas and information for the novel.	2010
	Literary Magazine Submissions Includes writing pieces submitted to various literary magazines.	
27:6-27:12	Literary submissions – accepted.	[1994-2000s]
27:13-27:20,	Literary submissions – rejected.	[1990-2000s]

28:1-28:3		
SERIES 2: Reviews		
Includes reviews written by Michelle Berry, as well as reviews written by others about her work. Files contain correspondence and articles.		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
28:4-28:21	Globe and Mail reviews by Michelle Berry. Also includes some short stories M.B. wrote for the Globe and Mail. Includes articles and correspondence.	[1990s-2000s]
Boxes 29, 30, 31	Reviews of Michelle Berry's work.	[1990s-2000s]
32:1-32:5	Publicity. Includes interviews.	[1990s-2000s]
SERIES 3: Professional files		
Includes reviews written by Michelle Berry, as well as reviews written by others about her work. Files contain correspondence and articles.		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
32:6	Speaking engagements.	1998-1999
32:7	Readings.	1995-1998
32:8-32:12	Grant applications.	1999-2001
33:1-33:6	Juries. Includes files related to prizes Michelle Berry has sat on the board for, including the Journey Prize, Timothy Findley Prize (Trent University), NOWW Writing Contest – Flash Fiction Category, and the Writers' Trust of Canada – RBC Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers.	2003-2014
33:7-33:9	PEN Canada files [M.B. was on the board].	1995-1998
33:10-33:16	Literary events – including festivals and award ceremonies that M.B. has attended or presented at. Includes: Canada Reads – Cobourg Celebrates, CNIB Library – Torgi Literary Awards, Sleeping Giant Writers' Festival, K.M. Hunter Artists Awards, Politics and the Pen (M.B. spoke at this event), Lakefield Literary Festival, and general invitations and printed ephemera for events.	2000s
33:17-18	Workshops and classes M.B. has taught, including Short Fiction 101 (Trent University).	2008-2014
SERIES 4: Correspondence		

Includes correspondence relating to M.B.'s writing and professional activities.		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
34:1-34:23	Correspondence relating to writing and other professional activities.	1990-2013
SERIES 5: Personal and Miscellaneous Files		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
34:24	Canadian Who's Who – Michelle Berry.	2009
34:25	Photographs (4). Includes photographs of Michelle Berry.	n.d.
34:26	Courses that involve Michelle Berry's book, <i>The Notebooks</i> .	2013
34:27-34:28	Other personal and miscellaneous files.	[1990s-2000s]
34:29	Michelle Berry Publication List.	1994-2010
SERIES 6: Early writing		
Includes pieces of writing from elementary school, high school, university and from when M.B. attended the Humber School for Writers.		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
34:30-34:31	Early writing – elementary school, high school.	[1970-1985]
34:32-34:36	Graduate classes [includes writing].	1993
35:1-35:4	Alliance Entertainment – a summer job M.B. had in which she read movie scripts and wrote synopses of them.	1994
35:5	Humber School for Writers (HSW) files. Joe Kertes was M.B.'s mentor.	1995
SERIES 7: Other files		
Contains AV materials (videotapes, cassettes, and other floppy disks), and posters and book cover images.		
BOX/ FOLDER #:	CONTENTS:	DATES:
Box 36	10 videotapes + 10 cassette tapes re: Michelle Berry's work (mostly contains interviews).	[1990s-2000s]
Box 37	-2 journals [1990s] -4 floppy disks – Margaret Lives in the Basement -2 rolled up images re: 'Blur'. -2 posters re: M.B. appearances.	[1990s-2000s]

	-Medals (Politics of the Pen) and name badges from conferences.	
Box 38	Scrapbook with clippings, correspondence, ephemera from 1999-2000. Cassette tapes (audiobook) for <i>What We All Want</i> (2001) put together by the CNIB.	1999-2001
	Publications Includes copies of the journals and literary magazines Michelle Berry's work has appeared in.	
Box 39, Box 40, Box 41, Box 42, Box 43	Literary magazines M.B. has been published in. Also includes anthologies, catalogues from publishing houses for books she was releasing, articles written for magazines, PEN Canada newsletters M.B. was the editor for, advertisements for Humber School for Writers (M.B. is a mentor there), Ryerson information and Trent University catalogues for Continuing Ed. Creative Writing (box 43). Box 43 also contains: -An uncorrected book proof for <i>Little Black Dress</i> (2006) - <i>101 Things Canadians Should Know About Canada</i> , edited by Rudyard Griffiths (2008).	1984-2012
SERIES 8: Restricted files		
Boxes 44-52. These files require written permission from Michelle Berry to view. Contains unpublished drafts, photographs, correspondence and early files.		

Items:

1. Michelle Berry scrapbook (ovs), 1996-1999.
2. Two mounted newspaper articles from the Globe and Mail, 2001.

Books:

1. 00: Best Canadian Stories edited by Douglas Glover. Oberon Press, 2000.
2. Little Black Dress, edited by Susie Maguire. Edinburgh : Polygon, 2006.
3. Little Black Dress, edited by Susie Maguire. Edinburgh : Polygon, 2007.