

Anita Rau Badami fonds – MsC 141

Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

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Fonds Description

MsC 141

Title

Anita Rau Badami fonds

Date(s) of creation

1992-2006

Extent

1.32 m of textual records and other material

Biographical sketch

Anita Rau Badami was born in 1961 in India. Her father, who worked as a mechanical engineer and designed trains, was transferred every two or three years, so that she had a mobile childhood.

She has always loved writing, and sold her first short story when she was 18. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Madras, after which she studied Social Communications Media at Sophia College, Bombay.

She worked as a copywriter for advertising agencies in Bombay, Bangalore and Madras, and freelanced for major Indian newspapers for several years. She also published stories in children's magazines. She moved to Canada in 1991 and in 1995 was awarded a Master's degree in English Literature from the University of Calgary.

Her graduate thesis became her first novel, *Tamarind Mem*, which was published worldwide in 1996. Her bestselling second novel, *The Hero's Walk*, won the Regional Commonwealth Writers Prize, Italy's Premio Berto and was also named a Washington Post Best Book of 2001. It was also long listed for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Prize and the Orange Prize for Fiction, and shortlisted for the Kiriya Prize. As well, she is the recipient of the Marian Engel Award for a woman writer in mid-career. Anita Badami has, until today, written four novels: *Tamarind Mem* (1997), *The Hero's Walk* (2001), *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call* (2006), and *Tell it to the Trees* (2011).

Custodial history

The records were in the custody of Anita Rau Badami until their acquisition by Simon Fraser University Library, Special Collections and Rare Books in 2013.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of correspondence, drafts, articles, reviews, and other records created and accumulated by Anita Rau Badami in the course of her career as a writer. Includes drafts of her

first three novels: *Tamarind Mem* (1997), *The Hero's Walk* and *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*. There are no records related to her last novel, *Tell it to the Trees* (2011). The records have been arranged in the following four series: Personal records (1992-2003); *Tamarind Mem* (1994-2001); *The Hero's Walk* (1999-2005); *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* (2003-2006)

Physical description

Includes 5 videocassettes : VHS, 3 floppy disks, and 2 audio cassettes

Immediate source of acquisition

The records were acquired from Anita Rau Badami in 2013.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the files into series provided by the archivist

Restrictions on access, use, reproduction, and publication

Records in this fonds are under copyright. Researchers are required to secure permission from the copyright holders for usage of this material, except for those covered by "fair-dealing".

Finding Aid

File list is available

Accruals

Further accruals are expected

General note

Biographical sketch based on information from <http://www.anitaraubadami.ca/> (accessed 1 April, 2014).

Series Description

Series 1: Personal Records

Date(s) of creation

1992-2003

Extent

0.12 m of textual records and other material

Scope and content

Series consists of correspondence and other records pertaining to the career, projects and interests of Anita Rau Badami. Records include her thesis and videocassettes with her interviews. Series also contains invitations to the Vancouver International Writers and Readers Festival and Adelaide Festivals

Physical description

Includes 5 videocassettes : VHS, 3 floppy disks, and 2 audio cassettes

Series 2: *Tamarind Mem*

Date(s) of creation

1994-2001

Extent

0.31 m of textual records

Scope and content

Series consists of notebooks containing drafts and notes, unbound drafts, and one copy edited by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill for the novel *Tamarind Mem*. It also includes articles, interviews and reviews from Canadian and international newspapers.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the series into subseries provided by the archivist

Subseries 2.1: *Tamarind Mem* handwritten notebooks

Date(s) of creation

1994-1995

Extent

0.05 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of four handwritten notebooks with drafts and notes related to the novel *Tamarind Mem*.

Subseries 2.2: *Tamarind Mem* drafts

Date(s) of creation

1996-2001

Extent

0.18 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of two drafts and one copy edited by Worldplay Creative Services of the novel *Tamarind Mem*. It also includes correspondence with the Bukowski Agency related to the possibility of a *Tamarind Mem* film

Subseries 2.3: *Tamarind Mem* articles and reviews

Date(s) of creation

1996

Extent

0.08 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of articles and reviews of the novel *Tamarind Mem* published in Canadian and international magazines and newspapers

Series 3: *The Hero's Walk*

Date(s) of creation

1999-2005

Extent

0.3 m of textual records

Scope and content

Series consists of notebooks containing drafts and notes, unbound drafts, and copies edited by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill and Alfred A. Knopf for the novel *The Hero's Walk*. It also includes articles, interviews and reviews from Canadian and international newspapers.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the series into subseries provided by the archivist

Subseries 3.1: *The Hero's Walk* handwritten notebooks

Date(s) of creation

Extent

0.04 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of three handwritten notebooks with drafts and notes related to the novel *The Hero's Walk*.

Subseries 3.2: *The Hero's Walk* drafts

Date(s) of creation

1999-2000

Extent

0.13 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of three drafts of the novel *The Hero's Walk* edited by Algonquin Books USA and Alfred A. Knopf Canada

Subseries 3.3: *The Hero's Walk* articles and reviews

Date(s) of creation

2000-2005

Extent

0.13 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of articles and reviews of the novel *The Hero's Walk* published in Canadian and international magazines and newspapers. It also includes Italian articles on Anita Rau Badami as winner of Berto Prize with her novel *The Hero's Walk*

Series 4: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*

Date(s) of creation

2003-2006

Extent

0.59 m of textual records

Scope and content

Series consists of notebooks containing drafts and notes, unbound drafts, and copies edited for the novel *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* It also includes articles, interviews and reviews from Canadian and international newspapers.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the series into subseries provided by the archivist

Subseries 4.1: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* handwritten notebooks

Date(s) of creation

Extent

0.11 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of five handwritten notebooks with drafts and notes related to the novel *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*

Subseries 4.2: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* drafts

Date(s) of creation

2003

Extent

0.43 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of multiple drafts, not always completed and organized, of the novel *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*

Subseries 4.3: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* articles and reviews

Date(s) of creation

2006

Extent

0.05 m of textual records

Scope and content

Subseries consists of articles and reviews of the novel *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* published in Canadian and international magazines and newspapers.

File Description

Material acquired in 2013

BOX	FILE	TITLE	DATE(S)
Series 1: Personal records			
1	1	[Miscellaneous] Scope and content: File includes handwritten notebook titled "Ideas" with no date and three floppy disks titled "Anita thesis U of C.", "SM stories children pieces", and "Latest Kamini main disc". It includes also congratulations from the Department of English of the University of Calgary regarding her M.A. dissertation and her curriculum vitae	1992-2000
1	2	[VHS and audio cassettes on Anita Badami] Scope and content: File includes five VHS videocassettes. Two of them sent by the Bukowski Agency titled "Anita Rau Badami", one titled "TVO Anita Rau Badami", one titled "Anita" and one titled "Anita Rau Badami – Ent Desk". File also includes two audio cassettes titled "CBC India 50 th century" and "Midnight's Children: Fiction of South Asia" of Los Angeles Times Festival of Books	1996
1	3	[General correspondence] Scope and content: File includes correspondence over the correction of some chapters of <i>The Hero's Walk</i> and <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> It includes invitation to the 2001 Vancouver International Writers and Reader Festival and 2002 Adelaide Festival. The file also includes articles and general correspondence on Anita Badami's everyday life	2000-2003

Series 2: Tamarind Mem

Sub-series 2.1: *Tamarind Mem*: handwritten notebooks

2	1	[Notebook #1 <i>Tamarind Mem</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i>	1994
2	2	[Notebook #2 <i>Tamarind Mem</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i>	1995
2	3	[Notebook #3 <i>Tamarind Mem</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> Physical condition note: The first few pages of the notebook have been ripped	[ca. 1995]
2	4	[Notebook #4 <i>Tamarind Mem</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and	[ca.1995]

notes on the novel *Tamarind Mem*

Sub-series 2.2: *Tamarind Mem*: drafts

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|---|---|---|-----------|
| 2 | 5 | [<i>Tamarind Mem</i> - copy-editing suggestions]
Scope and content: The file includes a complete copy of the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> edited by Catherine Marjoribanks from Worldplay Creative Services | 1996 |
| 3 | 1 | [<i>Tamarind Mem</i> - first draft]
Scope and content: The file includes a first draft of the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> sent back to Anita Badami by Jane Cain, Penguin Canada Ltd. The file also includes a binder with correspondence with the Bukowski Agency concerning the possibility of <i>Tamarind Mem</i> film, and a certificate of distinction in Pythagoras mathematics context | 1996-1998 |
| 3 | 2 | [<i>Tamarind Mem</i> - second draft]
Scope and content: The file includes a second draft of the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> with a letter from the Managing Editor Dana Stamey, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. It also includes a second draft of the <i>Tamarind Mem</i> Kamini section | 2001 |

Sub-series 2.3: *Tamarind Mem*: articles and reviews

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|---|---|--|------|
| 4 | 1 | [<i>Tamarind Mem</i> - loose articles and reviews from Canadian and Indian newspapers]
Scope and content: The file includes articles related to reviews of the novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> from Canadian and Indian newspapers | 1996 |
| 4 | 2 | [<i>Tamarind Mem</i> - magazine articles and reviews]
Scope and content: The file includes magazine articles on <i>Tamarind Mem</i> published in <i>A Magazine</i> , <i>Penguin Book Canada Limited</i> , <i>Arts Alive</i> , and <i>Mehfil</i> . It also includes reviews published in <i>The Vancouver International Writers & Readers Festival</i> and <i>PanCanadian wordfest '96 Banff-Calgary International Writers Festival</i> | 1996 |
| 4 | 3 | [Interview between Anita Rau Badami and John Chen]
Scope and content: The file includes the transcription of the interview made in Nanaimo campus – Malaspina University College on October 28, 1996 after the publication of Anita Badami's first novel <i>Tamarind Mem</i> | 1996 |

Series 3: The Hero's Walk

Sub-series 3.1: *The Hero's Walk*: handwritten notebooks

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|---|---|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 4 | 4 | [Notebook #7 <i>The Hero's Walk</i>] | [ca. 1998] |
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Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel *The Hero's Walk*

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|---|---|---|------------|
| 4 | 5 | [Notebook #8 <i>The Hero's Walk</i>]
Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> | [ca. 1998] |
| 4 | 6 | [Notebook <i>The Hero's Walk</i>]
Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> | [ca.1998] |

Sub-series 3.2: *The Hero's Walk*: drafts

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|---|---|--|------|
| 5 | 1 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - draft 3 (?)]
Scope and content: The file includes a draft 3 (?) of the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> with editorial notes from Louise Denys at Knopf Canada | 1999 |
| 5 | 2 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - proof Alfred A. Knopf]
Scope and content: The file includes a proof of the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> from the editor Alfred A. Knopf Canada | 2000 |
| 5 | 3 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - first proof Algonquin Books]
Scope and content: The file includes a first proof draft of the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> from Algonquin Books, USA | 2000 |

Sub-series 3.3: *The Hero's Walk*: articles and reviews

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|---|---|--|-----------|
| 6 | 1 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - loose articles and reviews from Canadian and Indian newspapers]
Scope and content: The file includes articles related to reviews from Canadian and Indian newspapers of the novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> | 2000-2001 |
| 6 | 2 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - magazine articles reviews]
Scope and content: The file includes magazine articles on <i>The Hero's Walk</i> published in <i>Home & House</i> , <i>Elle</i> , <i>Elm Street</i> , <i>Maclean's</i> , <i>AAJ Magazine</i> , <i>Imperial Oil Review</i> and <i>People</i> | 2000-2001 |
| 6 | 3 | [<i>The Hero's Walk</i> - Italy's Premio Berto articles]
Scope and content: The file includes Italian articles from the main Italian newspapers regarding Anita Rau Badami as winner of the Premio Berto with her novel <i>The Hero's Walk</i> | 2005 |

Series 4: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*

Sub-series 4.1: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*: handwritten notebooks

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| 7 | 1 | [Notebook <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] | [ca. 2002] |
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		Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes for the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	
7	2	[Notebook <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes related to the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2002]
7	3	[Notebook #5 <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes related to the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2002]
7	4	[Notebook #9a <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes related to the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2002]
7	5	[Notebook #9b <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] Scope and content: The item is a handwritten notebook with drafts and notes related to the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2002]

Sub-series 4.2: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*: drafts

7	6	[Chapter 1 <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>] Scope and content: The file includes two typewritten first chapters, one with handwritten annotations of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2003]
8	1	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> first draft – prologue] Scope and content: The file includes the first draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> It in particular includes three copies of the Prologue section	2003
8	2	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> first draft – The Spirit of the House] Scope and content: The file includes the first draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> It in particular includes one copy of the Spirit of the house section	2003
8	3	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> first draft – Shalini] Scope and content: The file included the first draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> It in particular includes one copy of the Shalini section	2003
8	4	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> first draft] Scope and content: The file includes unorganized chapters of the first draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	2003
8	5	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> first draft] Scope and content: The file includes unorganized chapters of the 1 st draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	2003
9	1	[<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> second draft] Scope and content: The file includes a full copy of the second draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i>	[ca. 2003]

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|---------|----------|---|------------|
| 9 | 2 | [<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> third draft]
Scope and content: The file includes a full copy of the third draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> | [ca. 2003] |
| 9
10 | 3
1-2 | [<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> draft]
Scope and content: The file includes unorganized chapters of an unnumbered draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> | [ca. 2003] |
| 10 | 3 | [<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> draft]
Scope and content: The file includes a full unnumbered draft of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> | [ca. 2003] |

Sub-series 4.3: *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*: articles and reviews

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| 11 | 1 | [<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> articles and reviews from Canadian newspapers]
Scope and content: The file includes articles and reviews of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> | 2006 |
| 11 | 2 | [<i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> magazine articles and reviews]
Scope and content: The file includes articles and reviews of the novel <i>Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?</i> published in <i>Quill & Quire</i> , <i>Desi</i> and <i>Les dossiers page</i> | 2006 |