

An inventory to the  
Jim McIntosh fonds  
in  
Special Collections and Rare Books  
Simon Fraser University

MsC 89

processed by Carolyn Petrie  
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## Fonds-level description

**Title:** Jim McIntosh fonds

**Date:** 1979 - 1982, 1986 - [ca. 1994], 1998

**Extent:** 10 cm of textual records

**Biographical sketch:** Jim McIntosh's early career was as the Canadian representative for WB Saunders, a Philadelphia publishing house specializing in medical textbooks. His love of books inspired him to open Colophon Books in Vancouver, BC, in 1975. The store's first emphasis was on Canadian fine arts, but McIntosh quickly branched into modern literature, selling both new and used books with a particular emphasis on Canadian titles and the American avant-garde. McIntosh was the first bookseller in Vancouver to handle material from Black Sparrow Press of California, and he sold items from other fine presses from the Pacific North West. Colophon Books also published limited edition chap books and broadsides by Canadian poets, and one book, *Alison's Fishing Birds* by Roderick Haig-Brown. McIntosh collaborated with printer and illustrator Jim Rimmer of Pie Tree Press on several of these publications. Colophon Books closed around 1995, when McIntosh retired to Mission, BC.

**Custodial history:** Records were maintained by McIntosh until their donation to the Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books in 2006.

**Scope and content:** Fonds consists of records related to McIntosh's publication and bookselling activities at Colophon Books. Records reflect the planning and preparatory stages of publications, book advertisement, and sales. Records include several Colophon Books chap books and broadsides, printed and illustrated by Jim Rimmer of Pie Tree Press, BC. Records are arranged into two series: Subject files and Publication files.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the provenance of the records.

**Arrangement:** Original order has been retained.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Records were donated to the Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books directly from Jim McIntosh, in 2006.

**Terms governing reproduction:** Reproduction of material subject to the approval of the Special Collections Librarian.

**Finding aids:** File level control.

**Accruals:** Further accruals are expected.

**Records related in other fonds:** Other records related to Jim Rimmer and the Pie Tree Press can be found in the Jim Rimmer collection (MsC41).

**General note:** Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books  
classification number I

## Series-level descriptions

**Title:** Subject files

**Date:** 1980 - 1982, 1986 - [ca. 1994]

**Extent:** 8.5 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** Series consists of various records related to McIntosh's publication and bookselling activities at Colophon Books. Records include correspondence, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, book ordering information, mock-ups, sample prints, and ephemera.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the content of the series.

**Title:** Publication files

**Date:** 1979 - 1982, 1990-1991, 1998

**Extent:** 1.5 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** Series consists of printed material published by Colophon Books, including chap books and poetry broadsides, printed and illustrated by Jim Rimmer. Records also include keepsakes and promotional material for Colophon Books' publication of *Alison's Fishing Birds*, and preparatory material related to the publication of Mona Fertig's *Releasing the Spirit*.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the contents of the series.

## File-level descriptions

### **Series: Subject files**

**Title:** Colophon Books office files

**Date:** 1980 - 1982, 1986 - [ca. 1994]

**Extent:** 2.5 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** File consists of various records related to Colophon Books' publishing and bookselling activities. Records include newspaper clippings concerning the seizure of books by Canada Customs, correspondence concerning Roderick Haig-Brown and the publication of *Alison's Fishing Birds*, and order records with the names, contact information and payment details of individuals purchasing *Alison's Fishing Birds*.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the contents of the file.

**Title:** Al Purdy manuscript

**Date:** [ca. 1990]

**Extent:** 5 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** File consists of a typed manuscript of *A Splinter in the Heart* by Al Purdy. Records include the 241 pages of the manuscript and a handwritten note from Purdy on the title page.

**Source of title:** Title transcribed directly from original file folder.

## **Series: Publication files**

**Title:** Poetry publications

**Date:** 1990-1991, 1998

**Extent:** 0.5 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** File consists of various broadsides published in limited edition by Colophon Books, set and illustrated by Jim Rimmer of Pie Tree Press. Records include poetry by Irving Layton, Kuldip Gill, Al Purdy, Dorothy Livestay and Peter Trower.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the contents of the file.

**Title:** Chap books and promotional prints

**Date:** 1979- 1982

**Extent:** 1 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** File consists of publications and promotional prints by Colophon Books, printed and illustrated by Jim Rimmer. Records include a copy of k.o. kane's *Face to Face*, Colophon Chap Book One; Mona Fertig's *Releasing the Spirit*, Colophon Chap Book Two; and two versions of the ordering form for *Alison's Fishing Birds*. File also contains a copy of Rimmer's *Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus*.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the contents of the file.

**Title:** Mona Fertig

**Date:** 1981 - 1982, 1990

**Extent:** 1 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:** File consists primarily of records related to Colophon Books' publication of Mona Fertig's *Releasing the Spirit*, Colophon Chap Book Two. Records include sample settings of the text, edited proof-sheets, and a typed mockup of the book, as well as correspondence and the receipt of legal deposit. Records also include information and ephemera concerning the appearance of Al Purdy at the Western Front in 1990 and a mock-up of Purdy's *Two/Al Purdy*.

**Source of title:** Title transcribed directly from the original file folder.

Box List  
Jim McIntosh fonds

**Box1**

Series: Subject files

Files:

Colophon Books office files

Al Purdy manuscript

Series: Publication files

Files:

Chapbooks and promotional prints

Mona Fertig

**Oversize storage**

Series: Publication files

Files:

Poetry publications