

Dates: 1975-2015

Extent: 12 boxes (2.5 metres)

Biographical note:

Robyn Sarah was born in New York, NY in 1949, and grew up in Montréal, Québec. While studying English and Philosophy at McGill University, Sarah began writing poetry in the 1970s. In 1976, with Fred Louder, she co-founded a small press, Villeneuve Publications, and co-edited its poetry chapbook series. During this time, and until 1996, Sarah also taught English at Champlain Regional College in St. Lambert, Québec.

Sarah is a frequent contributor of poetry, fiction, interviews and essays to Canadian and American periodicals. The subject matter of these works ranges from literature and poetry to education and literacy. Sarah has also worked as an editor for a number of Canadian publishers, including Cormorant Books and House of Anansi Press. Sarah's work has been widely recognized, winning the CBC literary competition for poetry in 1990, a National Magazine Award in 1994 for her short story *Accept My Story*, and her work *Promise of Shelter* was short-listed for the 1998 QSPELL award for the best English-language fiction written by a Québec author.

Scope and content:

This collection contains drafts and proofs for a number of Sarah's published monographs, including *Little Eureka's* (Biblioasis, 2007), *A Day's Grace* (The Porcupine's Quill, 2003), and *The Touchstone: Poems New and Selected* (Anansi, 1992), along with correspondence and drafts of Sarah's contributions to the Porcupine's Quill *Essential Poets* series, on Margaret Avison, Don Coles, and George Johnston. Also included are over sixty published examples of Sarah's poetry, essays, interviews, and fiction, in Canadian and American periodicals such as *The Malahat Review*, *ARC*, *The Threepenny Review*, *The Walrus*, and *The New Quarterly*.

In addition, this collection includes correspondence, drafts and published versions of Sarah's journalistic work, which has appeared in Canadian newspapers such as *The Globe and Mail*, *The Montreal Gazette*, and *The Ottawa Citizen*. Materials relating to Sarah's editorial work for *Cormorant Books* and *House of Anansi Press* are also included, along with material pertaining to Sarah's involvement in numerous literary events.

Contains series:

1. Works published in periodicals and anthologies
2. Manuscript proofs
3. Literary events and appearances
4. Interviews and general press
5. Journalism
6. The Porcupine's Quill *Essential Poets* series
7. Editorial work
8. Miscellaneous

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Sarah, Robyn papers

Custodial history:

These papers were donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library by Robyn Sarah in August, 2015.

Restrictions:

Open.

Notes:

Folder descriptions, where necessary, are taken directly from titles given by Sarah to her own folders. Shorthand notations are used throughout the finding aid and are to be translated as follows:

WP: word-processed text

MS: handwritten

HR: holograph revision (written in the hand of the author)

ER: editorial revision (revisions made by the editor or someone other than the author)

Series 1: Works published in periodicals and anthologies	
Box 1	
Poetry publications in periodicals	
*Note: Filed chronologically, left to right	
Publication:	Contribution by Robyn Sarah:
Rubicon. Number 1, Spring 1983.	"Pardon Me" and "Epiphanies of the Back Room"
Queen's Quarterly. Vol 94, No 2. Summer 1987.	"Before Snow"
The Malahat Review. Number 92, Fall 1990.	"The Touchstone"
The Malahat Review. Number 98, Spring 1992.	"Ad Lib for Bone Flute"
Grain. Vol 22, No 4. Spring 1995.	"Letter to M, Montreal"
The Malahat Review. Number 112, Fall 1995.	"April's Fools", "Plateau Mont Royal: A Few Particulars, 8th of August" and "Lapse"
Grain. Vol 23, No 4. Spring 1996.	"March Window", "Courtney, Mentioned in Passing" and "Years After"
Arc. Number 36, Spring 1996.	"Relics", "Gusting", "Country Walk" and "The Birth of Art"
Arc. Number 37, Autumn 1996.	Contains winners of a poetry contest judged by Sarah.
The American Voice. Number 39, 1996.	"Alive"
The Malahat Review. Number 119, Summer 1997.	"Doze Zone"
The Malahat Review. Number 135, Summer 2001.	"Fishless" and "Day"
Poetry. Volume 179, February 2002.	"A Confused Heart" and "Ponte Vedra"
Poetry. Volume 180, September 2002.	"The Unharmmed"
The Malahat Review. Number 140, Fall 2002.	"Getting in Deeper" and "Two Conversations About Poetry"
The Malahat Review. Number 141, Winter 2002.	"Bounty"
The Malahat Review. Number 143, Summer 2003.	"The Orchestre du Conservatoire" and "Rehearses in Salle St-Sulpice"
The Hudson Review. Vol 56, No 2. Summer 2003.	"Tony's Sharpening"
Quarterly West. Fall/Winter 2003-04.	"Cipher" and "Salvages"
La Traductière. Numero 23, 2005.	"It is Not in Great Acts / pas besoin de grandes choses"
Nimrod International Journal. Vol 49, No 1. Fall/Winter 2005.	"Circa 2000" and "In Conversation with Robyn Sarah"
Lichen: Arts and Letters Preview. Vol 9, No 1. Spring/Summer 2007.	"Study in Pencil"
The Hudson Review. Vol 60, No 4. Winter 2008.	"Clock Song", "Handful" and "Peaks"
Arc. Number 60, Summer 2008.	"End to End"

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Ploughshares. Vol 34, No 4. Winter 2008-09.	"Poem on Father's Day"
The Fiddlehead. Number 239, Spring 2009.	"Gate", "Detritus" and "Messenger"
The Antigonish Review. Number 157, Spring 2009.	"To the Power of N"
Contemporary Verse 2. Vol 31, No 4. Spring 2009.	"Tenacious", "Munificent", "Minus 20", "Brink", "After the Storm", "Last of December" and "Once was full summer"
Arc. Number 61, Winter 2009.	"A Snow Fence"
Contemporary Verse 2. Vol 33, No 2. Fall 2010.	"City Thunder", "A Half Life" and "Sinkers"
Contemporary Verse 2. Vol 34, No 3. Winter 2012.	"Latin" and "Rock Coral"
The Fiddlehead. Number 260, Summer 2014.	"Villanelle on a line from William Carlos Williams" and " In the Dream it Made Sense"
Prism International. Vol 53, No 2. Winter 2015.	"An Infrequent Flyer Looks Down", "Breach", "Lacunae", "A Guide to Modern Verse" and "Swept Away"
Box 2	
Poetry publications in periodicals continued	
*Note: Filed chronologically top to bottom	
The McGill Observer. Vol 3, No 5. March 1982.	"Morning Ritual", "City", "At Dawn" "Fugue", "The Umbrellas Have Shut"
Bellows. Number 2, Fall 1987.	"Sentimentality and Supersitition"
The Threepenny Review. Number 63, Fall 1995.	"Redoing the Entrance"
The Threepenny Review. Number 82, Summer 2000.	"Rivited"
The North American Review. Vol 286, No 3-4. May-August 2001.	"Moments on a Balcony"
The North American Review. Vol 288, No 2. March-April 2003.	"A Solstice Rose"
The Threepenny Review. Number 93, Spring 2003.	"Did You Ever"
Geist. Number 59, Winter 2005-06.	"Fugue"
The Walrus. Vol 4, No 2. March 2007.	"As a Storm-lopped Tree"
The North American Review. Vol 292, No 3-4. May-August 2007.	"Lull"
The New Quarterly. Number 109, Winter 2009.	"The Star", "Then", "Parents", "Flash", "Span". Also includes an interview with Sarah.
The New Quarterly. Number 122, Spring 2012.	"My Shoes are Killing Me"
Literary Review of Canada. Vol 20, No 2. March 2012.	Only Those Who Love"
The Walrus. Vol 9, No 8. October 2012.	"Impasse"
The Walrus. Vol 10, No 9. November 2013.	"Cast-offs"

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Box 3	
Fiction publications in periodicals	
*Note: Filed chronologically, left to right	
Canadian Fiction Magazine. Number 44, 1980.	"Heading into Winter"
The Malahat Review. Number 67, February 1984.	"Anyone Skating on that Middle Ground"
Canadian Fiction Magazine. Number 63, 1988.	"New Management"
Canadian Fiction Magazine. Number 79, 1992.	"Micro-entities of the Children's Hospital"
Prairie Schooner. Vol 67, No 4. Winter 1993.	"Unlit Water"
Index: The Montreal Literary Calendar. Vol 1, No 2. April 1994.	"Keeping Rhythm"
The Malahat Review. Number 111, Summer 1995.	"Janine"
The New Quarterly. Vol 17, No 3. Fall 1997.	"At my left hand Gabriel"
The Massachusetts Review. Vol 38, No 2. Summer 1997.	"The Paper Knife"
Quarterly West. Number 46, Spring/Summer1998.	"Passing the Solstice"
Michigan Quarterly Review. Vol 39, No 3. Summer 2000.	"Promise of Shelter"
The Hudson Review. Vol 57, No 1. Spring 2004.	"Drift"
Essay publications in periodicals	
*Note: Filed chronologically, left to right	
The New Quarterly. Vol 17, No 2. Summer 1997.	"Saving Time: On Journal Keeping"
Michigan Quarterly Review. Vol 37, No 3. Summer 1998.	"Waiting for the Operation"
Our Schools Our Selves. Vol 9, No 6. June 1999.	"Within Our Reach?"
Our Schools Our Selves. Vol 10, No 1. September 2000.	"Method and Meaning: Dreaming about a balanced curriculum"
New England Review. Vol 21, No 2. Spring, 2000.	"On Seeing: Essay in the form of variations"
The New Quarterly. Vol 21, No 2-3. Summer/Fall 2001.	"Ringing Changes: The poet's hand in the short story"
The Malahat Review. Number 144, September 2003.	"What's a Review Supposed to Do?"
The New Quarterly. Number 95. Summer, 2005.	"Poetry's Bottom Line: towards an essay on poetics"
The New Quarterly. Number 96. Fall, 2005.	"Connections"
New England Review. Vol 23, No 3. Spring, 2002.	"Connections"
The New Quarterly. Number 100. Fall 2006.	"Abandonment and After: On editing poetry"
Headlight Anthology 12, 2009.	"Poetic Licence"

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*Note: Oversized materials in this series included in Box 4.	
Poetry publications in anthologies	
*Note: Filed chronologically, left to right	
Passeport : La poésie moderne de langue anglaise au Canada. J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing, Winnipeg, MB. 1998.	"Marées"
Poetry: An Introduction. Edited by Michael Meyer, third edition. Bedford/St. Martin's, Boston, MA. 2001.	"Villanelle for a Cool April"
Otras Voces Canadienses. Edited by Laura López and Claudia Lucotti. Coordinación de Difusión Cultural, Dirección de Literatura/UNAM, México, 2009.	"Agua sin luz"
Earth and Heaven: An Anthology of Myth Poetry. Edited by Amanda Jerigan and Evan Jones. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, Markham, ON. 2015.	"A Confused Heart"
Box 4	
Essay publications in periodicals continued	
*Note: Filed chronologically top to bottom	
The Threepenny Review. Number 68, Winter 1997.	"In Referendum Country"
Matrix. Number 51, 1998.	"Writers Redux"
Matrix. Number 58, 2001.	"On Four Lines of Shakespeare"
The Threepenny Review. Number 87, Fall 2001.	Reviews: "Open Closed Open" by Yehuda Amichai and "Poems New and Collected" by Wislawa Szymborska.
Books in Canada. Vol 30, No 4. November/December, 2001.	"Talking Poetry in Letters"
Canadian Notes & Queries. Number 68, Fall/Winter 2005.	"A Conversation with Eric Ormsby"
Canadian Notes & Queries. Number 70, Fall/Winter 2006.	"Tots, Time and Tides"
Canadian Notes & Queries. Number 71, Spring/Summer 2007.	"In Praise of Smaller Servings"
The New Quarterly. Number 106, Spring 2008.	"Contiguities: Two Montreal Artists. Featuring functional object art by Timor Timar and photography by D. R. Cowles."

Series 2: Manuscript Proofs	
Box : Folder	Contents

	*Note: Unless otherwise noted, Sarah's original filing order has been maintained.
Box 5	Proofs for various manuscripts written by Robyn Sarah
	"Little Eureka", published by Biblioasis, 2007.
5:1-14	2nd proof, undated. WP + HR. First folder includes a page-by-page list of author's corrections.
5:15-25	3rd proof, dated January 30th, 2007. WP + HR. Incomplete, with pages 53-103 missing.
	"Connections" an essay published in The New Quarterly, Number 96. Fall, 2005.
5:26	Proof of the article, including images and text, undated. WP + HR.
	"A Day's Grace", published by The Porcupine's Quill, 2003.
5:27-30	Copyedit proof. WP + Doris Cowan's editorial comments and Sarah's replies.
	"The Touchstone: Poems New and Selected", published by Anansi Press, 1992.
5:31-35	Photocopy of manuscript as first submitted, before editing process with Anne Szumigalski.
5:36-41	Photocopy of master manuscript, with holograph and typewritten responses to Anne Szumigalski's ER. Also includes copy of ALS from Sarah to Szumigalski, dated February 1992.
Box 6	
6:1-2	Additional photocopies of poems to be included in 'A Day's Grace', filed with the master manuscript.
6:3-10	Photocopy of 1st proof, including ER by Anne Szumigalski and Don Bastion. Dated April 6, 1992.
6:11-18	Photocopy of 2nd proof, includes ER by Don Bastion (and possibly others) and pencil notes by Sarah. Dated April 10, 1992.
6:19-24	Photocopy of an additional, undated proof. Includes ER by Don Bastion (and possibly others). Also includes original typescript of a 'note to readers'.
Series 3: Literary Events and Appearances	
Box 6 cont	Materials pertaining to literary events in which Sarah has participated.
	*Note: Unless otherwise noted, all correspondence is with Robyn Sarah.
	"Wild Writers We Have Known" conference on the Canadian short story (John Metcalf and The New Quarterly, Stratford, 2000).
6:25-27	Correspondence (2000-2002): ALS - 2, from John Metcalf, to Peter Hinchcliffe WPLS - 6, from Kim Jernigan WPL - 3, to Kim Jernigan, to Steve Heighton

	<p>Copy of fax - 2, to Kim Jernigan, from Steve Heighton</p> <p>Email exchanges - 2, with Amanda at The New Quarterly, with Kim Jernigan.</p>
6:28-33	<p>Other materials including: Drafts of Sarah's presentation pieces for the event: "Accept my Story", "Ringing Changes: The Poet's Hand in the Short Story" and "Genesis of a Story"; transcripts of the event; excerpts from letters in response to the event; event programme; participating writers' addresses; 5 copies of reviews of the event; 1 essay assignment in response to Sarah's works "Accept my Story" and " Promise of Shelter", submitted in one of Kim Jernigan's classes.</p>
	<p>Trent University Colloquium on Literary Polyphony (1996). Sarah planned to participate but had to cancel shortly beforehand due to a family emergency.</p>
6:34-37	<p>Correspondence (1996-1997):</p> <p>WPLS - 12, from Dennis Lee to Sean Kane, from Sean Kane to event participants, from Roo Borson to Sean Kane, from Robyn Sarah to Sean Kane (includes essay submission), from Dennis Lee to Robyn Sarah, from Robert Bringhurst to Robyn Sarah, from Stan Dragland to Robyn Sarah</p> <p>WPL - 2, from Stan Dragland to Sean Kane, from Sean Kane to event participants</p> <p>ALS - 5, (fax cover letter) from Robyn Sarah to Trent University, from Sean Kane to Robyn Sarah, from Jan Zwicky to Robyn Sarah, from Don McKay to Robyn Sarah, from Robert Bringhurst to Robyn Sarah, photocopy of two ALS postcards from Robyn Sarah to Robert Bringhurst and Stan Dragland.</p> <p>TL - 2, from Robyn Sarah [?] to Dennis Lee, from Robyn Sarah [?] to Robert Bringhurst</p>
6:38-39	<p>Other materials including: The first draft of an essay on polyphony by Sarah, intended for presentation at the conference (later published in "Little Eureka"); photocopies of materials submitted by other participants (Sean Kane, Dennis Lee).</p>
<p>Series 4: Interviews and General Press</p>	
Box 7	<p>Materials pertaining to interviews that Robyn Sarah has given or conducted.</p>
	<p>Robyn Sarah interviewing Eric Ormsby for Canadian Notes and Queries, 2005).</p>
7:1	<p>Correspondence (April-August 2005):</p> <p>Email exchanges - 10, with Amanda Jernigan and Eric Ormsby</p>
7:2-3	<p>Other materials: 1 preliminary draft (WP) of Sarah's interview questions, with HR throughout; 4 transcriptions (WP) of the interview with slight editorial changes in each, along with WP edits within text. Undated.</p>
	<p>Robert Sward interviewing Robyn Sarah for the Nimrod Literary Magazine Review, 2005.</p>

7:4-8	Correspondence (December 2004-January 2005): Email exchanges - 50, between Robyn Sarah and Robert Sward. Many of these email include drafts and edits of the final interview text.
7:9-13	Other materials: 2 WP drafts of the interview, and 2 WP proofs, undated.
	Stephen Brockwell interviewing Robyn Sarah for www.poetics.ca, 2003 (a later edit is included in "Little Eureka").
7:14-15	Correspondence (September-November, 2003): Email exchanges - 14, between Robyn Sarah and Stephen Brockwell. Many of these emails include drafts and edits of the final interview text.
7:16	Other materials: WP version of interview text for www.poetics.ca article; WP revision of text for publication in "Little Eureka".
	Robyn Sarah interviewing Clare Kavanaugh, Chana Bloch and Chana Kronfeld, as research for essay-reviews of their books "Poems New and Collected" and "Open Closed Open" in The Threepenny Review, 2001.
7:17-19	Correspondence (January - July 2001): TLS - 1, (copy) to Mat Wahlstrom Email exchanges - 26, with Clare Kavanaugh, Chana Bloch, Mat Wahlstrom, Chana Kronfeld. Many of these emails include drafts and edits of the final interview text.
7:20-21	Other materials: Interview with Clare Kavanaugh, transcribed from email correspondence (WP); Interview with Chana Bloch and Chana Kronfeld, transcribed from email correspondence; first draft of book reviews (WP + HR); final edited version of book reviews (WP, copy); 3 pages of Sarah's ms. notes; copy of press release from Harvest Books for the two books being reviewed.
	Kathleen O'Donnell interviewing Robyn Sarah for Arc Poetry magazine, 1996.
7:22-28	Correspondence (1994-1996): WPL - 14, to and from Kathleen O'Donnell, to and from the editors of Studies in Canadian Literature, to John Barton from Kathleen O'Donnell, to John Barton WPLS - 16, to and from Kathleen O'Donnell, from John Barton, from Rita Donovan ANS - 6, from Kathleen O'Donnell ALS fax cover letter - 1, to Kathleen O'Donnell *Much of this correspondence includes drafts and edits of the final interview text.
7:29-32	Other materials: Copy of an essay entitled "Robyn Sarah: Formation and Achievement" written by Kathleen O'Donnell; 3 drafts of Sarah's interview with O'Donnell from Feb 4th and Nov 1st, 1995 (WP + ER/HR).

	*Note: Additional oversized materials from this series can be found in Box 11.
Series 5: Journalism	
Box 7 cont	
	Materials relating to Sarah's authorship of the column "Poetic License" for The Montreal Gazette (2000-2001).
	Correspondence:
7:33-34	2000 WPL - 1, to Bryan Demchinsky Email exchanges - 2, with Bryan Demchinsky (includes one draft of the 'Poetic License' column) WPLS - 4, to Bryan Demchinsky (each of which includes a draft of the 'Poetic License' column)
7:35-39	2001 Email exchanges - 21, with Bryan Demchinsky (includes drafts of column), with Kevin Laframboise, with Gil Abisdreis, with Frank Mackey (includes drafts of column), with Martin Levin. WPLS - 4, to Bryan Demchinsky (includes drafts of column).
Box 8	
	Materials relating to Sarah's authorship of the column "How Poems Work" for The Globe and Mail (2000).
8:1	Correspondence: ALS - 1, (copy of fax cover letter) to Carl Wilson WPLS - 1, (copy) to Carl Wilson WPL - 1, to Carl Wilson (includes final versions of 3 pieces for the column)
8:2	Other material: 2 drafts of the 3 pieces for "How Poems Work". WP + HR.
	Materials relating to Sarah's authorship of the column "Facts and Arguments" for the Globe and Mail (1993-1998)
	Correspondence:
8:3	1995: TL - 1, to Constance Schuller TLS - 2, to Constance Schuller, from Carolyn Ryan (includes ms. notes by Sarah)

	<p>ALS - 2, from Bernice Lever Farrer, (fax cover letter) from Lisa Carver</p> <p>1996:</p> <p>ALS - 2, from Jennie M. Berkley, (fax cover letter) from Vern Flatekval</p> <p>TLS - 2, from Vern Flatekval (includes ms. notes by Sarah), from Walter Zessner</p> <p>TL - 1, to Marion Lynn</p> <p>1998:</p> <p>TLS - 1, from Kathy Feig</p>
8:4	<p>Other materials: Draft of a review of "Mobility in America" by Michael A. Rockland, dated 1995 (WP); Draft of an untitled and undated essay, the first line of which reads "Last Monday--the first day of classes at my college, and my first day back after an 8-month leave-of-absence ..." (WP + HR); Photocopies of 2 "Facts and Arguments" pieces written by Sarah, titled "The dumbing-down of literacy" (1996) and "I rarely wrote more than a paragraphs" (1995); Photocopy of an article published in the Globe and Mail titled "See Sally write. See why Sally can't write a sentence" by Bernice Lever (1993).</p>
	<p>Correspondence relating to various other prose and poetry reviews conducted by Sarah for Canadian publications, such as The Globe and Mail, The National Post, The Ottawa Citizen, The Canadian Forum, The Toronto Star, and The Montreal Gazette, from 1996-2004.</p>
	<p>Correspondence:</p>
8:5	<p>1994:</p> <p>WPLS - 7, to Bryan Demchinsky (includes 2 drafts of review of "Evil Eye" by Ann Diamond, and reviews of "Man Without a Face" by Frances Itani, "The Longings of Women" by Marge Piercy, and "The Dangers of Critical Thought" by Stephen Schecter), to Cheryl Cohen.</p>
8:6	<p>1995:</p> <p>WPLS - 2, to Karen Schenfeld, to Bryan Demchinsky (includes ms. notes)</p>
8:7-9	<p>1996:</p> <p>WPLS - 18, to Constance Schuller (includes proposal for a column), from Sarah Murdoch, to and from Doug Gloin, to the editors of the Globe and Mail, to Kenneth Whyte, to Lise Bissonette (includes French translation of an essay originally written for the Globe and Mail titled "C'est seulement à Montréal que la vision du Canada est un réalité"), to Katherine Ashenburg, from Judith Plant.</p> <p>ALS - 3, to Constance Schuller, to Katherine Ashenburg</p>
8:10	<p>1997:</p> <p>WPL - 1, to William Watson</p>

	<p>WPLS - 8. to Peter Hadekel, to the editors of the Globe and Mail, to Liz McAuley, to Martin Levin</p> <p>ALS - 2, (fax cover letter) from Susan Allen (includes draft of an article by Sarah titled "The Songs I Sang in Israel" + ER), to Martin Levin</p>
8:11	<p>1998:</p> <p>WPLS - 11, to Robert Sibley (includes ms. notes by Sarah), from Julie Beddoes (includes ms. notes by Sarah, and the outline for an essay titled "Within Our Reach"), from Bob Chodos, to Bill Watson (includes ms. notes by Sarah), to Katherine Ashenberg (includes ms. notes by Sarah), to Peter Hadekel (includes ms. notes by Sarah)</p> <p>ALS - 1, to Bob Chodos</p>
8:12	<p>1999:</p> <p>WPLS - 8, to Letters to the Editor (Gazette), to Ashok Chandwani, to Martha Chodat (includes draft of a piece on language in Israel), to Peter Hadekel, to Moira Dann.</p> <p>Each of these items includes ms. notes by Sarah.</p>
8:13	<p>2000:</p> <p>WPLS - 11, to Peter Simpson (includes ms. notes), to and from Peter Hadekel (includes ms. notes), to Moira Dann (includes ms. notes), to Letters to the Editors at Globe and Mail and at the Gazette</p> <p>WPL - 1, to Peter Hadekel</p>
8:14	<p>2001:</p> <p>Email exchanges - 4, with Martin Levin (includes 2 drafts of reviews of "Days into Flatspin" by Ken Babstock, "Hypothesis" by John Barton, and "Higher Ground" by Robert Hilles)</p> <p>WPLS - 2, to Martin Levin (includes 3rd & 4th drafts of reviews of works listed above)</p>
8:15-17	<p>2002:</p> <p>Email exchanges - 11, with Martin Levin (includes reviews of "The Strength of Materials" by Rhea Tregebov, "Harm's Way" by Maureen Hynes and "This Tremor Love Is" by Daphne Marlatt), with Gerald Owen (includes review of "Salvage" by Michael Crummey), with Carmine Starnino (includes review of "Introduction to the Introduction to Wang Wei: Pain Not Bread"), with Edie Austin (includes review of "The Poetry Anthology")</p>
8:18	<p>2003:</p> <p>Email exchanges - 5, with Edie Austin (includes reviews of "Before We Had Words" by S.P. Zitner, "Shaken by Physics" by John MacKenzie, "Calling Home" by Richard Sanger,</p>

	and "Loop" by Anne Simpson), with Martin Levin, with Liza Cooperman (includes review of "Fielder's Choice" by Elise Partridge)
8:19	<p>2004:</p> <p>Email exchanges - 1, with Martin Levin (includes review of "The Collected Poems" by Robert Sward)</p> <p>Undated:</p> <p>WPL - 1, from Martin Levin and H. Jack Kirchoff (form letter outlining stipulations for contributing writers to the Globe and Mail)</p> <p>ALS - 1, (fax cover letter) to Bryan Demchinsky</p> <p>WPLS - 2, to Martin Levin, to Bryan Demchinsky (includes reviews of "Deschooling Our Lives", "Changing Course: An Agenda for Real Reform of Canadian Education" and "Brave New Schools: Challenging Cultural Illiteracy through Global Learning")</p>
	Items filed with the above correspondence, but which don't appear to be referenced in the correspondence.
8:20	2 drafts of a review of "Red Sauce, Whiskey and Snow" by August Kleinzahler. Both drafts WP, one with HR.
8:21	<p>1 draft of a review of "The Best Poems of the English Language" selected by Harold Bloom. WP.</p> <p>A work entitled "When is Free Verse Just Chopped Prose? John Unrau, Robyn Sarah: An Exchange". WP.</p>
8:22	<p>1 draft of a review of "Only Wounded: Ulster Stories" by Patrick Taylor. WP.</p> <p>1 draft of a review of "Writing Home: A PEN Canada Anthology" edited by Constance Rooke. WP.</p> <p>1 draft of a review of 3 works, together in one article, "Pale Grace" by Sherry Johnson, "Clay Birds" by Tonja Gunvaldsen Klaasen, and "Thrum" by Leef Evans. WP.</p>
8:23	1 draft of a review of "Our Own Agendas: Autobiographical Essays by Women Associated with McGill University" edited by Margaret Gillett and Ann Beer. WP.
	Contents of two folders titled "Journalism - personal, misc., op-eds, features" [1996-1999?]. Most pieces given short, handwritten titles; for untitled pieces, the first line of the essay is listed.
	*Note: Drafts are listed in the order in which they were filed by Sarah.
8:24-28	<p>"Mother Phones". 985 words. WP + HR.</p> <p>"Cat". 855 words. WP.</p> <p>"Trees". 915 words. WP + HR.</p> <p>"TV". 1146 words. WP.</p> <p>First line: "Leave Montreal for good? But where would I go?". WP + HR.</p> <p>"Postman". 943 words. WP.</p> <p>"Bomb Shelter Days". 990 words. WP + HR.</p>

	First line: "Not long ago, I cracked open a brand-new hardbacked Blueline notebook ...". WP.
	First line: "A few weeks ago I cracked open a brand-new hardbacked Blueline composition book ...". 1461 words. WP.
	Suggested title: "Permanent Press". For Matrix, "Writer's Redux". WP + ER with Terry Byrnes. Includes 1 TLS to Terry Byrnes from Robyn Sarah, Dec 19th, 1997.
	"Kenneth Victor Hertz" [obituary?]. 756 words. WP.
	"Israel '98". 1009 words. WP.
	2 drafts with the first line: "I've just returned from a four-week stay in Israel ...". 1027 words. WP.
	First line: "Eight-fifteen on a spring morning in Tel Aviv, the day after Israel's Independence Day." WP.
	First line: "Thirty years have passed since that prodigious summer ...". 2124 words. WP + HR.
	"Early draft of 'Brushing Lee'". 1503 words. WP .
	First line: "So it turns out I'm an American ...". WP.
	Contents of a folder titled "Journalism - Quebec / Canada" [1996-1999?]. Most pieces given short, handwritten titles; for untitled pieces, the first line of the essay is listed.
	*Note: Drafts are listed in the order in which they were filed by Sarah.
8:29-31	First line: "This fall, as the days grow cool and the light turns autumnal ...". WP.
	"Language Wars". 828 words. WP + HR.
	"Montreal, Distinct Society". 795 words. WP + HR.
	"Letter from Montreal". 838 words. WP.
	"Saying Yes to Canada". 1355 words. WP.
	"Cats". 1066 words. WP + HR.
	"Pharmaceuticals". 1271 words. WP.
	"Privacy". 973 words. WP.
	"In Referendum Country". 3052 words. Written on title page: "Threepenny Review - accepted July 16 / 96 by phone for publication December 96 issue." WP.
	Contents of a folder titled "Op-eds education, Globe & Mail, Gazette, Ottawa Citizen" [1995-2000?]. Most pieces given short, handwritten titles; for untitled pieces, the first line of the essay is listed.
	*Note: Drafts are listed in the order in which they were filed by Sarah.
8:32-35	"Teacher's first day". 1060 words. WP + HR.
	"Reading". 1000 words. WP + HR.
	"Poetry / Teaching". 950 words. WP + HR.
Continues into Box 9	First line: "When I graduated high school in the mid-1960s, I was unexceptional among my peers in being able to read fluently in English." [Incomplete]. WP.
	"Breather". 846 words. WP.

	First line: "When my son and daughter and their friends started school in the early 1980's ...". WP.
	First line: "It's a quirk of human nature that people tend to exert themselves according to what they feel is expected of them". WP.
	First line: "When I began teaching junior college in 1973 ...". WP + HR.
	First line: "The fact that high schools are turning out graduates deficient in language skills has been in the news so long ...". WP + HR.
	"Oral Reading". 900 words. WP.
	"Oral Reading". 835 words ("final version"). WP.
	"Education Reform". 1225 words. WP + HR.
	"History". 1108 words. WP. Includes WPLS to Carl Wilson from Robyn Sarah, August 14th, 2000.
	"March Deadlines". 1044 words. WP.
	"March". 1073 words. WP.
	"Homework". WP.
	"Thinking". 878 words. WP + HR.
	"Tech. Ed." 894 words. WP.
	"Pause to Reflect". 988 words. WP.
	"Authority". 1001 words. WP.
	"Tribute to Teachers". 996 words. WP + HR.
	"Latin re-visited". 994 words. WP.
	"Home Schooling". 1378 words. WP + HR. Includes WPLS to Susan Lawrence from Robyn Sarah, February 25th, 1997.
	"Within Our Reach". WP.
	*Note: Additional oversized materials from the "Journalism" series can be found in Box 12.
Series 6: The Porcupine's Quill "Essential Poets" series	
	*Last 4 folders of above series continue into Box 9.
Box 9	Materials relating to Sarah's contributions to Porcupine's Quill "Essential Poets" series.
	"The Essential Margaret Avison", 2010
	Correspondence:
9:1-6	Correspondence takes place between February and July 2009, and is conducted entirely between Robyn Sarah and Joan Eichner. Eichner was a longtime friend of Margaret Avison, and the correspondence revolves largely around the selection of which Avison poems to include in the book. Email exchanges - 57. ALS - 1, postcard from Joan Eichner.

	Additional materials filed with correspondence:
9:7-8	6 drafts of the list of Avison poems to include in the book, developed in conjunction with Eichner (WP + 1 handwritten list). 3 pages of misc. WP research notes.
	Drafts:
9:9	4 drafts of the Foreward. Undated. WP + HR.
9:10	2 drafts of the Introduction [?]. Undated. WP + HR (on one of the drafts).
9:11	1 draft of the Introduction, Editor's Notes and Table of Contents. Undated. WP + HR.
	2 proofs of the "About Margaret Avison" section. Undated. HR.
9:12-13	Mock-up of book #1, undated. WP.
9:14-15	Mock-up of book #2, undated. WP.
	"The Essential Don Coles", 2009
	Correspondence:
9:16-19	Correspondence takes place between September 2007 and October 2008, and is conducted entirely between Robyn Sarah and Don Coles. Email exchanges - 32.
9:20	Additional materials filed with correspondence (all undated): 1 draft list of Coles' poems to include in the book. WP + HR. 1 draft of Coles' statement for the book launch. WP. 1 list of corrections to be made to the pdf version of the book. WP.
	Drafts
9:21	Mock-up of book, undated.
9:22	Draft of Intro and About sections, undated. WP with track changes throughout (editor unknown).
9:23-25	10 partial drafts of the Intro and About sections. All WP + HR.
9:26	Draft of bibliography of Coles' work. WP.
	Draft of Table of Contents, listing final selection of poems. WP + HR.
	2 drafts of list of poems. WP + HR. Preliminary list of poems, handwritten (3 pages).
9:27	Preliminary notes on the Intro section, handwritten (5 pages).
	Preliminary list of questions for Cole, handwritten (6 pages).
	Poem selection
9:28-32	Photocopies of Coles' poems, with Sarah's handwritten notes throughout.

	Research Materials
9:33-35	Includes: Secondary source journal articles about Coles; photocopies of newspaper clippings; lists of Coles' published works, past interviews and biography printed from his website.
Box 10	
	"The Essential George Johnston" 2007
	Correspondence:
	*Note: The 2003-2005 correspondence deals predominantly with Sarah's writing of an essay on George Johnston, titled "In Star-Warm Dust". All later correspondence pertains to assembling "The Essential George Johnston".
10:1	<p>2003:</p> <p>ALS - 1, from Paula Dietz</p> <p>WPL - 4, to Paula Dietz, to Alan Jenkins, to the Editors of The American Poetry Review, to George Core</p> <p>Email exchanges - 4, with Paula Dietz, David Bonanno, David Mason</p> <p>WPLS - 4, from Stephen Young, to David Bonanno, to J.D. McClatchy (includes photocopy of their previous corresp. with Sarah's ms. notes), from George Core (includes Sarah's ms. notes)</p> <p>TLS - 2, from George Core (includes Sarah's ms. notes), from J.D. McClatchy</p>
10:2	<p>2004:</p> <p>ALS - 5, to John (surname unknown, photocopy), to Christian Wiman (photocopy), to Bruce (surname unknown, photocopy), to Stephen Donadio (surname unknown, photocopy), to George Core (photocopy)</p> <p>Email exchanges - 1, with Lynn Henry</p> <p>WPLS - 1, from Mark Abley</p> <p>WPL - 1, to Mark Abley</p>
10:3-4	<p>2005:</p> <p>WPLS - 4, from Paula Dietz, from Harvey De Roo, to Harold Bloom.</p> <p>ALS - 1, to Paula Dietz (photocopy).</p> <p>WPL - 5, to Nancy Rodwan, to Margaret Ferguson, to Paula Dietz (includes 14 photocopies of Johnston's poems), to Harvey De Roo, to X.J. Kennedy.</p>

	Email exchanges - 4, with Christian Wiman, Joe Kennedy, Harold Bloom. TLS - 1, from Steve Heighton.
10:5-6	2007: Email exchanges - 11, with Tim Inkster, Elke Inkster, Bob Johnston. ALS - 1, (fax cover letter) to Elke Inkster
	Drafts
10:7	Mock-up of book #1, undated.
10:8	Mock-up of book #2, undated. Includes a newspaper clipping featuring a review of the published book.
10:9	4 partial drafts of the 'About' section, undated. WP + HR.
10:10	4 partial drafts of the 'Intro' section, undated. WP + HR.
10:11	Draft copy for a webpage advertising the book. WP.
	List of corrections to be made to the pdf version of the book. WP.
	2 drafts of bibliography of Johnston's works. WP + HR.
10:12	8 drafts of the table of contents listing the poems included in the book. WP + HR.
	5 pages of handwritten notes by Sarah on poem selection, and some text corrections.
	Materials relating to the publication of "In Star-Warm Dusk", an essay by Sarah on the poetry of George Johnston. Published in "The Hollins Critic" (Hollins University, Virginia), Vol. XLI, No.4, October 2004.
10:13-14	Noted on title page as "First draft" of essay, undated. 33 pages, WP + HR.
10:15-16	Noted on title page as "Third draft" of essay, undated. 36 pages, WP + HR.
10:17-18	Noted on title page as "First finished draft" of essay, undated. 36 pages, WP + HR.
10:19-20	Noted on title page as complete draft with "small revisions", undated. WP + HR.
10:21-22	Final version of essay prepared for Hollins Critic, 39 pages, WP. Includes 2 photocopied pages of the title page of one of George Johnston's books, inscribed to "Robyn and David".
10:23	Copy of published essay, October 2004.
Series 7: Editorial Work	
Box 10 cont	
	For House of Anansi Press, 1994-1996.
	Correspondence:
	*Note: Correspondence includes Sarah's comments on many books that were being considered for publication by Anansi, and sent to Sarah for her feedback.
10:24	1994: WPLS - 9, to and from Michael Byron Davis

10:25	1995: WPLS - 4, to and from Michael Byron Davis 1996: WPLS - 2, to and from Michael Byron Davis"
	For ARC Poetry Magazine, 1996.
	*Note: The majority of this correspondence relates to Sarah's work as a judge for a poetry contest held by ARC.
	Correspondence:
10:26	1996: WPLS - 8, to and from John Barton, to and from Rita Donovan (2 copies, 3 originals) ALS - 1, from Rita Donovan
	For Cormorant Books, 1992-1994.
	Correspondence:
	*Note: Correspondence includes Sarah's comments on many books that were being considered for publication by Cormorant Books, and sent to Sarah for her feedback.
10:27-28	1992: TLS - 7, to Jan Geddes (copies) TL - 1, to Jan Geddes WPLS - 3, from Jan Geddes, from Nancy Green
10:29-31	1993: WPLS - 6, from Bill Gaston, from Jan Geddes (3 copies of faxes, 2 originals) TL - 3, to Jan Geddes (2 copies, 1 original) TLS - 8, to Jan Geddes (4 copies, 4 originals) ALS - 3, to Jan Geddes (2 copies), from Jan Geddes (original)
10:32	1994: TL - 2, to Jan Geddes ALS - 1, from Jan Geddes
10:33	1995: TL - 3, to Jan Geddes (copies, but with later ms. notes by Sarah)

Series 8: Miscellaneous	
Box 10 cont	
	Correspondence with K.D. Miller in response to her invitation to contribute something to her book "Holy Writ", an exploration of writers' spirituality. January - December, 2000.
10:34	WPLS - 5, from K.D. Miller WPL - 2, to K.D. Miller
	Other materials filed with correspondence:
10:35	2 drafts of an essay by Sarah titled "An Act of Will and an Act of Faith", based on the text of a letter written to K.D. Miller. Undated, 6 pages, WP + HR.
10:36	An essay by K.D. Miller titled "Morning Prayer", November 1998. WP.
10:37	An essay by K.D. Miller titled "Travels with Harold", September 1999. WP.
10:38	"Holy Writ" questionnaire, sent around to writers by K.D. Miller. Undated, 3 pages, WP.
10:39	Copy of "Holy Writ" by K.D. Miller, published by Porcupine's Quill, March 2001.
Oversized Materials	
Box 11	Oversize items from the "Interviews & General Press" series: Photocopies of 40 reviews of Sarah's works, 1982-2008, which appeared in publications such as: Poetry Canada Review, The Gazette, ARC, Quill & Quire, Books in Canada, the Globe and Mail, The Malahat Review, The Toronto Star, The Canadian Jewish News, The Saskatoon Star-Phoenix and the Danforth Review. *The order in which these reviews were kept by Sarah has been maintained."
Box 12	Oversize items from the "Journalism" series: Photocopies of articles written by Sarah and published in various newspapers and periodicals (mainly the Globe & Mail, the Gazette, the Ottawa Citizen, the Threepenny Review), 1975-2008. Organized by Sarah into the following groups: Earliest book reviews (1975-1976, under the name R.S. Louder, in the Daily Colonist, Victoria, BC) (16 articles) Book reviews and columns (19 articles) On education and literacy (22 articles) Misc. personal journalism (8 articles) On Israel (6 articles) On poetry (19 articles) On Montreal; Quebec (11 articles)