

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - David Arnason and Wayne Tefs fonds (MSS 111)

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Language of description: English

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

330 Elizabeth Dafoe Library

Winnipeg

Manitoba

Canada

R3T 2N2

Telephone: 204-474-9986

Fax: 204-474-7913

Email: archives@umanitoba.ca

<http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives/>

<http://umlarchives.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/david-arnason-and-wayne-tefs-fonds>

David Arnason and Wayne Tefs fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections
Title:	David Arnason and Wayne Tefs fonds
ID:	MSS 111
Accession [alternative]:	A1990-066
TC [alternative]:	69
Date:	1975-1977 (date of creation)
Date:	1975-1977 (date of creation)
Physical description:	45 audio reels.
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Wayne Tefs obtained his B.A. at the University of Manitoba, his M.A. from the University of Toronto and his Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba. He has taught at St. John's Ravenscourt School, the University of Regina, McGill University and the University of Winnipeg. He was a founder of The Sphynx literary magazine and of Turnstone Press. He has published several novels including *Figures on a Wharf* (1983), *The Cartier Street Contract* (1985), *The Canaster Players* (1990) and *Dickie* (1993).

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

David Arnason was born in Gimli, Manitoba, on 23 May 1940, to Baldwin and Gudrun Arnason. He received a Bachelor's degree (1961), a Certificate in Education (1963), and a Master's degree (1969) from the University of Manitoba, and a Ph.D. from the University of New Brunswick (1983-1984). He began lecturing at the University of Manitoba in 1973. He is currently the chair of both the Icelandic and the English departments with a full professorship. His many accomplishments include acting as founder and editor of *The Journal of Canadian Fiction*, general editor of the *MacMillan Themes in Canadian Literature* series, editor of *Turnstone Press*, and member of the advisory board of *Anansi Press*. Arnason also began working for the CBC in the early 1970s as a book and theatre reviewer. His work included radio

adaptations of books, such as including Frederick Philip Grove's *Settlers of the Marsh*. Arnason has been and continues to be a prolific writer of short stories, poetry, and novels. His most recent book is *Baldur's Song: A Saga* (published in 2010 by Turnstone Press). Arnason is married to Carol Dahlstrom and has three children. Arnason is the author of several publications including poetry books *Marsh Burning* and *Skragg* and the non-fiction works *The Icelanders* and *The New Icelanders*. His works of fiction include: *50 Stories and a Piece of Advice*, *The Circus Performer's Bar*, *The Happiest Man in the World*, *The Pagan Wall*, *The Dragon and the Drygoods Princess*, *If Pigs Could Fly*, *King Jerry*, and *The Demon Lover*. Arnason's plays include *Section 23/L'article 23*, *Welcome to Hard Times*, *The Hard Life Cabaret* and *Dewline*. He is a frequent contributor to CBC Radio working on adaptations of *Tom Jones*, *The Tin Drum* and *Settlers of the Marsh*. Arnason was the editor of Dorothy Livesay's *Right Hand, Left Hand*.

Custodial history

The fonds was donated to University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections by David Arnason and Wayne Tefs in 1990.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of 45 one-hour audiotaped interviews of several well-known Canadian writers. Professor David Arnason and Wayne Tefs conducted these interviews between 1975 and 1977 for the radio program *Canadian Writers Symposium*. Many of the interviews are distinctly biographical in nature and revealing of the life and creativity of the individual writers. A few of the interviews have been transcribed. Included are interviews of Milton Acorn, George Bowering, Paul Hiebert, Pat Lane, Daphne Marlott, W.O. Mitchell, P.K. Page, Al Purdy, William Valgardson, Adele Wiseman, and many more.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

Preliminary inventory available in Archives reading room.

Related material

"David Arnason fonds (MSS SC 171, MSS 197, PC 183)":<http://nanna.lib.umanitoba.ca/icaatom/index.php/david-arnason-fonds;rad>.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published

Access points

- (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)