

University of Manitoba & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Orysia Tracz fonds (MSS 533 (A2018-051))

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Orysia Tracz fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Manitoba & Special Collections
Title:	Orysia Tracz fonds
ID:	MSS 533 (A2018-051)
Date:	1946-2017 (date of creation)
Physical description:	86 photographs 2 photo reproductions 11 slides 40 blank postcards 12 blank greeting cards 1 sheet of 45 stamps
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Finding aid created by Orest Martynowych (March 2019). Revised by N. Courrier (April 2019).

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Orysia (Paszczak) Tracz (1945-2016) was born in a displaced persons camp in Berchtesgaden, Bavaria, to Ukrainian parents who had been transported to Germany as forced labourers during World War II. In 1949 the family moved to the United States taking up residence in Jersey City, Newark and Irvington, New Jersey. Active in various Ukrainian organizations during her childhood and youth, Orysia majored in Political Science at the George Washington University in Washington D.C. (1963-67) and spent her summers working at Soyuzivka, a Ukrainian resort in upstate New York, where she met many prominent Ukrainian émigré artists, including Jacques Hnizdovsky and Edward Kozak (Eko). In 1967 she married Myroslav Tracz, whom she had met at Soyuzivka, and accompanied him on his VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) assignment to the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. A year later the young couple moved to Winnipeg, which became their home, and where they raised their three sons. Orysia was employed by the University of Manitoba Libraries as a library assistant in the Slavic Collection, in Archives & Special Collections, and in Collections Management (1968-78, 1988-2010). In her spare time she was active in the local Ukrainian community: she volunteered, served on the Board of Directors, and was briefly the acting executive director of the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre (Oseredok); she served on the executive of the Alpha Omega Women's Alumnae; she taught Ukrainian heritage school classes at the "Prosvita" Ukrainian Reading Association on Saturday mornings; she wrote and broadcast weekly commentaries for the Ukrainian program on Winnipeg's CKJS Radio; she was a columnist for the popular, widely circulated "Ukrainian Weekly" newspaper, published in New Jersey; and she produced a stream of letters-to-the-editor, some of them published in the mainstream press and periodicals, on issues of concern to Ukrainians in North America. Above all, she pursued her lifelong interest in Ukrainian folk traditions, arts and ethnography with relentless enthusiasm. During the early 1970s she was involved in the Mamaj Gallery and fine arts

boutique, established by her husband Myroslav, where works by some of the artists they had met at Soyuzivka were displayed and sold. Between 1971 and 2006 she organized and curated a number of Ukrainian folk and fine arts displays and exhibits at the University of Manitoba Libraries, including several displays of pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs) and an exhibit of the works of the Ukrainian-born American painter, printmaker, graphic designer, and illustrator Jacques Hnizdovsky (1915-1985). In 1975-76 she served as a researcher on the production of Slavko Nowytski's award-winning film "Pysanka: The Ukrainian Easter Egg" and she published her first article on the subject in "The Canadian Collector." In subsequent years she delivered countless popular lectures on Ukrainian folk arts and traditions in Winnipeg and in Ukrainian communities all across North America. She served as a consultant on costumes, songs and dances for many Ukrainian-Canadian performing arts groups and she advised several Canadian authors on the Ukrainian content of their novels. From the mid-1980s she was frequently asked to translate Ukrainian-language books on the folk arts into English, working on texts prepared and published by the émigré World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, and after 1991 on books produced by Rodovid Publishers and the Ivan Honchar Museum in Kyiv, Ukraine. In 1993, and then almost annually after 1997 she organized and led summer folk art and culture tours of Ukraine, with travelers from across North America, Australia and even Japan. In the fall of 2015 Orysia published "The First Star I See Tonight: Ukrainian Christmas Traditions", an illustrated collection of her popular articles, several of them first published on the pages of the "Winnipeg Free Press."

During her career Orysia Tracz received the Alpha Omega Alumnae Ukrainian Woman of the Year Award (1990), the Canada 125 Medal (1992), the University of Manitoba Outreach Award (1996), the Bulava Award of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (2016), and she was an honouree of the Osvita Foundation/Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education (2013).

Scope and content

The accession contains documents, manuscripts and photos covering Orysia Tracz's career as a community activist and Ukrainian folk arts enthusiast. In addition to biographical materials that focus on many of her projects, the accession contains her correspondence (including letters to the press and other media); her published newspaper and journal letters and articles; manuscripts of mostly unpublished articles; the text of her most popular public lectures/presentations; and research materials, primarily articles, pamphlets, brief monographs, and newspaper clippings, on the pysanka (Ukrainian Easter egg), on Ukrainian folk arts, and on current affairs.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 8 series:

- 1) Biographical
- 2) Correspondence
- 3) Publications

- 4) Manuscripts
- 5) Presentations
- 6) Research – Pysanka
- 7) Research – Folk Arts
- 8) Research – Current Affairs

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on access.

Finding aids

A finding aid can be downloaded from the fonds-level description by clicking on the “Download” link under “Finding Aid” on the right hand side of the screen.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Partial
- **Status description:** Draft

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Series descriptions

Biographical

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Brief biographies, curriculum vitae, obituary	1993-2016		A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0001

	File - Notes on Orysia's mother	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0002
	File - T. Storm, "Turchyk mandrivnyk"	1947	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0003
	File - Newspaper clippings about Orysia	[1965-2016]	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0004
	File - Art exhibit brochures and invitations	1966-1978	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0005
	File - Myroslav Tracz and Mamaj Gallery	1971-2017	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0006
	File - Pysanka display, University of Manitoba Library	1971	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0007
	File - Guest Book, Jacques Hnizdovsky exhibit, Mamaj Gallery	1971	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0008
	File - Jacques Hnizdovsky exhibits, London and New York	1972, 1985-1986	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0009
	File - Guest Book, Peter Shostak Exhibit, Mamaj Gallery	1974	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0010
	File - Slavko Nowytski's film "Pysanka: The Ukrainian Easter Egg"	1975-1976	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0011
	File - University of Manitoba Libraries	1976-2007	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0012
	File - Announcements of Lectures delivered by Orysia Tracz	1976-2016	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0013
	File - Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre (Oseredok)	1977-1978	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0014
	File - Folk Arts Commission, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations	1984-1986	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0015
	File - Awards and Certificates	1992-2016	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0016
	File - Canadian Citizenship Certificate	1993	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0017
	File - Guided Tours of Ukraine	1993-2016	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0018
	File - Book launch, "Ukrainian Antiquities" (translated by Orysia Tracz)	2003	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0019

	File - Jacques Hnizdovsky exhibit	2005-2006	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0020
	File - Pysanka Symposium, Washington D.C.	2008	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0021
	File - Retirement (from University of Manitoba Libraries) reception address	2010	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0022
	File - Guided Tours of Ukraine	2014-2015	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0023
	File - Notebooks	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0024
	File - Book launch, "First Star I See Tonight"	2015-2016	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0025
	File - Father's village (Stril'bychi, Sambir, Ukraine), father, Orysia	[1920-1948]	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0026
	File - Pysanka exhibit, 70th anniversary Ukrainian National Federation (UNF)	2002	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0027
	File - Launch, Archives of the Ukrainian Canadian Experience, University of Manitoba	2003	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0028
	File - Pysanka Exhibit, University of Manitoba Library	2006	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0029
	File - Pysanka museum, Kolomyia, Ukraine	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0030
	File - Babka and Paska on sale at Gunn's Bakery	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0031
	File - Unidentified pysanky and vase	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0032

Correspondence

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
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	File - George Washington University	1965-1987	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0033
	File - Jacques and Fanny Hnizdovsky	1971-1974	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0034
	File - Jacques and Fanny Hnizdovsky	1977-1979	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0035
	File - Folder 36: Jacques and Fanny Hnizdovsky	1980-1984	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0036
	File - Jacques and Fanny Hnizdovsky	1985-1990	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0037
	File - Jacques and Fanny Hnizdovsky	1971-1985	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0038
	File - Slavko Nowytski	1975-1976	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0039
	File - "Canadian (Antiques) Collector"	1975-1976	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0040
	File - Edward Kozak (Eko)	1976-1981	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0041
	File - Jean Auel	1982-2015	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0042
	File - Family in Ukraine	[1980-1989]	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0043
	File - Olena Stakhurska's embroidery book	1994-1996	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0044
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	1960-1979	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0045
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	1980-1983	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0046
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	1984-1989	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0047
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	1990-1991	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0048
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	1992-1998	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0049
	File - Letters to English-language press and media	2000-2005	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0050

	File - Letters to Ukrainian-language press and media	1968-1990	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0051
	File - General	1971-1978	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0052
	File - General	1980-1982	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0053
	File - General	1983-1986	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0054
	File - General	1987-1988	A2018-051, Box 0001 File 0055
	File - General	1989	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0001
	File - General	1989	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0002
	File - General	1990-1992	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0003
	File - General	1993-1996	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0004
	File - General	1998-1999	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0005
	File - General	2000-2003	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0006
	File - General	2004-2009	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0007
	File - General	2010-2016	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0008
	File - General	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0009
	File - E-mail	1994-2013	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0010
	File - Grant applications and letters of reference	1988-2014	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0011

Publications

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

<u>Publication status:</u> published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Ukrainian-language press articles	1968-1990		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0012
	File - English-language letters to editor	1973-2011		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0013
	File - English-language magazine and journal articles	1976-2004		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0014
	File - English-language newspaper articles (folk arts, traditions)	1968-2011		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0015
	File - English-language newspaper articles (commentary, current affairs)	1981-1996		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0016
	File - Texts of radio commentaries (CKJS)	1986-1987, 1990		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0017
Manuscripts <u>Access points:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textual record (documentary form) <u>Publication status:</u> published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Autobiographical	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0018
	File - Ukrainians in Winnipeg	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0019
	File - Politics and current events	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0020
	File - Book reviews	1977-1989		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0021
	File - Performing arts reviews	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0022

	File - Fine arts and film reviews	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0023
	File - Traditions and rituals (general)	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0024
	File - Christmas traditions	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0025
	File - Easter traditions	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0026
	File - Konopli/Hemp	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0027
	File - Folk songs	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0028
	File - Costumes and embroidery	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0029
	File - General interest	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0030
	File - Ukrainian-language manuscripts	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0031
	File - University of Manitoba, Anthropology course papers	1991-1992	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0032
	File - University of Manitoba, Anthropology course papers	[2000]	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0033
	File - Translation projects	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0034
	File - Exhibit and book projects	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0035

Presentations

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
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	File - "Vesillia: Traditional Ukrainian Weddings in Manitoba"	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0036
	File - "Perogies on the Prairies"	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0037
	File - "Baba was right all along: Ukrainian Folk Medicine"	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0038
	File - "Konopli – Hemp in Ukrainian Tradition and Life"	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0039
	File - "Songs your mother should never have taught you"	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0002 File 0040
	File - "From the sublime to the ridiculous ... The Pysanka in North America"	2008	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0001
	File - Public Addresses	1981-2009	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0002

Research - Pysanka

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Philatelic record (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - "Pysanka nashym ditiam ..."	1946		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0003
	File - Y. Tchumak, "La Pysanka: L'oeuf de Paques ukrainien"	1981		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0004
	File - "Ternopil': dodatok Velykodnyi"	1991		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0005
	File - Iu. O. Ivanchenko, "Khrystos voskres ... Pysanka na Ukraini"	1991		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0006
	File - V. Mytsyk, et al, "Pysanka"	1992		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0007
	File - "Pysanka ... zhurnal"	1993, 1997		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0008

	File - "Aka Pereima: Al'bom"	1997	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0009
	File - "Pysanka: Ukraine's Cultural Icon"	1999	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0010
	File - V. Man'ko, "Ukrains'ka narodna pysanka"	2001	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0011
	File - "Svit ukrains'koi pysanky"	2005	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0012
	File - "Karpaty"	2005	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0013
	File - O. Bilous, "Symvolichna mova pysanok"	2008	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0014
	File - Ukrainian-language journal articles	[1962-2010]	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0015
	File - English-language magazine articles	[1967-1999]	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0016
	File - English-language journal and newspaper articles	1905-2013	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0017
	File - "National Geographic Magazine"	1972	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0018
	File - "Manitoba Moods"	1976	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0019
	File - "The New Yorker"	2004	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0020
	File - Designs and motifs	[1950-1999]	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0021
	File - Miscellaneous materials	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0022
	File - Bibliographies	1978, 1987	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0023
	File - Photo reproductions, small posters	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0024
	File - Greeting cards	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0025
	File - Post cards	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0026

	File - Post card album	2005	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0027
	File - Postage stamp sheet	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0028

Research – Folk Arts

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - H. Pavluts'kyi, "Istoriia ukrains'koho ornamentu"	1927		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0029
	File - "Vesela bandura"	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0030
	File - V. Shcherbakivs'kyi, "Ornamentatsiia ukrains'koi khaty"	1980		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0031
	File - S. Iaremenko, "Koliady I shchedrivky"	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0032
	File - "Kleinody Ukrainy"	1991		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0033
	File - "Mykhailo Bilas: Narodnyi khudozhnyk Ukrainy"	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0034
	File - Articles authored by Vasyl' Trylis	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0035
	File - Articles about Jan Jerzy Pinzel	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0036
	File - Articles about folk songs	1954, 1991, 1999		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0037
	File - Articles about folk medicine	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0038
	File - Articles about symbols and ornamentation	n.d.		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0039

	File - Miscellaneous articles	n.d.	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0040
	File - Greeting cards	1995	A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0041

Research – Current affairsAccess points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - “First Ukrainian Women Graduates – University of Manitoba, to 1940”	1974		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0042
	File - “Celebrating the Ukrainian Woman”	1985		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0043
	File - “Atlas z istorii Ukrainy ...”	2001		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0044
	File - U.S. Peace Corps, “Ukraine: Cross-Cultural Reader”	[2004-2005]		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0045
	File - Dissent in Soviet Ukraine	[1970-1989]		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0046
	File - Miscellaneous	1971-2008		A2018-051, Box 0003 File 0047