Alicia Ostriker Papers, 1956-2015: Finding Aid

Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call number:</th>
<th>C0910</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repository:</td>
<td>Princeton University. Library. Dept. of Rare Books and Special Collections Manuscripts Division One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size:</td>
<td>20 linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49 archival boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language(s) of Material:</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract:</td>
<td>Alicia Ostriker (1937- ) is a Jewish-American feminist literary critic and poet whose work explores themes of family, social justice, Jewish identity, Biblical stories and characters, and the relationship between gender and literature. The collection consists of drafts of her poems, articles, nonfiction books, essays, reviews, and student writings, personal and professional correspondence with fellow poets, family, and friends, teaching and research files, drafts and recordings of lectures and readings, and subject files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>This collection is stored onsite at Firestone Library.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Contents List** ..............................................................................................................................................
Alicia Suskin Ostriker was born on November 11, 1937, in Brooklyn, New York, to David and Beatrice Suskin. The Suskins moved to Manhattan when Alicia was six years old so that she could attend the Hunter College Elementary School for gifted children. During her high school years at Fieldston School, Alicia discovered poets on her own: Whitman, Keats, Donne, Auden, and others. "Each of them confirmed, in one way or another, the connection of the soul to the body," she later wrote.

Ostriker entered Brandeis College on full scholarship in the fall of 1955. While there she met and fell in love with a Harvard physics major named Jeremiah P. Ostriker. "Finally there was someone with whom I could speak without caution," she wrote of him. They were married in December of 1958. Ostriker earned her B.A. from Brandeis in 1959, and an M.A. (1961) and a Ph.D. (1964) from the University of Wisconsin. Her first child, Rebecca, was born in 1963. A second daughter, Eve, was born in 1965, and her son, Gabe, was born in 1970. Both a feminist literary critic and a poet, Ostriker published Vision and Verse in William Blake, her first book and an expansion of her dissertation, in 1965. Her first collection of verse, Songs, appeared in 1969.

In 1973, Ostriker co-founded the poetry cooperative US1 with Rob Tulloss. The group continues to meet weekly in the Princeton area, and its literary magazine U.S. 1 Worksheets, has been published continuously since the 1970s.

Ostriker came to prominence as both a poet and a critic in 1986, when she published her prize-winning volume The Imaginary Lover, a collection of poems, and Stealing the Language: The Emergence of Women's Poetry in America, in which she makes a controversial argument concerning the women's poetry movement in the postwar and post-1960s America. Her 1994 midrashic volume, The Nakedness of the Fathers: Biblical Visions and Revisions, re-imagines biblical stories from "the Beginning" to Job and beyond from a contemporary Jewish woman's perspective. Green Age (1989) includes a seven-poem meditation on the many roles of women in Jewish history and culture. The Crack in Everything, a collection of poems that explores interests ranging from politics to Ostriker's battle with cancer, was published to acclaim in 1996. The Volcano Sequence (2002) continues Ostriker's encounter with Jewish tradition, as does her volume of prose essays For the Love of God: the Bible as an Open Book (2007). Recent books of poetry include The Book of Seventy (2009), At the Revelation Restaurant and Other Poems (2010), and The Old Woman, the Tulip, and the Dog (2014).

Ostriker's honors include the William Carlos Williams Prize (1986), the Paterson Poetry Prize (1996), the San Francisco State Poetry Center Award (1996), the Anna David Rosenberg Poetry Award (1994), the Larry Levis Prize, two Pushcart Prizes (1979 and 2000), a National Jewish Book Award for Poetry (2010), and awards from the Guggenheim Foundation (1984-85), the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts (1976-77). She has twice been a National Book Award finalist, and she was elected a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets in 2015. Alicia Ostriker is Professor emerita of Rutgers University and teaches in the Drew University Low-Residency Poetry MFA Program.
This collection consists of Alicia Ostriker's drafts and proofs of poems, nonfiction books, critical commentary, essays, articles, reviews, interviews, and other writings for various publications, as well as some unpublished writings, song lyrics, student writings, and drawings. Ostriker's extensive personal and professional correspondence includes letters exchanged with friends and fellow scholars and poets, along with reader mail and family correspondence. Her correspondents include many of the best-known American poets of the post-World War II period, such as Adrienne Rich, Robert Bly, Toi Derricotte, Stephen Dunn, Donald Hall, Maxine Kumin, Sharon Olds, Robert Pinsky, and May Swenson. Teaching and research files from Ostriker's time as a professor in the Department of English at Rutgers University from 1965 through 2004 also comprise a portion of the collection, as do teaching materials related to poetry and midrash writing workshops she lead at many institutions around the world, drafts and recordings of her readings and lectures, and a small group of miscellaneous subject files regarding events, publishing, and various other topics.

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into the following five series:

Series 1: Writings, 1956-2015  
- Subseries 1A: Poetry and Lyrics, 1967-2015  
- Subseries 1B: Nonfiction Books, 1965-2009  
- Subseries 1C: Articles, Essays, Contributions, 1964-2015 May  
- Subseries 1D: Reviews and Interviews, 1979-2014  
- Subseries 1E: Student and Early Writings, 1956-1967  

Series 2: Correspondence, 1952-2015  
- Subseries 2A: Alphabetical Correspondence, 1956-2015  
- Subseries 2B: Family Correspondence, 1952-2009  
- Subseries 2C: Outgoing Letters, 1987-2008  

Series 3: Teaching and Research Materials, 1960-2010  

Series 4: Lectures and Readings, 1960-2015  

Series 5: Subject Files, 1968-2014

**Access and Use**

**Access**

Collection is open for research use. Several folders (housed in Box B-000710) are closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.

**Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information**

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. No further photoduplication of copies of material in the collection can be made when Princeton University Library does not own the original. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.
Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition
The papers were a gift of Alicia Ostriker in January 2002 (AM 2002-105), with additions in 2010-2016 (AM 2010-102, AM 2012-18, AM 2016-94).

Appraisal
No materials were separated from the collection during 2016 processing.

Processing and Other Information

Preferred Citation
Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Alicia Ostriker Papers, Box and Folder Number; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Lisa Dunkley in 2002. Finding aid written by Lisa Dunkley in 2002. 2010-2016 additions were processed and integrated into the existing finding aid by Kelly Bolding in June 2016, with assistance from Kristine Gift (GS). Finding aid updated by Kelly Bolding in June 2016.

Encoding

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Subject Headings

• H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), 1886-1961 -- Criticism and interpretation.
• Ostriker, Alicia.
• Bible and feminism.
• Feminism and literature.
• Feminism -- Religious aspects -- Judaism.
• Feminist literary criticism -- United States.
• Poets, American -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
• Poets, American -- 20th century -- Manuscripts.
• Women in the Bible.
· Women poets, American -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
· Women poets, American -- 20th century -- Manuscripts.
· Drafts (documents).
· Manuscripts.
· Poems.
· American literature
Series 1: Writings, 1956-2015

Description: This series consists of drafts and proofs of poems and nonfiction books, as well as of articles, interviews, book reviews, and other writings that appeared in various publications, along with some student papers, song lyrics, drawings, and miscellaneous writings. Related editorial and publishing correspondence is also often present along with draft materials for published works.

Arrangement: This series is arranged into six subseries.

Subseries 1A: Poetry and Lyrics, 1967-2015

Description: Consists of manuscripts and drafts for works such as The Volcano Sequence, "Eve Poems/Birthday Suite," "Mastectomy," "Revolution as Desire," and "Nude Descending," as well as many others.

Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Enid Dame, 1999
November 29
Box: 1 Folder: 1

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Patricia Dienstfrey, 2000
July 25-August 1
Box: 1 Folder: 2

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Shirley Kaufman, undated
Box: 1 Folder: 3

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Marilyn Krysl, undated
Box: 1 Folder: 4

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Jan Heller Levi, undated
Box: 1 Folder: 5

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: MacDowell / Gorrin, 2000
December 5
Box: 1 Folder: 6

The Volcano Sequence Drafts and comments: Peter Pitzele. Ph.D., 1999
January 4
Box: 1 Folder: 7

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: "Rick and JPO", undated
Box: 1 Folder: 8

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Arthur Strimling, 2000
September
Box: 1 Folder: 9

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Madeline Tiger, undated
Box: 1 Folder: 10

The Volcano Sequence: Drafts and comments: Ruth Yeselson, 1999
September
Box: 1 Folder: 11

The Volcano Sequence: "Bellagio", undated
Box: 1 Folder: 12

The Volcano Sequence: Outtakes, undated
Box: 1 Folder: 13
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subseries 1A: Poetry and Lyrics ... (Continued)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Volcano Sequence: Promotion, marketing, 2001 September 12-October 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Crack in Everything: TMs with comments, excerpts, correspondence, 1995 August 21-September 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Crack in Everything: TMs &quot;Glassful of Zinnias&quot; with comments, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Crack in Everything: Permissions, 1995 April 22-1998 March 30</td>
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<td>The Crack in Everything: Working manuscript, some with author notes, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: Drafts of published poems, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: Manuscripts before 1982, 1982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undated poems: Drafts and comments - Patricia Dienstfrey, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undated poems: Drafts and comments - Marty, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: &quot;About Time&quot;, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: &quot;After Illness&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;An Album of Chinese Fan Paintings&quot; - includes reader responses, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: &quot;Anecdotes without Flowers&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;The Antithesis/The Class&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Another Aubade&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Aphrodite&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Appearance and Reality&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Beauty&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Berkeley: Youth and Age&quot;, 1990 January 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: &quot;Bird&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Boil&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;The Book of Life&quot;, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poems: &quot;Boys&quot; (drafts of ending), undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Cows&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;A Day of Heavy Fog&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Deaf Cities&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Disasters of War&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;Dogs&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>Poems: &quot;The Eighth&quot;, undated</td>
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Poems: "Eve Poems/Birthday Suite" - Bitterness, undated  Box: 3 Folder: 21
Poems: "Eve Poems/Birthday Suite" - Happy Birthday, undated  Box: 3 Folder: 22
Poems: "Eve Poems/Birthday Suite" - Miscellaneous, undated  Box: 3 Folder: 23
Poems: "Eve Poems/Birthday Suite" - Problem Sets, undated  Box: 3 Folder: 24
Poems: "Extended Sonnet", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 25
Poems: "Fifty", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 27
Poems: "The Figure of Metaphor", 1989 May  Box: 3 Folder: 28
Poems: "The Glassblower's Breath", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 29
Poems: "Goya", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 30
Poems: "Holocaust", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 31
Poems: "Honey - excluded", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 32
Poems: "I Can't Speak", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 33
Poems: "Jerusalem", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 34
Poems: "Jonah's Gourd Vine", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 35
Poems: "Kiefer", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 36
Poems: "Language", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 37
Poems: "Lilith to Eve", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 38
Poems: "Loneliness", undated  Box: 3 Folder: 39
Poems: "Marie at Tea", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 1
Poems: "Meditation", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 3
Poems: "Nude Descending", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 4
Poems: "Rachel and Leah", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 5
Poems: "Reunion", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 6
Poems: "Revolution as Desire", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 7
Poems: "Rothko", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 8
Poems: "Rumifao Poems", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 9
Poems: "Russian Army", 1990 January 17  Box: 4 Folder: 10
Poems: "Spoon", undated  Box: 4 Folder: 12
Poems: "Survival", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 14

Box: 4 Folder: 15

Poems: "To the Deniers", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 16

Poems: "Translation", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 17

Poems: "Van Gogh", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 18

Poems: "Waiting to be in Love", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 19

Poems: "Watching the Feeder", 1987 February 2
Box: 4 Folder: 20

Box: 4 Folder: 21

Poems: "What You Want", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 22

Poems: "Windshield", undated
Box: 4 Folder: 23

Poems: "Zinnias", 1990 January 18
Box: 4 Folder: 24

Songs: Correspondence; Reviews and Interviews; Permissions, 1968-1972
Box: 5 Folder: 1

Songs: Galleys, undated
Box: 5 Folder: 2

Other books, mss and notes: I'm Nobody: Women's Poetry, undated
Box: 5 Folder: 3

Other books, mss and notes: Little Space: Poems Selected and New, 1968-1998
Box: 5 Folder: 4

Other books, mss and notes: Once More Out of Darkness and Other Poems, undated
Box: 5 Folder: 5

Lyrics, Folk and Rock, 1969
Box: 5 Folder: 6

At the Revelation Restaurant and Other Poems Chapbook Drafts, 2009 October
Box: 12 Folder: 1

"The Book of Life," Drafts and Comments, circa 1994
Box: 12 Folder: 2

The Book of Life: And Other Jewish Poems, 1979-2010, circa 2010
Box: 12 Folder: 3

The Book of Life, French translation by Jean Migrenne (Unpublished), 2012 May 5
Box: 12 Folder: 4

The Book of Seventy, Correspondence regarding publication, 2009
Box: 12 Folder: 5

The Book of Seventy, Reviews, 2009-2010
Box: 12 Folder: 6

The Crack in Everything, Reviews, 1996-1998
Box: 12 Folder: 7

Green Age Poems, 1987
Box: 12 Folder: 8

Green Age and The Imaginary Lover Reviews, 1987-1998
Box: 12 Folder: 9

Box: 12 Folder: 10

Box: 12 Folder: 11
The Nakedness of the Fathers: Biblical Visions and Revisions, Preface drafts, undated Box: 12 Folder: 12


The Nakedness of the Fathers: Biblical Visions and Revisions, Scraps and Drafts, undated Box: 12 Folder: 15

The Nakedness of the Fathers: Biblical Visions and Revisions, Italy Notebook, undated Box: 13 Folder: 1


No Heaven, Draft with Comments, undated Box: 13 Folder: 3-5

No Heaven, Reviews, 2005-2009 Box: 13 Folder: 6

The Old Woman, the Tulip and the Dog, Comments, 2013 Box: 13 Folder: 7

The Old Woman, the Tulip and the Dog Poem Drafts and Comments, 2010-2011 Box: 13 Folder: 8

The Volcano Sequence, Drafts of Opening, Dreams, and Journal, 1998-1999 Box: 13 Folder: 9

The Volcano Sequence, Reviews, 2001-2003 Box: 14 Folder: 1

Waiting for the Light, Comments on Final Draft, 2015 Box: 14 Folder: 2

Waiting for the Light, Drafts of Individual Poems, 2015 Box: 14 Folder: 3

A Woman Under the Surface, Princeton University Press Documents, 1982-1984 Box: 14 Folder: 4


Poems: Caravaggio Drafts with Comments, 1999 Box: 14 Folder: 8

Description: "The Painting of Force and Violence."

Poems: "Chanson", undated Box: 14 Folder: 9

Poems: "The Class" and Other Teaching Poems, undated Box: 14 Folder: 10

Poems: "Corot" Drafts, undated Box: 14 Folder: 11

Poems: "Eleanor", 2005 Box: 14 Folder: 12


Subseries 1B: Nonfiction Books, 1965-2009

Description: Consists of papers related to nonfiction books such as Dancing at the Devil’s Party, Feminist Revision and the Bible, and Nakedness of the Fathers, as well as several others.
Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

Dancing at the Devil's Party: Partial manuscript, some comments, undated Box: 6 Folder: 1
Dancing at the Devil's Party: Xerox of page proofs with comments, additional material, 1997-2000 Box: 6 Folder: 3
Nakedness of the Fathers: Correspondence, 1989-1990 Box: 6 Folder: 6
Nakedness of the Fathers: Notebook, undated Box: 6 Folder: 10
Nakedness of the Fathers: Preface/Notes, undated Box: 7 Folder: 1
Description: Also includes some notes for Feminist Revision and the Bible.
Nakedness of the Fathers: Undated draft with extensive comments, undated Box: 7 Folder: 3
Nakedness of the Fathers: Visuals, 1987-1993 Box: 7 Folder: 4
Stealing the Language: Additional notes, undated Box: 7 Folder: 5
Stealing the Language: Correspondence, comments (LD -- check note), 1985-1990 Box: 7 Folder: 6
Stealing the Language: Notes (mostly "Imperative of Intimacy" chapter), undated Box: 7 Folder: 7
Stealing the Language: Response to review in Contemporary Literature, undated Box: 7 Folder: 8
Vision and Verse...: Correspondence, Reviews and Interviews, 1965-1969 Box: 7 Folder: 9
For the Love of God: The Bible as an Open Book, Essay and Correspondence About, 2005-2007 Box: 15 Folder: 8
For the Love of God: The Bible as an Open Book, Reviews and Comments, 2007-2009 Box: 15 Folder: 9
Subseries 1C: Articles, Essays, Contributions, 1964-2015 May

Description: Consists of articles and essays such as "The Americanization of Sylvia," "Blake, Ginsburg, Madness and the Prophet as Shaman," and "She Who Is a Tree: Judy Grahn and 'The Work of a Common Woman'," as well as many others. Also present are other short works, such as introductions and prefaces to books by others and performance pieces.

Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

- "The Americanization of Sylvia", undated Box: 8 Folder: 1
- "Androgynous Concept? Misogynist Metaphor? Blake and Feminist Criticism", undated Box: 8 Folder: 2
- Autobiography, 1995-1996 Box: 8 Folder: 3
- "Beyond Confession: The Poetics of Postmodern Witness.", 2000 August-2001 May Box: 8 Folder: 4
- "Blake, Ginsburg, Madness and the Prophet as Shaman", 1977 March-September Box: 8 Folder: 5
- Clifton, Lucille, 1992-1999 Box: 8 Folder: 7
- "A Defense of Descriptive Prosody." MLA Panel, 1967 Box: 8 Folder: 8
- The Empire of Dreams by Giannina Braschi, 1992-1993 Box: 8 Folder: 9
- Essay on Maxine Kumin, 1994 March 6-1995 June 9 Box: 8 Folder: 10
Subseries 1C: Articles, Essays, Contributions ... (Continued)

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>H.D. Sequence: &quot;No Rule of Procedure: H.D. and Open Poetics&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>H.D. Sequence: HD Centennial Conference, University of Maine/Orono, 1986 June 5-7</td>
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<td>H.D. Sequence: H.D. notes and Drafts, 1994</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Howl Revisited: The Poet as Jew&quot;, 1997</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;I Am (Not) This: Erotic Discourse In Elizabeth Bishop And Sharon Olds&quot;, 1994 June 20-1995 September 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;The Lyric&quot; for English Poetry and Prose 1540-1674, undated</td>
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<td>9 Folder: 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Pop Lyric and the Poetry of Pleasure&quot; (unpublished essay), 1969 July</td>
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<td>9 Folder: 8</td>
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<td>&quot;Scenes from a Mastectomy&quot; and &quot;Two Months: Chronology of a Mastectomy&quot;, 1990</td>
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<td>&quot;She Who Is a Tree: Judy Grahn and 'The Work of a Common Woman'', 1993 Spring</td>
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<td>Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, 1985 Spring</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Whither Exodus? Movies as Midrash.&quot; MLA paper, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Whitman&quot; (unpublished, ), undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poetry Pilot guest editorship, 1992 June 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blake Article for The Atlantic Monthly, 2003</td>
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<td>Blake and Lawrence Paper by Ostriker and Andrew Enda Duffy, 1983</td>
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<td>Dickinson Essays, 2006</td>
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"What's Donne is Done, and How Can I Find God Now?", Essay, undated
Box: 16 Folder: 11

Box: 16 Folder: 12

Ginsberg: "Howl Revisited," Essay, Correspondence and Notes, 2005
Box: 16 Folder: 13

Box: 16 Folder: 14

Grahn: "She Who is a Tree: Judy Grahn and The Work of a Common Woman," Essay and Notes, undated
Box: 16 Folder: 15

Box: 16 Folder: 16

"Sonnet 29: Shakespeare has the Blues--But Recovers," Essay, undated
Box: 16 Folder: 17

Description: Appeared on April 30, 2013 on Slate.com titled, "When the Bard Had the Blues"

Stevens: "I Am (Not) This: Erotic Discourse In Bishop, Olds and Stevens", circa 1995
Box: 16 Folder: 18

"May Swenson and the Shapes of Speculation," Publication and Permissions Correspondence, 1977-1978
Box: 16 Folder: 19

"May Swenson: Whitman's Daughter" for Body My House: May Swenson’s Life and Work, Essay, Notes and Research, circa 2006
Box: 16 Folder: 20

"Loving Walt Whitman," Draft, 1991 January
Box: 16 Folder: 21

Box: 16 Folder: 22

"During the Intifada," Draft, Normal Lives, Israel, 2000
Box: 17 Folder: 1

"Introduction" to Before We Have Nowhere to Stand, 2012
Box: 17 Folder: 2

"My Israel Lenses," for Tikkun, 2008
Box: 17 Folder: 3

"Light Up the Cave," for What We Do Now, 2004 November 7
Box: 17 Folder: 4

Introduction to Poetry After 9/11: An Anthology of New York Poets, 2002 January-September
Box: 17 Folder: 5

Box: 17 Folder: 6

Jephthah's Daughter, Page Proofs for Bridges, 2000 March 27
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"Fragmented Witness: The Poetics of Postmodern Assemblage", undated
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"Beyond Confession: The Poetics of Postmodern Witness", undated
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<td>Deuteronomy 32 Essay for Jerusalem Report, 1995 February-July</td>
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<td>&quot;Old Stories in New Language: Writing Contemporary Midrash,&quot; Essay and Notes, circa 1999</td>
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<td>&quot;Psalm and Anti-Psalm: A Personal View,&quot; Drafts, Notes and Research, 2001-2002</td>
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Notebooks Essay Correspondence with Seneca Review, 1991 February 27-July 2  Box: 19 Folder: 11

"Notes on 'Listen','" Drafts, 1984-2002  Box: 19 Folder: 12

Notebook Selections: "Language is Female," "Survivors," and "Note on 'Listen'", 1985  Box: 19 Folder: 13

Poems, Interviews, and Opinion Pieces Not Published in Books, 1964-2006  Box: 19 Folder: 14

Drafts of Unfinished Essay on Adrienne Rich's Of Woman Born, 1976  Box: 20 Folder: 1

Reprints, 1970-2009  Box: 20 Folder: 2-3

Subseries 1D: Reviews and Interviews, 1979-2014

Description: Consists of drafts of book reviews and interviews by Alicia Ostriker, along with related correspondence.

Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

Ai, Sin; Alcosser, A Fish to Feed All Hunger; Olds, The Gold Cell; and Rich, Your Native Land, 1986-1990  Box: 10 Folder: 5

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Ammons, A.R., Sphere: The Form Of A Motion, Morgan, Lady Of The Beasts: Poems and Pollak, Ginkgo, undated  Box: 10 Folder: 7

With AO - Miscellaneous, 1986-1998  Box: 10 Folder: 8

With AO - Gary Pacernick, 1996  Box: 10 Folder: 9

Ferber, Michael. The Social Vision of William Blake, 1986 May 30  Box: 10 Folder: 10

Hagstrum, Jean, Sex and Sensibility; correspondence, 1984 December  Box: 10 Folder: 11

Hall, Happy Man and Oliver, Dream Work, 1986 August 5  Box: 10 Folder: 12

Hollander, John. Vision and Resonance: Two Senses of Poetic Form, undated  Box: 10 Folder: 13

Hughes, Ted. Birthday Letters, 1998 January 17-April 1  Box: 10 Folder: 14

Kumin, Maxine - "Poets in Person", 1990 June 7-11  Box: 10 Folder: 15

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<td>Review of Emma Lazarus by Ester Schor, 2006</td>
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**Subseries 1E: Student and Early Writings, 1956-1967**

Description: Consists of student and other early writings of Alicia Ostriker, including a grant proposal for a summer stipend, undergraduate poetry and prose writings, graduate school reading notes, and notes and sketches from her travels in the late 1950s and early 1960s.
Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

Grant proposal for summer stipend, circa 1967
Box: 11 Folder: 1

"Poetic Justice in Ben Jonson's Volpone and The Alchemist", 1961 May 10
Box: 11 Folder: 2

"The Structure and Imagery of Shelley's Skylark", 1961 May 10
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Box: 11 Folder: 4

Senior paper on Thomas Carlyle, 1959 May 12
Box: 11 Folder: 5

Undergraduate poetry, prose, 1956-1958
Box: 11 Folder: 6

Biblical Comment - Midrash, etc. - others, undated
Box: 11 Folder: 7

On Women, undated
Box: 11 Folder: 8

"Places I Lived with Jerry" and drawing, circa 1960
Box: 11 Folder: 9

Grad School Semester Reading Report, 1961 December 15
Box: 21 Folder: 1

Art and Travel Notes, 1959-1960
Box: 21 Folder: 2

Sketchbook, Summer in Mexico, 1957
Box: P-000051


Arrangement: Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

Description: Consists of 21 3.5" floppy disks and one 3.5" zip 100 disk primarily containing writings by Alicia Ostriker.

Series 2: Correspondence, 1952-2015

Arrangement: This series is arranged into three subseries by type of correspondence.

Description: This series consists of Alicia Ostriker's personal and professional correspondence with fellow poets and scholars, friends, family, and others.

Subseries 2A: Alphabetical Correspondence, 1956-2015

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent or topic, in accordance with original folder titles.

Description: This subseries comprises the bulk of Alicia Ostriker's personal and professional correspondence, including with fellow poets and writers such as Adrienne Rich, Robert Bly, Toi Derricotte, Stephen Dunn, Maxine Kumin, Donald Hall, Ilya Kaminsky, Sharon Olds, Joyce Carol Oates, Robert Pinsky, May Swenson, and others. While most correspondence files are grouped by name, topical files created by Ostriker are also present regarding publishing, her international travels, and organizations with which she was active.

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<td>Parnassus: Poetry in Review, 1977 March 17-December 8</td>
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Piercy, Marge, 1989 November 2-1990 May 21
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Pitzele, Peter, 1995-2011
Pitzele, Peter, 1995-2011
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Pitzele, Peter, 1995-2011
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Plaskow, Judith, 1990-2009
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Politics, 2004-2006
Box: 31 Folder: 4

Pollak, Felix, 1963-1982
Description: Includes correspondence and a large number of undated poems, circa 1960-1970.
Box: 31 Folder: 5-6

Publishers, 1979-1999
Box: 11 Folder: 16

Publishing Correspondence: Poetry, 1980-2011
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Publishing Correspondence: Prose, 1963-2004
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Rutgers English Department, 1964 November 25-1965 June 1
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Rutgers Library Gift, 2010 November 30-2011 April 4
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S, 1977-2007
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Sawicky, Joe, 1978-1985
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Biography/History: Subject of poem "The Pure Products of America."

Schaberg, Jane, 1995-2002
Box: 32 Folder: 12

Schenck, Celeste, 1986 April 23-1987 April 9
Box: 32 Folder: 13

Schnur, Susan, 1982-1998
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Scott, Mark, 1984-2002
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Solomon, Sheila, 1964-1996
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Swenson, May, 1977-1989
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Tibbets, Rick, 1992-1993
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Tikkun, 1990-2004
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US1 Poets' Cooperative, 1975-1985
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V, 1990-2008
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Vendler, Helen, 1974-1981
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Viereck, Peter, 1980 November
Box: 34 Folder: 11

Voices Israel, 1997-1998
Box: 34 Folder: 12
Subseries 2B: Family Correspondence ... (Continued)

Description: Includes one 3.5" floppy disk (Maxwell MF 2HD), labelled "USIS Internet Introductory Seminar: Arts and Culture, December 4, 1997."

W, 1977-2007
Box: 34 Folder: 13

Wafa A.A., 2001-2009
Box: 34 Folder: 14

Warner, Sara, 2002
Box: 34 Folder: 15

The Watershed Foundation, 1988-1990
Box: 34 Folder: 16

Weixing Su, 2001-2011
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Whitehead, Lori, 1964-1977
Box: 35 Folder: 1

Biography/History: AO's note: "My first true poet friend in Madison and afterward"

Williams, Charles, 2001-2009
Box: 35 Folder: 2

Wilner, Eleanor, 1989-2008
Box: 35 Folder: 3

Wisconsin Correspondence, 1965 August 27-1966 February 24
Box: 35 Folder: 4

Women-Politics List Serve, 2002-2008
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Wormser, Baron, undated
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XYZ, 1978-2004
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Yaguchi, Yorifumi, 1994-2000
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Zimroth, Evan, 1990-1993
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Zisquit, Linda, 1994-2009
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Unidentified, 1981-2003
Box: 35 Folder: 11

Subseries 2B: Family Correspondence, 1952-2009

Arrangement: Arranged by family member.

Description: This subseries consists primarily of correspondence between Alicia Ostriker and members of her family, including a significant amount of correspondence between Ostriker and her husband, Jeremiah P. Ostriker, as well as from Alicia Ostriker's mother, Beatrice Linnick Suskin, and Jeremiah P. Ostricker's mother, Jeanne Ostriker.

Letters from Beatrice Linnick Suskin (Smith), 1952-1993
Box: 35 Folder: 12-14

Description: (Alicia Ostriker's mother).

Letters from Beatrice Linnick Suskin (Smith), 1993-1997
Box: 33 Folder: 6

Description: (Alicia Ostriker's mother).

Letters from Amy Suskin, 1964-1977
Box: 36 Folder: 1
Letters from Anna Goldenberg, 1963-1967

Letters from Jeanne Ostriker, 1961-1971

Description: (Alicia Ostriker's mother-in-law).

Correspondence with Jeremiah P. Ostriker, 1957-1962

Correspondence with Jeremiah P. Ostriker, 1970-1971

Correspondence with Jeremiah P. Ostriker, 1974-1976

Correspondence with Jeremiah P. Ostriker, 1980-2009

Description: Consists primarily of correspondence (mainly email printouts) between Alicia and Jeremiah P. Ostriker, but also includes some correspondence with others.

Correspondence with Jeremiah P. Ostriker, undated

Jeremiah P. Ostriker Correspondence with Others, 1979-1992

Alicia and Jeremiah P. Ostriker Correspondence with Others, 1961-1988

Alicia and Jeremiah P. Ostriker 50th Anniversary Cards, 2008

Alicia and Jeremiah P. Ostriker Correspondence with Children, 1966-1975

Subseries 2C: Outgoing Letters, 1987-2008

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Description: This subseries consists of a chronological run of computer printout copies of outgoing correspondence from Alicia Ostriker to others spanning from 1987 to 2008.

Outgoing Letters, 1987

Outgoing Letters, 1988

Outgoing Letters, 1989

Outgoing Letters, 1990

Outgoing Letters, 1991

Outgoing Letters, 1992
### Series 3: Teaching and Research Materials, 1960-2010

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**Arrangement:** Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

**Description:** This series consists of teaching and research materials generated in the course of Ostriker's roles as a scholar, professor, and workshop leader. Most materials pertain to her teaching career in the Department of English at Rutgers University from 1965 to 2004.
including class handouts, assignments, exercises, syllabi, bibliographies, research, and lecture notes for classes on poetry and women writers. Similar notes and course materials are also present for poetry and midrash writing workshops she gave at various institutions in the United States, England, Israel, and Australia in the 1990s and 2000s.

- Class Handouts, circa 1970s
  - Box: B-000704
  - Folder: 9

- Blake Seminar, 1983
  - Box: B-000704
  - Folder: 10

- Bible and Feminist Imagination Bibliography, 1980-2001
  - Box: B-000704
  - Folder: 11

- Bible and Feminist Imagination Readings, circa 2001
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 1

- Bible and Feminist Imagination Notes, 2001
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 2

- Bible and Feminist Imagination Notebook, 2001-2003
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 3

- Women's Poetry, 1978
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 4

- Words Made Flesh Notebook, undated
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 5

- Class Handouts, 1973-1974
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 6

- Women Writers, 1987
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 7

- English 203-4: Whitman, Ginsberg, Coriolanus (Heroism), circa 1967
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 8

- Theories of Female Creativity, 1990
  - Box: B-000705
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- Romantics, undated
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 10

- Technology in Poetry, 1992-1995
  - Box: B-000705
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- Poetry by Women, 1996
  - Box: B-000705
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- Poetry by Women, 1977-1978
  - Box: B-000705
  - Folder: 13

- American Literature Survey, circa 1970s-1990s
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<td>Poetry by Women Course Reader, 1989</td>
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<td>Jewish Women and Spirituality, 1999-2000</td>
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<td>Modernism, circa 1990s</td>
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<td>Technique in Poetry, 1999</td>
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**Series 4: Lectures and Readings, 1960-2015**

**Arrangement:** Not arranged according to any arrangement scheme.

**Description:** This series consists of notes, corrected drafts, and scripts for Ostriker's public lectures, poetry readings, and conference papers, along with some related correspondence, programs, and invitations, spanning subjects including poetry, women writers, feminism,
Judaism, the humanities, and other topics. Recordings of several talks and readings on CDs and DVDs are also present.

NEC Beauty Lecture, 2007  
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"Love and Power: American Women's Poetry", undated  
Box: B-000708  
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"Why the Humanities?", 1960s  
Description: Transcription from a Rutgers College Colloquium.  
Box: B-000708  
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"Is God the Father Pregnant? If So, Where Is the Mother?, undated  
Box: B-000708  
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J Street Presentation for Princeton Middle East Society, 2010 October 21  
Box: B-000708  
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Lag b'Omer Sermon, circa 2003  
Box: B-000708  
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Yiddish Book Center, 2002  
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Psalms: Poetry Foundation, Drew Lecture, AWP, 2002-2008  
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Shadow of Spirit Conference, undated  
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Spirituality and Poetry Talk, 1993  
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Centre for Cultural Research, Denmark, 1995  
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Toi Derricotte Talk, undated  
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India Lecture, 1993  
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Comment on "Hunger", 2003 May  
Box: B-000708  
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Library of Congress New Colossus, 2013  
Box: B-000708  
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Liturgy Conference, 2015  
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<td>&quot;The Lyric 'I',&quot; MSA Conference, 2002</td>
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<td>&quot;Miriam the Prophetess, and Others: Heroines Lost and Found in Judaism&quot;, 2014 October 12</td>
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<td>Poetry and Society Folger Conference, undated</td>
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<td>&quot;Who's Minding the Story: Gerald Stern as Tragicomic Jewish Poet&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>New Modernisms Conference, 1999</td>
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<td>&quot;Fathers and Daughters: The Jephthah Issue and the Scream&quot;, 2008</td>
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<td>&quot;Nakedness and Dickinson&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>&quot;Revisionist Mythology and Women's Imagination&quot;, undated</td>
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<td>&quot;The King and I: A Twentieth Century Feminist and the King James Bible&quot;, 1998-1999</td>
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<td>&quot;Holocaust Poetry: Another View&quot;, 2005</td>
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<td>&quot;No Rule of Procedure: The Open Politics of H.D.&quot;, 2006</td>
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<td>&quot;Chloe and Olivia Meet the Death of God,&quot; Virginia Woolf Conference, 1995</td>
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<td>&quot;Why Women’s Poetry: Are You Kidding?&quot;, St. Francis College Talk, 2008 April 15</td>
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Nakedness -> Volcano Talk, Women's Research Forum, undated
Box: B-000709
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Recordings of Readings and Interviews, 2004-2015
Description: 9 CD/DVDs containing recordings of readings and interviews given by Alicia Ostriker.
Box: B-000712

Series 5: Subject Files, 1968-2014

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by topic.

Description: This series contains a variety of subject files containing documents, correspondence, notes, clippings, artwork, and photographs pertaining to miscellaneous topics, including personal and professional activities and events, grant and job applications, recommendations, and publishing.

Access:
Several folders in this series (housed in Box B-000710) are closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.

60th Birthday Party, 1997 November
Box: 21 Folder: 3

Apologia/History, undated
Box: 21 Folder: 4

Artwork, undated
Box: 21 Folder: 5

Grant Proposals and Requests for Recommendations, 1968-1986
Box: 21 Folder: 6

Guggenheim Fellowship Documents, 1984
Box: B-000710
Folder: 1

Access:
This material is closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.

Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, 2014 January 12
Box: 21 Folder: 7

MacDowell, 2001-2005
Box: 21 Folder: 8

Box: 21 Folder: 9

Professor II Application (Rutgers), 1980-1981
Box: B-000710
Folder: 2

Access:
This material is closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.

Publicists, 1976-1996
Box: B-000710
Folder: 3

Access:
This material is closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.
Series 5: Subject Files ... (Continued)

Publishing Contracts, 1992-2006

Access:
This material is closed until the death of the collection creator due to the presence of personally identifiable information.

Box: B-000710
Folder: 4

Recommendations, 1985-1986
Box: 21 Folder: 10

Reviews and Comments, 1979-2010
Box: 21 Folder: 11

Reviews and Essays on Alicia Ostriker's Work, 1984-2014
Box: 21 Folder: 12

Vita, 1992
Box: 21 Folder: 13

What's Where (Submissions), undated
Box: 21 Folder: 14