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THE PAPERS OF RUTH BERMANT SCULT

Accession #2010-014



Dates 1970s-2000s

Extent 1 box / .5 cubic feet

Creator Ruth Bermant Scult (1923-2008)

Access/Use This collection is open for research.

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Materials can be accessed at the Brooklyn College Archives & Special Collections, Main floor (Room #130), 2900 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, New York, 11210.

Language English

Finding Aid The guide is available in-house and online.

Acquisition/Appraisal Collection was donated to the Brooklyn College Archive in 2010 by Adele Schneider, Professor Emeritus, Kingsborough Community College (recipient of Brooklyn College's Alumni Assoc. Lifetime Achievement Award), and a close friend of Ruth Bermant Scult.

Description Control Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Preferred Citation Item, folder title, box number, the Papers of Ruth B. Scult, Brooklyn College
Library Archives & Special Collections, Brooklyn College Library

Subject Headings Scult, Ruth Bermant, 1923-2008.
Children's stories, American.
Fables.
American poetry.

Biographical Note

Ruth Bermant Scult (1923-2008) was born in Buffalo, New York. She earned her undergraduate degree at Brooklyn College, became an elementary school teacher, and then attended Smith College where she received her M.A. in psychiatric social work. She went on to a distinguished career in clinical and supervisory social work; she worked as Director of Social Work at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and as a therapist in private practice.

However, the most important aspect of Ms. Scult's life was her poetry. She felt that it was her life experience and work, particularly with younger psychiatric patients, that helped her in her writings. She developed a greater understanding of her patient's emotions, problems and personalities which she then ably reflected in her poems.

Ms. Scult's poems include *On Feelings the First Movements of My Unborn Child, There is a Climbing, Reincarnate, Nothing is Last, Shapes of a Woman*. Her prose writings include *Slanty Animals* and *To the President of Jordan Marsh*.

Ruth Bermant Scult, the psychiatric social worker, writer and lecturer, passed away on March 7, 2008. Her survivors included her two children, Rachel and Joshua; her devoted partner of thirty years Richard Landan; and her numerous friends.

Scope and Content Note

This small collection contains primarily the poetry written by Ruth Bermant Scult. The two volumes here are titled *Count Me Still Among You, the Complete Poetry of Ruth Bermant Scult*. In addition, there are papers (dated from the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s) that Ms. Scult wrote professionally for conferences that cover various topics, such as techniques for supervisors, patience and basic skills, dealing with learning disabilities, fear, gestalt, kinesis, and more.

Series Description

Series 1: Miscellaneous / Personal

2 folders

Arrangement: Alphabetical

This series contains a folder of thank-you notes written to Ms. Scult by second graders in 2008. The children thanked her for the stories she had written and read with them. When they were assembled posthumously under the title “Slanty Animals,” the book was placed in the school library for other children to enjoy. The second folder in this series has some personal information about Ruth Bermant Scult.

Series 2: Writings

4 folders

Arrangement: Assorted

Series 2 is comprised of the writings by Ms. Scult. File 3 has copies of poems titled *First Rain*, *On Baking Bread*, and *The Marigolds*. The next folder has Ms. Scult’s professional papers, written during her years as a psychiatric social worker. The last two folders in this series contain the poetry that Ms. Scult wrote in two volumes; the work is titled *Count Me Still Among You, Poetry of Ruth Bermant Scult*.

Container List

Series 1: Miscellaneous / Personal

Box 1

File 1 – Scult / Miscellaneous

File 2 – Scult / Personal

Series 2: Writings

Box 1 (continued)

File 3 – Scult / Writings, *The Marigolds* (published-Christian Science Monitor, 10/21/75);
Scult / Writings, *On Baking Bread* (published-Christian Science Monitor, 11/4/75);
Scult / Writings, *First Rain* (published-Christian Science Monitor, 4/1/88).

File 4 – Scult / Writings, Professional papers re Social Work

File 5 – Scult / Writings, *Count Me Still Among You, Poetry of Ruth Bermant Scult*, Volume 1

File 6 – Scult / Writings, *Count Me Still Among You, Poetry of Ruth Bermant Scult*, Volume 2