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THE PAPERS OF ROBERTA KALECHOFSKY

Accession #2010-003



- Dates** Inclusive dates: 1950s-1970s Bulk dates: 1960s-1970s
- Extent** 3 boxes / 1½ cubic feet
- Creator** Roberta Kalechofsky
- Access/Use** This collection is open for research.
Copyright is retained by Dr. Kalechofsky.
Materials can be accessed at the Brooklyn College Library Archive, 2900 Bedford Avenue (Room 130), Brooklyn, New York.
- Languages** English
- Finding Aid** Guide is presently available in-house and online.
- Acquisition/ Appraisal** Collection was donated to the college archive by Dr. Kalechofsky in 2010.
- Description Control** Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.
Collection was processed by Edythe Rosenblatt.
- Preferred Citation** Item, folder title, box number, The Papers of Roberta Kalechofsky, Brooklyn College Archives & Special Collections, Brooklyn College Library
- Subject Headings** Kalechofsky, Roberta.
Satire, English – History and criticism.
Dystopias in literature.
Jews–Latin America.
Latin American literature – Jewish authors – Translations into English.

Jewish literature – Women authors.
Jewish women – Literary collections.
Jewish women – Biography.
Women and literature.
Australian literature – Jewish authors.
Australian literature – 20th century.
New Zealand literature – Jewish authors.
New Zealand literature – 20th century.
Jews – Australia – Literary collections.
Jews – New Zealand – Literary collections.
Vegetarianism – Religious aspects – Judaism.
Jewish ethics.
Animal welfare – Religious aspects – Judaism.
Animal welfare (Jewish law).
Animal rights – Religious aspects – Judaism.

Biographical Note

Roberta Kalechofsky, (1931-), was born and raised in Brooklyn and received her undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College (1952). She earned her master's in 1956 and her Ph.D. in 1970, both in English Literature, from New York University. She has taught in the English Department at Salem State College (1976-77); Hillel Day School in Swampscott, Mass., (1972-73); at Brooklyn College's School of General Studies (1956-59; 1962-63); and at the University of Connecticut (1952-53).

A founder of Micah Publications, Ms. Kalechofsky has received publishing grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Council on the Arts. She has been a contributing editor of *Margins*, and *A Review of Little Mags*, and has published in quarterlies, reviews and anthologies. She published the Echad Series which includes five anthologies of Jewish writings and has also penned works of fiction, poetry, a monograph on George Orwell, and a collection of essays. Several of her stories, and two novellas, *La Hoya* and *Stephen's Passion*, have been translated into Italian. Her novel *Bodmin, 1349: An Epic Novel of Christians and Jews in the Plague Years* has twice been included in a college curriculum in the United States.

Not only a writer and feminist, Ms. Kalechofsky is also an animal rights activist and founded *Jews for Animal Rights* in 1985. She has coordinated publishing projects and written on vegetarianism and animal rights through the Small Press Movement (via her Micah Publications) and also co-founded *Branching Out*, Canada's first feminist magazine.

Roberta Kalechofsky has been honored for Distinctive Writing in Best American Short Stories of 1976 and 1977; received an honorary membership in Israel Bibliophile Society; has spoken at a Holocaust Scholars' Conference at the Anne Frank Institute in Philadelphia (1988); lectured at Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv University and the Institute for Contemporary Jewry at Hebrew University, all in Israel (1982); spoken on selected novels at the Jewish Community Center in Marblehead, MA. (1976-77); and was guest writer and speaker at a Creative Writings program at Roger Williams College in Rhode Island (1976).

Scope and Content Note

This small collection is comprised mainly of Roberta Kalechofsky's writings. There are 3 boxes containing 40 file folders of Ms. Kalechofsky's notes on the various short stories she has written, numerous scripts (handwritten or typed), as well as proofs of her book *Bodmin: 1349*, and a book penned in 1974 published the Writers' Cooperative titled *Justice, My Brother*. In addition, there are also a number of CD's and floppy discs with Ms. Kalechofsky's writings.

Series Outline / Series Description

Series 1: Typescripts, 1950s-1970s

Series 2: Notes

Series 3: Proofs

Series 4: Book

Series 5: CD's / Floppys

Series 1: Typescripts, 1950s-1970s. 1 box/.5 cubic feet. Alphabetical arrangement.

Series 1 is comprised of Roberta Kalechofsky's typescripts. They are filed in alphabetical order by title of the story, beginning with the *Ballad of 1095* (written in 1977) and ending with a typewritten script of her *When Johnny Comes Marching Home* (1950s).

Series 2: Notes. 1 box/.5 cubic feet. Alphabetical arrangement.

This series, also contained in one archival box, has notes/writings by Roberta Kalechofsky. It is also filed in alphabetical order by title of the tale. Some are handwritten; others are typewritten. The first folder contains notes on *My God Who Delights in Life*. The last folder has material on K'tia.

Series 3: Proofs. 3 folders. Arrangement varies.

The three folders in this series contain proofs of Ms. Kalechofsky's book *Bodmin, 1349: An Epic Novel of Christians & Jews in the Plague Years*.

Series 4: Book. 1 folder. Arrangement varies.

The one bound book found in this collection was written by Roberta Kalechofsky and published by the Writers' Cooperative in 1974. It is titled *Justice, My Brother*.

Series 5: CD's / Floppys. 3 envelopes. Arrangement varies.

Series 5 contains three envelopes. One has compact discs with compilations of Ms. Kalechofsky's writings (dated 2004). The second envelope has 8 floppy discs with notes on books/writings. The final envelope is comprised of 14 floppys also with notes on stories and/or books by Ms. Kalechofsky.

Container List

Series 1: Typescripts, 1950s-1970s

Box 1

- File 1 – Typescript / *The Ballad of 1095* (written in 1977)
- File 2 – Typescript / *Bodmin, 1349*
- File 3 – Typescript / *Book of Anonymities*
- File 4 – Typescript / *Booth Meets Lincoln*
- File 5 – Typescript / *Children of God*
- File 6 – Typescript / *Culture of Pain*
- File 7 – Typescript-Notes / *Dog, Beach, Sky, Man, Weather, Woman*
- File 8 – Typescript / *Father Woytzski Leads a Jewish Youth Group to the Holocaust Memorial in Oswiecim, Poland*
- File 9 – Typescript / *The Flower Gatherer: A Political Fable*
- File 10 – Typescript / *Four Women from Ravensbruck*
- File 11 – Notes / *Four Women from Ravensbruck*
- File 12 – Typescript / *The Greatest Religious Leader the World Has Ever Had* (early 1950s)
- File 13 – Typescript / *Guido, My Guide* (1960s-1970s)
- File 14 – Typescript-notes / *Job Enters a Pain Clinic*
- File 15 – Typewritten & Handwritten / *K'tia, A Savior of the Jewish People*
- File 16 – Typescript / *Lady Death*
- File 17 – Typescript / *To Light a Candle* (early 1950s)
- File 18 – Typescript / *Monkey on My Back* (early 1950s)
- File 19 – Typescript / *My God Who Delights in Life* (excerpt from a novel)
- File 20 – Typescript / *Making of an American Literary Critic: Edmund Wilson* (Introduction & Chapter 1)
- File 21 – Typescript / *My Mother's Story* (early 1950s)
- File 22 – Typescript / *Myra is Dying*
- File 23 – Typescript / *Power* (mid 1960s-1970s)
- File 24 – Typescript / *Sarai & Atahualpa*
- File 25 – Typescript with many revisions / *Une Joie D'Amour* (early 1950s)
- File 26 – Typescript / *Vegetarian Jewish Weddings?_____*
- File 27 – Typescript / *When Johnny Comes Marching Home* (1950s)

Series 2: Notes

Box 2

- File 28 – Notes, Typed & Handwritten / *My God Who Delights in Life, I*
- File 29 – Notes, Typed & Handwritten / *My God Who Delights in Life, II*
- File 30 – Notes for Stories on "J"
- File 31 – Notes, Typed & Handwritten / on Job, J, Booth I

File 32 – Notes, Typed & Handwritten / on Job, J, Booth II

File 33 – Notes on K'tia

Series 3: Proofs

Box 3

File 34 – Proof / *Bodmin, 1349: An Epic Novel of Christians and Jews in the Plague Years I*

File 35 – Proof / *Bodmin, 1349: An Epic Novel of Christians and Jews in the Plague Years II*

File 36 – Proof / *Bodmin, 1349: An Epic Novel of Christians and Jews in the Plague Years III*

Series 4: Book

Box 3 (continued)

File 37 – Book / *Justice, My Brother* (1974)

Series 5: CD's / Floppys

Box 3 (continued)

File 38 – 2 CD's (compact discs) / Compilation of Ms. Kalechofsky's writings, 2004

File 39 – 8 floppy discs / Notes on *Bodmin, Cookbook, Solomon's Wisdom*, etc.

File 40 – 14 floppy discs / including notes on *LaHoya, K'tia, Booth*, etc.

(2012)