

Guide to the Louise Glück Papers

YCAL MSS 946



by Beinecke staff, Brooke McManus.

June 2016. Revised: February 2022.

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 946

CREATOR: Glück, Louise, 1943-

TITLE: Louise Glück papers

DATES: 1940-2017

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 50.36 linear feet (53 boxes) + 8 art

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of correspondence, writings, notebooks, writings of others, ephemera, photographs, and artwork documenting the life and work of poet Louise Glück. Correspondence spans Glück's career and includes poets Steven Berg, Robert Pinsky, C. K. Williams, and others, as well as family correspondence. Writings include individual poems and drafts of collections including *Ararat*, *The Wild Iris*, *Meadowlands*, *Vita Nova*, *A Village Life*, and *Faithful and Virtuous Night*. Writings of others include works by numerous writers including Steven Berg, Frank Bidart, Kathryn Davis, Robert Pinsky, Claudia Rankine, Ellen Bryant Voigt, and C. K. Williams. Artwork includes oil paintings and watercolors by Louise Glück.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.gluck>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.gluck>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Wylie Agency on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2008 and 2017.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 59 (videocassette): Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Boxes 39, 60: Restricted until 2050. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Box 61 (student works): Restricted until 2089. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Use

The Louise Glück Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Louise Glück Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Louise Glück

Louise Glück is an American poet. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1993 for *The Wild Iris*, and the Bollingen Prize for Poetry in 2001. Glück served as the Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress, 2003-2004. She was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2020.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of correspondence, writings, notebooks, writings of others, ephemera, photographs, and artwork documenting the life and work of poet Louise Glück. Correspondence spans Glück's career and includes poets Steven Berg, Robert Pinsky, C. K. Williams, and others, as well as family correspondence. Writings include individual poems and drafts of collections including *Ararat*, *The Wild Iris*, *Meadowlands*, *Vita Nova*, *A Village Life*, and *Faithful and Virtuous Night*. Writings of others include works

by numerous writers including Steven Berg, Frank Bidart, Kathryn Davis, Robert Pinsky, Claudia Rankine, Ellen Bryant Voigt, and C. K. Williams. Artwork includes oil paintings and watercolors by Louise Glück.

Arrangement

Organized into seven series: I. Correspondence, 1950s-2005. II. Writings, 1950s-2006. III. Writings of Others, 1970s-2005. IV. Other Papers, 1950s-1990s. V. Artwork, 1958-1965. VI. Restricted Material. VII. January 2017 Acquisition, 1940-2017.

Collection Contents
Series I: Correspondence, 1950s-2005*6 linear feet (6 boxes)*

	General correspondence	1960s-2005
b. 14	Althaus, Keith	circa 1972
b. 14	Ball, [Sally?]	circa 1993
b. 14	Barbara [Guest?]	undated
b. 14	Bedient, Calvin	1983-1990
b. 14	Bell, Marvin	1971-1973
b. 14	Berg, Steven - American Poetry Review (6 folders)	circa 1980s-1990s
b. 14	Burch, Eva	circa 1978
b. 14	Campana, Joseph A., Jr.	circa 2005
b. 14	"Contracts"	circa 1980s-1990s
b. 14	Dobyns, Stephen	circa 1980s-1990s
b. 14	Fan mail / requests for criticism	circa 2005
b. 14	Gardner, Tom - interview request	circa 1988
b. 14	Gargan, Carol (3 folders)	circa 1977-1979
b. 14	Gibson, Tom	circa 1972
b. 14	Gilligan, Michael	circa 1975
b. 14	Hertz, Charles	circa 1968, 1993
b. 14	Hill, Diane E. - dreams	1989
b. 15	Hillman, Brenda (3 folders)	1980s
b. 15	Kennerly, Karen	circa 1976
b. 15	Koestenbaum, Phyllis	circa 1989-1992
b. 15	Kunitz, Stanley	circa 1970s-1990s
b. 15	"Letter and poems from Lorrie"	undated
b. 15	"MFA / Historical"	circa 1977

General correspondence (continued)

b. 15	"MFA program evaluations"	circa 1982
b. 15	Monley, Keith (2 folders)	1970s-1990s
b. 15	Moss, Sylvia	undated
b. 15	[Murphy, Kay?]	circa 1977
b. 15	Pinsky, Robert (2 folders)	1982, 1983-1984
b. 15	"Rocio"	undated
b. 15	Ryan, Michael (2 folders)	circa 1975-1981
b. 15	Seidman, Hugh	1970s-1990s
b. 15	Simic, Charles	1989
b. 15	Simons, Michelle - personal	1980s
b. 15	Voigt, Ellen Bryant	1970s-1990s
b. 15	Williams, C. K.	1995
b. 15	Winters, Rita A. - MFA semester study plan	circa 1977
b. 15	Winters, Rita A. - student	undated
	Family correspondence	1950s-2000s
b. 16	Correspondence to parents, two notebooks (2 folders)	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 16	Glück family (2 folders)	1960s-1970s
b. 16	"Letters from L.G." (5 folders)	1960s-1990s
b. 16	"Letters from"	undated
	Unsorted correspondence	1950s-2000s
b. 17	Unsorted correspondence and other papers (17 folders)	circa 1970s-2004
b. 18	Unsorted correspondence and other papers (15 folders)	circa 1961-1996
b. 19	Unsorted correspondence and other papers (15 folders)	circa 1956-2000s

Series II: Writings, 1950s-2006

9.33 linear feet (10 boxes)

	Alphabetical writings	1950s-2006
b. 20	Achilles (4 folders)	circa 1985
b. 20	Annotated poems (4 folders)	undated
b. 20	Ararat (5 folders)	undated
b. 20	Averno (11 folders)	circa 2006
b. 21	Averno (8 folders)	circa 2006
b. 21	"Book 5" (3 folders)	undated
b. 21	"Clear Morning from The Wild Iris, p.7"	undated
b. 21	"Copies - Heaven and Earth," poems	undated
b. 21	"Copies of ret. poems"	undated
b. 21	"Daises" and other poems"	undated
b. 21	Descending Figure (2 folders) Includes photograph.	circa 1980
b. 25	Descending Figure with Lullaby," sheet music	1986
b. 21	The Dream of Mourning	undated
b. 21	"Early Iris"	undated
b. 21	"Early poems" (2 folders)	circa 1965-1966
b. 21	"Early poems and lines" Includes reviews and responses.	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 21	Firstborn article and poems	circa 1960s-1980s
b. 21	"Friends poems"	circa 1970s
b. 21	"Goddard Poetry Colloquium" and "The Murderess"	undated
b. 21	"The Happy Heart - Wild Iris" (2 folders)	undated
b. 22	The House on Marshland, typescript	1974

Alphabetical writings (continued)

b. 22	"Ithaca from Meadowlands P.12"	undated
b. 22	El Lirio Silvestre (Wild Iris)	circa 1992
b. 22	"Louise"	undated
b. 22	"MFA writing program"	undated
b. 22	"Poems - Marshland"	circa 1975
b. 22	Meadowlands (5 folders)	circa 1997
b. 22	"My Birthplace," typescript	undated
b. 22	"New poems"	undated
b. 22	"Night Migrations"	undated
b. 22	"No Go"	circa 1970s
b. 22	"Nocturne Lamentations: Descending Figure"	1981
b. 22	"Noodle Junction," typescript	undated
b. 22	"Old editions"	circa 1962
b. 22	"On Night Song," "Disruption, Hesitation, Silence" and other poems	undated
b. 22	"Pagan / Mt. Sinai - Book 5"	undated
b. 22	"Proofs and theories"	undated
b. 22	"Prose"	undated
b. 22	Red workbook, containing poems, correspondence and other material	circa 1980
b. 22	"A Romance" and other writings	undated
b. 22	School papers	1960s
b. 23	The Seven Ages (22 folders)	circa 2001
b. 24	"Stetson - L. Glück"	undated
b. 24	"Stories", various publishing letters	1960s-1990s
b. 24	"Talk", typescript sent to Beatrice Glück	1989
b. 24	"Trillium, from The Wild Iris, pg. 4"	circa 1992
b. 24	Vita Nova (6 folders)	circa 1997-1999
b. 24	"Vita Nova," and "The Seven Ages"	undated
b. 24	The Wild Iris (4 folders)	circa 1992

Alphabetical writings (continued)

b. 24	"Xerox," poems	undated
b. 24	"Xerox - 15 copies each," poems	undated
b. 24	"Xerox copies - Vita story"	undated
b. 24	Yellow binder, poems Contains plant pressing.	undated
	Notebooks	1957-1960s
b. 26	School notebooks (2 folders)	circa 1957-1959
b. 27	School notebooks (3 folders)	circa 1960
b. 27	Notebooks (7 folders) Contains plant pressings.	1950s-1960s
b. 27	Poetry quotes, homemade booklet	undated
b. 27	Binder notebook	undated
	Unsorted writings	1960s-2000s
b. 28	Unsorted writings and other papers (33 folders)	circa 1960s-2000s
b. 29	Unsorted writings and other papers (15 folders)	circa 1960s-2000s

Series III: Writings of Others, 1970s-2005

7.42 linear feet (8 boxes)

b. 30	Bailey, Michele - 1998 State Poet Selection, binder	1998
b. 30	Ball, Sally - "From Their Windows"	undated
b. 30	Ball, Sara - poems	undated
b. 30	Baxter, Charles - "Poor Devil"	undated
b. 30	[Benton, Lee Hampton?] - poems (2 folders) Contains typescript of "Two Trees," by Ellen Bryant Voigt.	undated
b. 30	Berg, Stephen - poems (7 folders) Contains "From Rimbaud," "Halo," "Oblivion," and various poems.	1990s-2000s
b. 30	Bidart, Frank - poems (35 folders) Contains "Desire," "For Bill Nestruck (1941-96)," "For the Twentieth Century," "Heart Beat," "Legacy," "Luggage," "Music Like Dirt," "The Poem is a Veil," "The Second Hour of the Night," "Star Dust," and other poems. Also contains correspondence and interviews.	undated
b. 31	Bidart, Frank - poems (16 folders) Contains "Watching the Spring Festival," and "You Didn't Write, You Rewrote".	undated
b. 32	Brown, Stephanie - "Allegory of the Supermarket"	undated
b. 32	Campana, Joseph - "On Not Defending Poetry," and "Seraphic Monologues" (2 folders)	circa 2005
b. 32	Campbell, Mary Baine - "Trouble"	undated
b. 32	Chiasson, Dan - "Coda: The Poet," and "Natural History" (2 folders)	circa 2004
b. 32	Clarke, Kevin Jeffery - "The World in Front of Us"	undated
b. 32	Convisser, Julie - "The Tooth from the Shell"	1991
b. 32	Davis, Kathryn - writings (15 folders) Contains "The Girl who Trod on a Loaf," "The Thin Place," "Versailles," and "The Walking Tour".	circa 1990s-2000s
b. 33	Davis, Kathryn - "The Walking Tour" (2 folders)	circa 1999
b. 33	Derry, Alice - "MFA writing program"	circa 1980
b. 33	Dobyns, Stephan - poems (3 folders)	circa 1988

b. 33	Fisher, Jessica - poems (3 folders)	circa 2006
b. 33	Fletcher, Luellen - "Honor's Thesis in English"	circa 1979
b. 33	Forché, Carolyn - "Two poems"	circa 2000
b. 33	Gildroy, Doreen - "The Little Field of Self"	undated
b. 33	Gillett, Michelle - "MFA program for writers"	circa 1981
b. 33	Goldensohn, Lorrie - "Occupying Forces"	circa 1994
b. 33	Graham, Jorie - poems (3 folders) Contains "Materialism," and "Tourists."	undated
b. 33	Halliday, Lisa - "Stump Louie"	undated
b. 33	Hopler, Jay - poems (8 folders) Contains "Green Squall," and other poems.	circa 2005
b. 33	Huyler, Frank - "The Mercury Cure"	circa 1994
b. 34	Kaufman, Debra - "Debra - Sisyphus"	circa 1980
b. 34	Kaufman, Debra Nystrom - "MFA writing program"	circa 1980
b. 34	Kennerly, Karen - "Invention of Tourism"	circa 1998
b. 34	Kitchen, Judith - "The Woods Around it", photocopies	1993
b. 34	Kunitz, Stanley - "King of the River"	undated
b. 34	Levin, Dana - poems (8 folders) Contains "Bridge of Light," "Glass Book," "Heroics of Style," "In the Surgical Theatre," and other poems.	undated
b. 34	Lewis, Nancy Sherman - "MFA writing program evaluation"	circa 1979
b. 34	Longenbach, James - writings (6 folders) Contains "Allegory," "Draft of a Letter," "The Hours of the Night," "Loggernaut reading series - Summer 2005," "Route," "Undiscovered Country," and other writings.	circa 2005
b. 34	Margulies, [Donald?] - "Regarding Ellen Pinsky"	undated
b. 34	McDowell, Michael McEachern - memorial pamphlet	1999
b. 34	McMichael, James - "Setting is the Chance"	circa 1992
b. 34	Middleton, Anne - "Memories of Bill Nestrick"	2000
b. 34	Muske-Dukes, Carol - "Epitaph: A Novel"	undated

b. 34	Nealon, Chris - "Adultery"	circa 1991
b. 34	Nystrom, Debra - "A Quarter Turn"	circa 1990
b. 34	Pecor, Claudia Amanda - "Tea Leaves and Dark Water"	undated
b. 34	Pinsky, Ellen - writings (7 folders) Contains "Sitcome Verité," "American Culture and the Voice of Poetry," and "Mortal Gifts".	circa 1990s-2000s
b. 35	Pinsky, Robert - writings (42 folders) Contains "At the Worcester Museum," "A Book of Odes," "A Brief Guide to the Sounds of Poetry in English," "A Dialogue Between Poetry and Grief," "Invitation to Poetry," "The Game," "First Things to Hand," "Gulf Music," "Isolt," "Jersey Rain," material regarding King David, "Knight's Prayer," "Samurai Song," various lecture material, and essays.	circa 1990s-2000s
b. 36	Pinsky, Robert - writings (17 folders) Contains "The Life of David," "Machine," "Chorus," "Ode to Meaning," "Rhythm and Measure in Spaces," "Stamford Address," "Vessel," "Porch Steps," "The Want Bone," miscellaneous poems, writings, and translations.	circa 1990s-2000s
b. 36	Raab, Lawrence - "Permanence" (2 folders)	circa 1997
b. 36	Rankine, Claudia - "Nothing in Nature is Private"	undated
b. 36	Reece, Spencer - "The Clerk's Tale" (2 folders)	circa 2003
b. 36	Reynolds, Gay - poems and correspondence	undated
b. 36	Rhodes, Martha - poems (2 folders) Contains "At the Gate," and "Perfect Disappearance".	circa 1990s
b. 36	Rosenberg, David - "Congregation: Contemporary Writers Read the Jewish Bible"	circa 2000
b. 36	Rose, Rachel - poems (2 folders) Contains "Archipelago," and "Bright Kingdom".	circa 1991-1994
b. 36	Ryan, Michael - poems (2 folders)	circa 1978
b. 36	Selinger, Eric - "It Meant I Loved: Louise Glück's Ararat"	circa 1993
b. 36	Shore, Jane - "Music Minus One"	undated
b. 36	Siken, Richard - poems (4 folders) Contains "Crush," and "Litany in which Certain Things are Crossed Out".	circa 2000s
b. 36	Slate, Ron - "The Incentive of the Maggot"	undated

b. 36	Steckel, Christine - MFA program (2 folders)	circa 1981
b. 36	Stewart, Stephanie - "A Reckoning" (5 folders)	circa 1998-2000
b. 37	Stockwell, Samn - "Recital"	undated
b. 37	Streckfus, Peter - "The Cuckoo" (3 folders)	undated
b. 37	Theoharis, Theoharis C. - "Cavafy Poems"	circa 1998
b. 37	Ungerer, Kathryn - "Eternity"	undated
b. 37	Vincent, John - "Prick"	circa 2000
b. 37	Voigt, Ellen Bryant - poems (7 folders) Contains "The Art of Distance," annotated poems, "The Feeder," "The Forces of Plenty," "Messenger" reviews, "Song and Story," and various other works.	undated
b. 37	Weiner, Joshua - "From the World's Room: Poems"	circa 2001
b. 37	Wenderoth, Joe - "Disfortune"	undated
b. 37	Williams, C. K. - poems (2 folders) Contains "Repair".	circa 1997-1998
b. 37	"The Prodigal Son", unknown author	undated
b. 37	"Regarding Streckfus" notes	undated
b. 37	"Therapist Play", unknown author	undated

Series IV: Other Papers, 1950s-1990s*1 linear foot (1 box)*

	Ephemera	1991, undated
b. 38	National Portrait Gallery bookmark	undated
b. 38	Drivers License and DMV material	1991
b. 38	Key	undated
b. 38	Flatware knife and fork	undated
	Photographs	1950s-1990s
b. 38	Northfield photographs	circa 1960s
b. 38	"Misc.," photographs with printed material	circa 1950s-1970s
b. 38	Photographs of Louise Glück	1950s-1980s
b. 38	Photographs with negatives	circa 1990s
b. 38	Glück - Northfield photographs	circa 1970s

Series V: Artwork, 1958-1965, undated*7.67 linear feet (5 boxes) + 8 art*

b. 1 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	undated
b. 2 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1965
b. 3 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1959
b. 4 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1963
b. 5 (Art)	Nude with Blond Hair, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1963
b. 6 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1958
b. 7 (Art)	Portrait of Louise Glück, by Monte Goerner, pastel	1963
b. 8 (Oversize)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, watercolor and pastel	1962
b. 9 (Oversize)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, watercolor and pastel	1965
b. 10 (Oversize)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, watercolor and pastel	1962
b. 11 (Oversize)	Untitled drawing, by Louise Glück, pencil	undated
b. 12 (Oversize)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, watercolor and pastel	1962
b. 13 (Art)	Untitled, by Louise Glück, oil on canvas	1961

Series VI: Restricted material

1 linear foot (1 box)

Restricted until 2050. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. 39

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American literature -- 20th Century
American literature -- 21st century
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Poets, American -- 21st century -- Archives
Women authors

Genres / Formats

Audiovisual materials
Oil paintings (visual works)
Photographs
Watercolors (paintings)

Occupations

Poets -- United States -- 20th Century
Poets -- United States -- 21st century

Names

Berg, Steven, 1959-
Bidart, Frank, 1939-
Davis, Kathryn, 1946-
Glück, Louise, 1943-
Pinsky, Robert, 1940-
Rankine, Claudia, 1963-
Voigt, Ellen Bryant, 1943-
Williams, C. K. (Charles Kenneth), 1936-2015