

**Ruth Lisa Schechter Papers**  
**1964-1986, n.d.**

**Creator:** Ruth Lisa Schechter

**Extent:** 2 linear ft.

**Processor:** Original processor unknown. Updated by Stephanie Fong and Elizabeth Myers, 2011.

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright resides with the estate of Ruth Lisa Schechter.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Ruth Lisa Schechter Papers. Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** Unknown.

**Biographical History**

Ruth Lisa Schechter was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1917. The only child of a Russian-Jewish immigrant mother, she grew up in New York City. Throughout much of her life, Schechter worked in New York hospitals. She began writing seriously in the 1960s and worked as a poetry therapist at a rehabilitation center. She served as a mentor for young poets, lectured at colleges, and participated in many poetry readings. Schechter was a member of P.E.N. and of the Poetry Society of America. She also founded the Croton Council of the Arts and edited the Croton Review.

Schechter published many collections of poetry throughout her career. These included: *Near The Wall of Lion Shadows*, *Moveable Parts*, *Suddenly Thunder*, *Off Shore*, *Moving Closer*, *Double Exposure*, *Clockworks*, *Speedway*, *Chords & Other Poems*, *Many Rooms in a Winter Night*, and *Twelve Arrangements for A Japanese Tea Garden/Haiku*. Her writings were also published in over one hundred and fifty journals and six anthologies. Her poetry addresses many themes including the Vietnam War, women's roles, and civil rights. Schechter also served as poet-in-residence at Mundelein College beginning in 1969. Schechter continued writing poetry until her death in 1989.

**Scope and Content**

The Ruth Lisa Schechter Papers consist of four boxes, spanning from 1964 to 1986 with some undated material. This collection is divided into two series: Professional and Writings. The bulk of this collection is the poetry of Schechter. The collection is organized alphabetically.

**Series 1: Professional 1965-1973, Box 1**

Contains limited material relating to Schechter's career; also included are articles and information regarding Schechter's association with Mundelein College.

**Series 2: Writings, 1964-1986, n.d., Boxes 1-4**

Spanning four boxes, this series contains Schechter's poetry and numerous notes. Frequently, these poems are grouped with earlier versions of her poems and include handwritten notes.

**Subjects:**

Poetry, Women Poets

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
Loyola University Chicago

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Professional, 1965-1973</b>			
1	1	Correspondence and notices	1965, n.d.
	2	Mundelein College Poet-in-Residence	1968-1973
<b>Series 2: Writings, 1964-1986, n.d.</b>			
1	1	1971	n.d.
	2	A Day Below Zero	1968
	3	Accident	1969-1970
	4	Accident at the Red Light	n.d.
	5	Afternoons in Mahogany	n.d.
	6	Alan, Carlos, Theresa	n.d.
	7	Along Missouri	1970
	8	Amnesia	1969-1970
	9	Anatomy	n.d.
	10	And We Are Strangers to Each Other	1964
	11	Are Moving	n.d.
	12	Atlantic Beach	1968
	13	Ballad for Carlos	n.d.
	14	Be Proud, The Repose	1967-1968
	15	Beach	1967
	16	Before the Blow Falls	n.d.
	17	Bound Together	n.d.
	18	The Bridge	n.d.
	19	Bronx	1970-1972
	20	But No One Answered	n.d.
2	1	Che Guevara	1968
	2	Christmas	1968
	3	The Collection	n.d.
	4	The Contract of Sacred Names	1969
	5	Counting to Twelve	1969
	6	Crazy with Chrysanthemums	n.d.
	7	Chalk White	n.d.
	8	Curtain Call	n.d.
	9	Cycle	n.d.
	10	The Day the Bell Broke	1964
	11	The Devil's Vaudeville	1970
	12	Doll	1969
	13	Don't Move!	n.d.
	14	Down Johnnycake Hill	1968
	15	Dream of Black Tulips	1969
	16	Dreamwalking	1971

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
Loyola University Chicago

	17	Either/Or	1969
	18	Family	1970
	19	Fasten Your Seat Belt!	1968
	20	Five on the Floor	1970
	21	Flick	n.d.
	22	Gliding	1967
	23	Gunhill Road	n.d.
	24	I Do Not Accept, I Do Not Accept	n.d.
	25	In a Half Note of Intuition	n.d.
	26	In the Dream These Three	n.d.
	27	In the Beginning	1971
	28	In the Body of the Combo	n.d.
	29	In the Laughing Gas from Tennessee	1969-1970
3	1	Island	1968
	2	Lake Mahopac, New York	1966-1967
	3	Like You	1967
	4	Keyboard	1972
	5	Kiss the Torah, It's a Festival!	1967
	6	Make a Tree of Words	n.d.
	7	Many Rooms in a Winter Night	1968
	8	Montauk Point	n.d.
	9	Message for a Moving Highway	n.d.
	10	Near the Wall Lion Shadows	n.d.
	11	New Jersey	1966
	12	Night Letter to Evanston	1968
	13	No Visitors Allowed	n.d.
	14	November 17 <sup>th</sup>	n.d.
	15	October	n.d.
	16	Off the Avenue of Americas	1970
	17	Off Route 28	n.d.
	18	On a Peaceful Day	1968-1969
	19	On the Grass of Parnassus	n.d.
	20	On the Limits of a Plot	n.d.
	21	Out on a Limb	1970
	22	Outside on the Dial	n.d.
	23	Palm has Many Lines	n.d.
	24	Passing the Yankee Stadium	1967-1969
	25	Poems: Fragments and Untitled	n.d.
	26	Postcard from Dachau	1965
	27	Provincetown	n.d.
	28	Quarter Notes	n.d.
	29	The Rain Forest	n.d.
	30	Rape	n.d.
	31	Regency Room at the Pierre	n.d.

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

4	1	Science Fiction	n.d.
	2	Sea Lion	1968
	3	Signs of Summer	n.d.
	4	Skipping Others	1968
	5	Somebody's Child	1968-1969
	6	Suddenly Thunder	1968
	7	Sun Dial	n.d.
	8	Survivors	n.d.
	9	Temperature Changes	n.d.
	10	Terre Des Hommes	1966-1967
	11	The Remains	n.d.
	12	This Woman	n.d.
	13	Thursday	n.d.
	14	Translations from the Russian	1970-1971
	15	Translations of the Exile	n.d.
	16	Trees are Moving	n.d.
	17	Two Pine Trees	1968
	18	Visions of 400 Sunrises	1972
	19	Visit to Syracuse	n.d.
	20	Voyeur	n.d.
	21	Waiting to Go	n.d.
	22	Walden Pond Revisited	1970
	23	War	n.d.
	24	Washington Square Fantasy	n.d.
	25	What is there?	1968
	26	What was the Composer Playing?	1970
	27	When Daffodils in Central Park Turned Up	1970
	28	When We Meet	n.d.
	29	While the Whole World Was Watching	n.d.
	30	Who are you?	n.d.
	31	Whose Society is This?	1970
	32	Your Face Speaks	1971