

Guide to the Restau Press Records and J. Mark Nunnelee Papers

YCAL MSS 1597



by Michael Rush and Tina Evans

May 2022

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Processing Information	4
Restau Press	4
J. Mark Nunnelee	4
Content Description	4
Arrangement	5
Collection Contents	6
Series I: Correspondence, 1966–2000	6
Series II: Photographs, 1970–1997	8
Series III: Restau Press records and submissions, 1969–1970	9
Series IV: Printed or photocopied materials, undated	10
Series V: J. Mark Nunnelee writings and notes, 1970–1993	11
Selected Search Terms	12

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 1597

CREATOR: Restau Press

TITLE: Restau Press records and J. Mark Nunnelee papers

DATES: 1966–2000

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.25 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: This collection consists of records relating to Restau Press and writings and personal papers relating to J. Mark Nunnelee. Correspondence consists of submissions to Restau Press, and Nunnelee's interaction with literary contemporaries in the late 1960s and early 1970s, as well as later personal and family correspondence. Notable correspondents include Diane di Prima, Gerrit Lansing, and Thomas Meyer. Restau Press records include submissions, some of which were included in the single issue of *Restau: A Journal of Passage*, others which were unpublished. The collection also includes photographs of Nunnelee and others, poetry and other writings by Nunnelee, and various copies of printed materials by others.

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

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.restau>.

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 Granary Books on the Danford N. Barney Fund, 2021.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Restau Press Records and J. Mark Nunnelee 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

Restau Press Records and J. Mark Nunnelee 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 or revisions in arrangement and description.

Restau Press

Restau Press was a short-lived literary press operated by J. Mark Nunnelee in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The press published a single issue of *Restau: A Journal of Passage* in 1970, as well as a pamphlet by Stephen Jonas and poetry broadsides by Jonas, Gerrit Lansing, John Wieners, and Larry Eigner.

J. Mark Nunnelee

J. Mark (Joe Mark) Nunnelee (1943-2001) was a publisher and poet who operated Restau Press in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Following service in the Vietnam War, Nunnelee pursued a brief career as a bookseller and publisher. Through the Restau Press imprint, Nunnelee published work by a variety of poets centered around the eastern Massachusetts literary scene, including his own. After returning to school in 1973 Nunnelee left literary publishing, eventually pursuing a career in corporate performance management.

Content Description

This collection consists of records relating to Restau Press and writings and personal papers relating to J. Mark Nunnelee. Correspondence consists of submissions to Restau Press, and Nunnelee's interaction

with literary contemporaries in the late 1960s and early 1970s, as well as later personal and family correspondence. Notable correspondents include Diane di Prima, Gerrit Lansing, and Thomas Meyer. Restau Press records include submissions, some of which were included in the single issue of *Restau: A Journal of Passage*, others which were unpublished. The collection also includes photographs of Nunnelee and others, poetry and other writings by Nunnelee, and various copies of printed materials by others.

Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Correspondence, 1966-2000. II. Photographs, 1970-1997. III. Restau press records and submissions, 1969-1970. IV. Printed or photocopied materials, undated. V. J. Mark Nunnelee writings and notes, 1970-1993.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1966–2000

0.83 linear feet (2 boxes)

The bulk of the correspondence relates to poetry, literature, or Restau Press dating to the late 1960s and early 1970s. Notable correspondents from this period include Diane di Prima, Gerrit Lansing, and Thomas Meyer. Later correspondence primarily relates to J. Mark Nunnelee's work or family, with the exception of letters from Lansing, with whom Nunnelee maintained a correspondence after his involvement with literary publishing ended. Also includes a small amount of printed ephemera.

Arranged in roughly alphabetical order.

b. 1	Correspondence A-C Correspondents include Jim Alisch, Janis Allen, Aubrey Daniels & Associates, Robert Bertholf, Tamara A. Berton, Nat Blalock, and Bill Corbett.	1969-1991
b. 1	Correspondence D-H Correspondents include Becki (Nunnelee) Dahlstedt, Priscilla Dawes, Josie Dubins, Theodore Enslin, Clayton Eshleman, Grant Fisher, Raymond Foye, Richard Grossingers, Stephan Hart, Gary Hausman, Sarah Hayes, and the Herring family.	1970-1994
b. 1	Di Prima, Diane	1970-1999
b. 1	Correspondence I-Mal Correspondents include Kenneth Irby, Joby Kelly, Robert Kelly, Lyn Lifshin, Steven P. Lillybeck, Thomas O. Mabbott, and Gerard Malanga.	1973-1985
b. 1	Correspondence Mar-W Correspondents include Alan Marlowe, John Martin, David Schaff, John Taggart, Mabel Tinjaca, Diane Wakowski, William Welch, and Carol Weston.	1969-1989
b. 1	Lansing, Gerrit	1970-1979
b. 2	Lansing, Gerrit	1983-2000, undated
b. 2	Meyer, Thomas	1969-1982
b. 2	Myers, Jack	1970-1971
b. 2	Nunnelee, Mark Includes two letters from J. Mark Nunnelee to Gerrit Lansing and the Department of Justice.	1969, 2000
b. 2	Nunnelee family Mostly consists of holiday and birthday greeting cards to J. Mark Nunnelee from members of his family including his wife Sharon, sons Britt and Shelley, father Joe, and mother Janice.	1973-1995, undated
b. 2	Rowan, Louis (Lou)	1969-1971
b. 2	Sutterfield, Alan	1966-1970, undated

b. 2	Whitener, Robert E.	1967, 1970, undated
b. 2	Printed ephemera Includes a press release from the Gloucester Lyceum and Sawyer Free Library on Charles Olson, car title, business card, exhibition flyer, concert program, and clipping.	1986-1995

Series II: Photographs, 1970–1997*3 Folders*

This series consists of photographs of J. Mark Nunnelee and friends and family, including Becki (Nunnelee) Dahlstedt, Vincent Ferrini, Gerrit Lansing, and John Wieners.

b. 2	Ammiel Alcalay photograph of J. Mark Nunnelee	circa 1970
b. 2	Ammiel Alcalay photograph of Vincent Ferrini	circa 1970
b. 2	Photographs of J. Mark Nunnelee, Becki (Nunnelee) Dahlstedt, Gerrit Lansing, and John Wieners	1997, undated

Series III: Restau Press records and submissions, 1969–1970

0.25 linear feet (1 box)

This series consists of bookseller lists, submissions to Restau Press, and Restau Press production materials.

b. 3	Bookseller lists	circa 1969
b. 3	Restau <i>2 Folders</i> Files contain typescript submissions and production materials.	1969-1970, undated

Series IV: Printed or photocopied materials, undated*0.5 linear feet (2 boxes) + 1 folder*

Printed or photocopied materials include copies or reproductions of writings by Thomas Meyer, Gerrit Lansing, Robert Duncan, John Wieners, Jack Spicer, and others.

b. 4	Lament for the Makers by Jack Spicer	undated
b. 4	Of Asphodel, in Hell's despite by Judson Poets Theater	undated
b. 4	Writing a composition book for Madison 1953: Stein imitation by Robert Duncan	undated
b. 4	Magic without tears by Aleister Crowley	undated
b. 5	Technographic typography in progress Book I Graphs 1-10 March 1968-May 1967 Thomas Meyer	undated
b. 5	Untitled collection of writings by A. B. Chambers and Gerrit Lansing	undated
b. 7	Notes for the Community of Dialog, the Community of the Little Rose, and the Brotherhood Christian missionary manual with mystical elements	undated

Series V: J. Mark Nunnelee writings and notes, 1970–1993*0.92 linear feet (3 containers)*

J. Mark Nunnelee writings and notes consist of drafts of poems, many corrected, loose and in notebooks. Also includes notes on medieval history, diary entries, and other writings.

b. 5	Green book A leather-bound journal with a handful of entries, including draft poems.	1993
b. 6	Navy notebook Clothbound notebook containing laid-in or pasted-in poems, as well as other writings.	1972 December 30
b. 6	Black binder Includes a history examination book, reading notes, draft poems, and other writings.	circa 1976-1981
b. 7	Notes on medieval history	circa 1976
b. 7	Typescripts and manuscripts <i>3 Folders</i> Includes many manuscript and typescript drafts of poems by Nunnelee, as well as some diary entries and other writings.	circa 1970-1990

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 poetry -- 20th Century
Poetry -- Publishing -- Massachusetts
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Publishers and publishing -- Massachusetts

Occupations

Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Di Prima, Diane, 1934-
Lansing, Gerrit
Meyer, Thomas, 1947-
Nunnelee, J. Mark (Joe Mark), 1943-2001

Corporate Body

Restau Press

Contributors

Restau Press
Nunnelee, J. Mark (Joe Mark), 1943-2001