Metcalf, Paul C.

Paul Metcalf letters to Ted Wilentz
1984–1991
(bulk dates 1984–1985)

Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 099, F842
Creator: Metcalf, Paul C.
Title: Paul Metcalf letters to Ted Wilentz
Bulk Dates: 1984–1985
Extent: 14 items (15 pp.)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 099, F842, Paul Metcalf letters to Ted Wilentz, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Shelving Summary: F842: Shelved in SPEC MSS 099 manuscript boxes

Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/


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Biographical Note

Paul Metcalf was a writer of poetry, plays and prose, who used an experimental style. Metcalf was born in East Milton, Massachusetts, to a New England family whose ancestors included Herman Melville and Roger Williams. One of Metcalf’s best known works is Genoa, a story in which the author alludes to his family's relationship to Melville. In 1987 Paul Metcalf was honored by the American Academy and institute of Arts and Letters. Mr. Metcalf died on January 21, 1999, near Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Sources:

Scope and Content Note


This small collection of ten typed letters and one postcard were written by writer Paul Metcalf to his longtime friend Ted Wilentz, who was the former owner of the Eighth Street Bookshop in New York City. Additionally the collection has a postcard announcing a Metcalf reading, a handwritten thank-you letter from Metcalf's wife Nancy, and a photocopy of a Metcalf's review of a Herman Melville documentary.

Many of the letters regard a poetry reading to be given by Metcalf which was sponsored by the Washington Project for the Arts in 1984. The Metcalfs were guests in the Wilentzes' home during this trip to Washington, D. C., for the reading. In other letters Metcalf commented on his longtime friend, poet Jonathan Williams, who also published several of Metcalf's books.
Selected Search Terms

Personal Names

Metcalf, Paul C.--Correspondence.

Wilentz, Ted.

Topical Terms

American literature--20th century--Sources.

Authors, American--20th century--Sources.

Experimental fiction, American--20th century--Sources.

Form/Genre Terms

Letters (correspondence)

Postcards.

Reviews (document genre)

Personal Contributors

Metcalf, Nancy.

Related Materials in this Repository

This item forms part of MSS 099 Miscellaneous Literary and Historical Manuscripts.
Arrangement

The letters and postcards are arranged in chronological order.
Detailed Description of the Collection


Typed letter signed, 1984 January 10 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed letter signed, 1984 February 14 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed letter signed, 1984 March 2 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed letter signed, 1984 May 7 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed card signed, 1984 June 9 [Box 57 F842]
1 p.

Typed letter signed, 1984 July 10 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope
Includes postcard announcement of Metcalf’s reading for the Washington Project for the Arts on October 20, 1984.

Typed letter signed, 1984 October 12 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed letter signed, 1984 October 23 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope
Included with autograph letter signed from Nancy Metcalf to the Wilentzes.

Typed letter signed, 1985 April 22 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Typed letter signed, 1985 May 27 [Box 57 F842]
1 p. with envelope

Includes photocopy of Metcalf’s review of the television program, "Herman Melville: Damned in Paradise."

Typed letter signed, 1991 April 23 [Box 57 F842]

1 p. with envelope