

The Archive of Women in Theological Scholarship  
The Burke Library  
Union Theological Seminary

Finding Aid for  
**Madeleine Sue Seid-Martin Papers, 1988-1999**



Jill KHGeoffrion (L), Sue Seid-Martin (R)

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Finding Aid prepared by: Susan Cathcart Ketchin, March 2006

### Summary Information

Creator: Madeleine Sue Seid-Martin, 1938 - 1998  
Title: Madeleine Sue Seid-Martin Papers  
Inclusive dates: 1988-1999  
Bulk dates: 1993-1996  
Abstract: Music liturgist, worship director, teacher, composer, and lay leader; teacher of liturgical music at University of Notre Dame, Indiana; Instructor of ritual studies and Music Director at University of St. Thomas School of Divinity, St Paul, Minnesota.  
Musical compositions; draft article; *Passion for Justice*, *Honoring the Void*, *Reimagining* events; Sophia file; correspondence; songbook; courses.  
Sheet music, newsletters; clippings, papers, Mac diskettes.

Size: 0.5 linear feet, 1 Box  
Storage: Onsite storage  
Repository: The Burke Library  
Union Theological Seminary  
3041 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
Phone: 212-851-5612  
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## Administrative Information

Provenance: J. K. H. Geoffrion donated the papers of Madeleine Sue H. Seid-Martin to the Archives of Women in Theological Scholarship in January 2000. The bulk of the papers had been given to her for this purpose by M. Sue H. Seid-Martin's daughter, Leslie Miller.

Access restrictions: This collection is unrestricted.

Preferred Citation: item, folder title, box number, folder number, Madeleine Sue Seid-Martin Papers, Archives of Women in Theological Scholarship, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary.

## Biography

Madeleine Martin, music liturgist, teacher, and lay church leader was born March 11, 1938. After graduation Sue Seid-Martin taught at the Eastman School of Music. Later as a Catholic laywoman, she taught Liturgical music at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana and took part in an organ performance during the dedication of a new organ there in 1978. Following her position at Notre Dame, she became instructor of ritual studies at the University of St. Thomas School of Divinity in St. Paul, Minnesota. From 1982-1991, Seid-Martin served as Music Director to St Paul Seminary School of Divinity in St. Paul. June 1998 found her teaching at the United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, Minnesota. On August 15, 1998, at age 60, Sue Seid-Martin died in Minneapolis.

Seid-Martin played a large role in designing the liturgy of the historically significant "Re-Imagining Event" in November 1993. She worked tirelessly to bring about liturgical and ecclesial reform in the Catholic Church, lobbying eloquently through public speeches and her teaching, and conference work for the ordination of women and for substantive innovations in music and worship. In her own words, she was trying to create the space "where we are truly free to be ourselves." In another context, she spoke of the wisdom of women to be found in overlooked scriptures and traditions and her collected "Sophia stuff" files reflect this. Promoting church music during the post Vatican II years, she was accustomed to being on the cutting edge of church worship expression. Her friends and colleagues said that she was always clear that she was a Catholic and a Christian. Her faith never wavered.

Sue Seid-Martin's publications include:

"When in our music God is glorified", *Clergy Journal*, 73 (2), Nov/Dec 1996

"Rituals of Re-imagining", *Church and Society*, 84, May-June 1994, in papers and presentations from Re-imagining Conf, p 5-135.

*Bring the Feast: Songs from the Re-Imagining Community*, a collection of 47 songs gathered by the Re-Imagining Community, Pilgrim Press, 1998.

## Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection is organized into a single series consisting of the working papers, correspondence and other materials of Seid-Martin related to her work as a music liturgist, worship director, teacher, composer, and lay leader. The materials in this collection span much of her professional career although the bulk of the material is from 1993-1996.

The collection consists of manuscript music, notes, publications, and correspondence related to the liturgical and reform work of MSHSM. One section of the collection consists of papers from the post Reimagining Event steering committee, correspondence, articles and newsletters. The Re-Imagining Community grew out of the Re-Imagining Conference, Minneapolis, 1993. Their records form one of the AWTS collections at The Burke Library. See also [http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/img/assets/6396/ReImaginingCommunity\\_FA2002PDF.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/img/assets/6396/ReImaginingCommunity_FA2002PDF.pdf)

Also included are personal and professional correspondence, lecture notes and drafts, article; works by others and clippings from magazines and newspapers.

## Processing

When the Burke Library acquired Seid-Martin's papers, an attempt was made to maintain the original order. Folded materials were flattened. Newspaper clippings were photocopied on acid free paper. Staples, rubber bands, and metal clips were removed and replaced with plastic clips. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes.

**Contents List**

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Draft article by MSHSM with annotations, May 1, 1996, published as [When in our music God is glorified] <i>Clergy Journal</i> , 73 (2), Nov/Dec 1996; publisher's correspondence, Jan 1996
1	1	2	Hymn music, drafts and copies: Cup of Blessing, ms sheet music for accompaniment; Covenant hymn, ms. sheet music; Letter requesting use at Re-imagining event, 1996
1	1	3	<i>A Controversy in Hymnody: a dramatic skit on Isaac Watts</i> , [Christian Hymnody course project?] by K. Vrudny, 1994
1	1	4	Diary re trip to Russia, typescript, Jan. 6 - 9, 1993
1	1	5	<i>New Threads of Being: Speaking Truth to Power</i> , 1993, College of St. Catherine Theological Insights Program, part 1: program; <i>Honoring the Void, Oct 1, 1993</i> : 2 conference papers, correspondence & articles, clippings, notes
1	1	6	<i>Passion for Justice: a way of the cross inspired by ... Leonardo Boff</i> , 1996, musical drama with intro by MSHSM, ms dedications; poster; notes by MSHSM; Draft of <i>Passion for Justice</i> , annotated by D. Kasbohm, revised 1992; email from T. Cotter, Jan 1996; Copy of partial sheet music ms for, from <i>Passion for Justice</i> , with DK annotations.
1	1	7	Reimagining Event, 1993: Correspondence, clippings, articles
1	1	8	Reimagining Event, 1993: Correspondence, clippings, articles
1	1	9	Reimagining Event, 1993: Correspondence, report, clippings, articles
1	1	10	<i>Sophia Stuff</i> file: <i>Male God Images: Effects and alternatives</i> , position paper by C. Manion-Norgard, 1988; <i>Nocturne</i> chorale program, 1994; articles

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	11	<i>Sophia Stuff</i> file: Collections of songs by Sue Swanson gifted to MSHSM, 1995; <i>What is a grandmother</i> ; Arrival announcement for Katie McGuire, photo; Correspondence; Articles; Prayers & poems; Programs; <i>Scripture as Spiritual resources for women and men today</i> : Program, presentation and ms notes by S. Schneider, 1994
1	1	12	<i>Staying alive – Spirituality and moral community in a culture of violence: a feminist theo-ethical appraisal</i> , lecture by Beverly W. Harrison, Mar 1994: program and ms notes by MSHSM; <i>On the Way of the Cross with St Paul</i> , pamphlet, 1995
1	1	13	<i>Mekea</i> booklet, original paste-up, 1991
1	1	14	Three Mac floppy disks, MSHSM's files from 1993 – 98: disk 1: CV; St Rite's; WOC, Nov 1995; Articles; St Henry's, 1996; Reimagining; John Neumann baptism; misc. disk 2: Reimagining songbook; United Theological Seminary courses, 1994, 1996-98. disk 3: United TS music class, spring 1994; Music and Movement, Summer, 1993; United TS Music/Life/ Church, 1993; United TS Yates inauguration, 1996
1	1	15	Deed of Gift, emails re donation of papers, J. K.H. Geoffrion, 1999