

Edward P. Taylor Library and Archives, Art Gallery of Ontario
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Description & Finding Aid: Elizabeth Chitty Fonds

LA.SC171

Prepared by Tam Rayan, 2022

Fonds overview

Dates of creation:

1975-2021

Extent and medium:

88 cm of textual records

1563 photographs : 962 slides ; 306 prints ; 209 negatives ; 30 contact sheets ; 26 polaroids

237 photographs (jpg)

38 posters

9 technical drawings

4 objects

3 drawing

1 collage

2 audio discs (25 min.)

Name of creator:

Chitty, Elizabeth (1958-)

Administrative/Biographical history:

Elizabeth Chitty (1953-) is an interdisciplinary artist with a focus on performance, installation, video, sound, photography, and dance. She was born in St. Catharines, Ontario and completed an Honours B.A. in Fine Art, Modern Dance Major at York University in 1975. During her early career in the late 70s and early 80s, she quickly became a central figure in the Toronto and Vancouver performance art and New Dance scenes and was associated with artist-run centres 15 Dance Lab, A Space, and Art Metropole. Works created during this period, such as *Mover* (1975), *Drop* (1976), and *Lap* (1977) expanded the vocabulary of dance to explore force and linear movement, often to the point of emotional risk and violence. Using the movement of digital images, sound, and the body, Chitty addressed themes of information technology, media deconstruction, the grammar and syntax of performance, and feminism's relationship with sexual agency. She also experimented with video, producing single-channel video artworks (*Telling Tales* [1979]) as well as incorporating the use of both closed circuit and pre-recorded video in her performance works (*History, Colour TV & You* [1981]). In the late 80s she shifted her focus from staged, interdisciplinary solo performances to the creation of large-scale multimedia spectacles such as *Moral/Passion* (1985) and landscape-based installations such as *Lake* (1990). Inspired by her own Buddhist practice, many of her works have explored the relationship between the body and consciousness to question how we perceive the world, our thoughts, and emotions (*Nature of the Body* [1996]). In 1988, Chitty moved back to the Niagara Peninsula, where she has resided ever since. At this time, she began her long-standing involvement with Indigenous communities in the region and assisted with the development of the local community justice program, Winds of Change Women's Drum Group. The community-based strategies and walking projects that have appeared in Chitty's artistic works since the 90s (*Progress of the Body* [1997], *Earth's Flesh* [2003], *Daylighting* [2016], *Confluence Field Trips* [2016], *The Grass is Still Green* [2017]) are a reflection of her reconciliatory work, as she considers water and its management, concepts of governance and ownership of public space, traditional territory, embodied knowledge, displacement, and historical and contemporary marginalized space and narratives.

In addition to her artistic practice, Chitty has also held roles as an arts administrator, educator, editor, and producer. From 1976-1978, she was the editor for *Spill*, a magazine published by 15 Dance Lab about the New Dance movement. She was the Chair of Trinity Square Video (1982), Managing Director of the Association of National Non-profit Artist-run Centres (1982-1984), Executive Director of St. Catharines and Area Arts Council (2004-2008), and Executive Director of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists, Ontario Chapter (2008-2011). From 1991-2007, Chitty taught Creative Process at the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre. She was a video/media curator for Western Front (1980-1981) and went on to found Cultural Desire Projects (1985-1990) which produced major works by Chitty, Randy & Berenicii, Tanya Mars, and Vera Frenkel.

Chitty has performed and exhibited her work widely across Canada and also internationally in the United Kingdom, the United States, and France. Her video artworks *Demo Model* (1978), *Telling Tales* (1979), *Desire Control* (1981), *Dogmachine* (1981), and *T.V.Love* (1982) are in the collection of the

National Gallery of Canada. In 2017, her exhibition *The Grass is Still Green* was awarded "Exhibit of the Year" at the Ontario Association of Art Galleries' annual awards gala.

Archival history:

The materials now constituting the Elizabeth Chitty fonds were transferred from Elizabeth Chitty to the Art Gallery of Ontario in October 2021.

Immediate source of acquisition or transfer:

AGO Credit line: Gift of Elizabeth Chitty, 2022

Scope and content:

Fonds consists of documentation of Chitty's creative process as an interdisciplinary artist, including plans, notes, technical drawings of set designs, posters, promotional material, press, photographs, scripts, correspondence, grant materials, slides used during performances, and photographs of live performances and installations. Fonds also consists of professional records documenting Chitty's role as an arts administrator and curator with Cultural Desire Projects, Western Front, the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists, the St. Catharines and Area Arts Council, and ANNPAC; speaking notes pertaining to artist talks and conference presentations; as well as drafts and manuscripts pertaining to her editorial and writing work.

Accruals:

Further accruals may be expected.

System of arrangement:

Contains series:

LA.SC171.S1 Project files
 LA.SC171.S2 Art documentation files
 LA.SC171.S3 Curatorial and arts administration files
 LA.SC171.S4 Writing and speaking files
 LA.SC171.S5 Posters and set design materials

Conditions governing use:

Open. Access to Special Collections is by appointment only. Please contact the reference desk for more information.

Conditions governing reproduction:

Copyright is held by the creator or their heirs. Copyright belonging to other parties, such as that of photographs, may still rest with the creator of these items. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission to publish any part of the fonds.

Language/scripts of material:

English and French.

Provenance access point:

Chitty, Elizabeth, 1953-

How to cite this fonds:

Elizabeth Chitty fonds, LA.SC171. Edward P. Taylor Library and Archives, Art Gallery of Ontario.

Series 1: Project files

Dates of creation:

1975-2021

Extent and medium:

66 cm of textual records

879 photographs : 345 slides ; 272 prints ; 208 negatives ; 29 contact sheets ; 26 polaroids

237 photographs (jpg)

4 objects

2 technical drawings

1 drawing

1 collage

2 audio disc (25 min.)

Scope and content:

Series consists of documentation of Elizabeth Chitty's creative process, live performances, installations, exhibitions, video art, and public art projects, including research materials, notes, design sketches, proposals, correspondence, promotional material, press materials, reviews, scripts, photographs of performances, and slides used in live performances. Files are arranged chronologically based on project.

Language

English and French

Notes:

Source of Title Proper:

Title based on the contents of the series. File titles are based on the original file names. Files that were unnamed have been given supplied titles based on the content of the file.

File list:

Title	Extent	Scope and content	Dates of creation	Box-folder
Dances	1 folder of textual records	File consists of promotional poster, choreography, accompanying poetry, and programme for <i>Dances</i> by Chitty, performed at 15 Dance Lab, Toronto. <i>Dances</i> is comprised of four pieces: Ball Dance, Timeline, Tomb, and Polyfil.	1974-1975	1-1
Mover, Retina	1 folder of textual records 11 photographs : prints, b&w ; 21.5 x 14.7 cm or smaller 6 photographs : negatives, b&w ; 35 mm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 25.8 x 18 cm	File consists of photographs, promotional material, newspaper clipping, and notes. Note: Photographs were originally in General Idea envelope.	1975	1-2

Drop	1 folder of textual records 13 photographs : prints, b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm or smaller 5 contact sheets : b&w ; 20 x 10 cm	File consists of photographs and promotional material. Photographs taken by Miriam Adams.	1976	1-3
Systems	1 folder of textual records	File consists of poster and programme.	1976	1-4
Lap	1 folder of textual records 8 photographs : prints, b&w ; 20 x 25.8 cm or smaller	File contains promotional material, reviews, photographs, choreography and performance notes for performances of <i>Lap</i> at St. Paul's Centre, Toronto.	1976-1977	1-5
Lean Cuts	1 folder of textual records 29 photographs : prints, b&w ; 12 x 17.5 cm	File contains photographs, promotional material, and a review. Photographs taken by Thaddeus Holownia.	1977	1-6

Extreme Sin & True Bond Stories	1 folder of textual records 14 photographs : prints, b&w ; 26 x 20 cm or smaller 13 contact sheets : b&w ; 26 x 20 cm or smaller	File contains promotional material, reviews, performance notes, and photographs for the Artspace, Peterborough performance of <i>Extreme Skin</i> and <i>True Bond Stories</i>. Photographs taken by Lynn Rotin.	1977	1-7
Demo Model	1 folder of textual records 26 photographs : b&w prints ; 26 x 20 cm or smaller 26 photographs : col. polaroids ; 10.8 x 8.8 cm	File consists of reviews, promotional material, an interview by Peggy Gale, photographs, and performance notes. Photographs by Jorge Zontal, Rodney Werden, and Hugh Poole.	1978	1-8
Social Studies (Became Telling Tales)	1 folder of textual records 3 photograph : b&w print ; 26 x 20 cm or smaller	File contains photographs and a copy of Videonet's periodical which contains an interview with Chitty. <i>Social Studies</i> was an early performance art version of the video <i>Telling Tales</i>, performed for Videonet at the Alberta College of Art Gallery. Photographs by Daria Hargrave.	1979	1-9
Telling Tales	1 folder of textual records 9 photographs : b&w negatives ;	File contains photographs, press release, script, newspaper clipping, and a collage used to make a poster promoting <i>Telling Tales</i>, which was performed by Chitty at Western Front in Vancouver as Artist in Residence.	1979	2-1

	35 mm 7 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm or smaller 1 collage : photographs , text, and transparenc y, b&w ; 28 x 21.5 cm	Photographs by Corry Wyngaarden, Hank Bull, and Daria Hargrave.		
History, Colour T.V. & You	1 folder of textual records. 24 photographs : prints, b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm 35 photographs : b&w negatives ; 35 mm 14 photographs : col. slides 1 photograph : b&w print, mounted on cardboard ; 20 x 25.5 cm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of correspondence, live performance slides, newspaper clippings, reviews, rough drafts and final copy of script, exhibition catalogue for Agit.Prop, a performance art series in Banff, Alberta where Chitty performed <i>History, Colour T.V. & You</i> , photographs, promotional material for performances at the Music Gallery in Toronto, at A Space in Toronto, at Western Front in Vancouver. Photographs by Douglas Sharpe, Corry Wyngaarden, Jim Gorman, Hugh Poole, Ric Amis, Eric Metcalf.	1980-1981	2-2

Handicap	1 folder of textual records 17 photographs : col. slides 46 photographs : b&w negatives : 35 mm 16 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm or smaller 4 contact sheets : b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm or smaller 1 photograph : b&w print, mounted on cardboard ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of live performance slides, newspaper clippings, an interview in <i>Slate</i> magazine, correspondence, research material, reviews, drafts of script, press releases, and photographs pertaining to the performance of <i>Handicap</i> at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Photographs by Robert Barnett	1980	2-3
Desire Control	1 folder of textual records 8 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm 8 photographs : col. slides	File consists of photographs by Ric Amis, financial documents, script, research material, poster for Winnipeg Video Forum at Plug-In Gallery, press release, synopsis, a feature in Art Metrople's Top 100, and slides used in the <i>Desire Control</i> video.	1981	2-4

Dogmachine	1 folder of textual records 4 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm 18 photographs : b&w negatives ; 35 mm	File consists of photographs, newspaper clippings, correspondence, financial documents, poster, and screening schedules for Video/Video and Winnipeg Video Forum '81 pertaining to the production and showing of the video <i>Dogmachine</i>. Photographs by Jane Ellison	1981	2-5
T.V. Love	1 folder of textual material 9 photographs : b&w prints ; 25.5 x 20 cm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 25.5 x 20 cm	File contains photographs by Ric Amis and a promotional poster for Mendel Art Gallery's Prime Time Video, which featured Chitty's video work <i>T.V. Love</i>.	1982	3-1

Moral/Passion	1 folder of textual records 11 photographs : b&w and col. prints ; 20 x 20.5 cm or smaller 33 photographs : col. negatives ; 60 mm	File consists of newspaper clippings, synopsis, posters, photographs, stage production notes for flaming fountain prop, Cultural Desire Projects Report pertaining to the performance and production of <i>Moral/Passion</i> in collaboration with Paul Hodge, David Hlynsky, Jim Plaxton, Susan Swan, Mary Wright, Shelagh Young, Ricardo Abreut, Berenicci, Margaret Dragu, and Alan Rosenthal.	1984-1986	3-2
[Moral/Passion Scripts]	1 folder of textual records	File consists of first, second, and final drafts of script and rehearsal schedule.	1984-1986	3-3
[Moral/Passion Slides]	249 photographs : col. slides	File consists of slides used during the performance of <i>Moral/Passion</i> .	1984-1986	3-4
[Carolinian Forest]	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a programme for <i>Carolinian Forest</i> , a tour and performance at Twenty Mile Creek in the Jordan Valley by Elizabeth Chitty and Charles Chitty.	[1989]	3-5
Lake Scripts	1 folder of textual records	File consists of second and third drafts and an unlabeled draft of <i>Lake</i> and drafts of the introductory text.	1990	3-6
Lake	1 folder of textual records 20 photographs : col. slides	File consists of poster, programme, live performance slides, newspaper clippings, reviews, description of project process, research material, and notes. Note: The slides have an accompanying note which states "It appears the Lake binder of slides by David Hlynsky is gone. These were rescued from slide trays for talks. EC 2021"	1990-1991	3-7

The View of the Landscape from Here	1 folder of textual records 36 photographs : b&w negatives : 35 mm 2 photographs : b&w prints ; 25.5 x 20 cm	File consists of contracts with Niagara Artists' Centre, audiotape text, synopsis, cast and crew list, notes, correspondence, exhibition card, and photographs pertaining to the video installation <i>The View of the Landscape from Here</i> .	1990-1991	3-8
Hortus – NAC/Rodman	1 folder of textual records 21 photographs : col. slides	File consists of exhibition card, correspondence, programmes, description of performance, walking guide instructions, research material, floor plan, newspaper clippings, grant application, proposal, and performance slides pertaining to the performance of <i>Hortus Imaginum</i> at Rodman Hall Arts Centre for Niagara Artists' Centre's 22 nd anniversary.	1992	4-1
Two Row Wampum	1 folder of textual records	File consists of promotional material, correspondence, and programme for the exhibition, <i>Two Row Wampum</i> .	1992	4-2
Theatrum Silvaticae	1 folder of textual records	File consists of research material, program notes, choreography, scripts, and sketches for the performance of <i>Theatrum Silvaticae</i> which Chitty performed at <i>Two Row Wampum</i> .	1992	4-3
Plug In/Tyne International Unrealized	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence and project proposal for an installation that was not selected for Tyne International.	1992-1993	4-4

Tunnel Vision Ecolage - Unrealized	1 folder of textual records	File consists of competition guidelines for ECOLAGE, the Environmental Public Art Ideas Competition for the Lower Don River Valley, press release, competitor listing, poster, and proposal for <i>Tunnel Vision</i> , an installation designed by Chitty that was not selected for the competition.	1993-1994	4-5
Isadora Speaks	1 folder of textual records	File consists of research material, project description, notes, and a tasks list.	1993	4-6
Toronto Sculpture Garden	1 folder of textual records 1 technical drawing : b&w ; 60 x 37.5 cm (folded)	File consists of proposal, design, correspondence, and notes pertaining to the installation <i>Our Hearts, Refuge</i> for the Toronto Sculpture Garden.	1994	4-7
Breath and the Heart, Listening	1 folder of textual records	File consists of project description, correspondence, and poster for <i>Fiesta Cultural</i> , during which Chitty installed <i>Breath and the Heart, Listen</i> Note: Folder has a typo. Name of the work is <i>Breath and the Heart, Listen</i> .	1994	4-8
Le Paysage et nos Coeurs	1 folder of textual records 10 photographs : col. slides	File consists of project description, correspondence, notes, research materials, and live performance slides used in the performance of <i>Le Paysage et nos Coeurs</i> , part of "Cuesta", a Niagara/Saguenay-Lac St. Jean Artist Exchange.	1994	4-9
Le Jardin de Jacques Cartier Unrealized	1 folder of textual records	File consists of proposal, design, and notes, for a garden installation <i>Le Jardin de Jacques Cartier</i> that was not selected.	1995	4-10

Breath of Life – Harbourfront Artists' Gardens	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, financial documents, research materials, submission requirements and information documents, and Chitty's project design for the Harbourfront Artists' Gardens competition.	1995	4-11
Nature of the Body	1 folder of textual records 1 contact sheet : b&w ; cut up into sections 2 photographs : col. prints ; 25.5 x 20 cm 6 photographs : col. slides	File consists of drafts and final copy of artist book, project description, budget, photographs, correspondence, programme, press, exhibition proposal for Terre Commune/Common Ground, a Quebec/Ontario artist exchange.	1996	4-12
[Nature of the Body – Gobo Plates]	2 gobo plates : metal	File consists of two gobo templates, one of a pair of lungs and the other of a brain, used in the set design of <i>Nature of the Body</i> . Note: Objects were originally interfiled with 4-12, but were separated for conservation. Accompanying note: "Gobo (pattern plate) in holder. Part of 'Nature of the Body' (to be inserted in a leko lighting instrument)."	1996	4-13
Breath and the Heart, Thinking	1 folder of textual records	File consists of project description, exhibition card, videotape text, budget and financial documents, artist statement, correspondence, and notes.	1997	4-14

7a*11d – Progress of the Body	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, promotional material, silk swatches, artist contract, drafts of chant used in performance, research material, proposal, and poster for the 7a*11d performance art festival during which Chitty performed <i>Progress of the Body</i> .	1997	4-15
Bloodbird	1 folder of textual records 5 photographs : col. prints ; 10 x 15 cm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 25.5 x 20 cm	File includes exhibition cards, photographs of a bird in flight, project description and artist statement, correspondence, promotional material, draft installation schedule, installation design, research material, artist contract and expenditure list pertaining to the installation <i>Bloodbird</i> .	1998	4-16
Bloodbird Gobo	1 gobo plate : metal	File consists of one gobo template used in the set design of the <i>Bloodbird</i> installation. Note: Objects were originally interfiled with 4-16, but were separated for conservation.	1998	4-17
Boat, Thinking - Unrealized	1 folder of textual records 1 technical drawing : b&w ; 60 x 37.5 cm (folded)	File consists of Toronto Sculpture Garden proposal for a work that was not selected, correspondence, and competition information including a technical drawing of the Toronto Sculpture Garden.	2000	5-1

Earth's Flesh	1 folder of textual records 1 audio disc (11 min., 41 sec.) : 1 track, digital ; 12 cm	File consists of sound notes for performance, correspondence, notes, letter of agreement between Chitty and other collaborators Penny Couchie and Neil Meikleham, studio license agreements, expenditure lists, project description, soundtrack, and promotional material for Shared Habitat 2 during which Chitty performed <i>Earth's Flesh</i> .	2003	5-2
Song for a Blue Moon Research	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, research material, newspaper clippings, and articles, primarily pertaining to the Esgenoopetitj (Burnt Church) conflict and Mi'kmaq fishing rights.	1997-2003	5-3
Esgenoopetitj	2 folders of textual records	File consists of correspondence, research material, newspaper clippings, and articles about the Esgenoopetitj (Burnt Church) conflict and Mi'kmaq fishing rights which influenced <i>Song for a Blue Moon</i> . Note: Contents of file were originally in a binder but have been rehoused into folders.	2002	5-4 to 5-5
Song for a Blue Moon	1 folder of textual records 1 audio disc (13 min., 54 sec.) : digital ; 12 cm	File includes promotional material, lyrics, soundtrack composed by Wende Bartley, project description, reviews, scripts, artists, contract, correspondence, Inter-Arts grant report, sheet music score pertaining to <i>Song for a Blue Moon</i> which premiered at Tangente Danse Actuelle, Montreal.	2002-2004	5-6

Guardian of Niagara	1 folder of textual records 22 photographs : b&w and col. prints ; 25.5 x 20 cm or smaller	File consists of reproduction requests and source photographs used to create the <i>Guardian of Niagara</i> series: The Great Lakes (2007), The Soft Fruit Industry (2009), The Creative Economy (2018).	2007-2018	5-7
April 23 & Here	1 folder of textual records	File consists of choreographer agreement, reviews, technical notes for performance, performance text, and promotional material for <i>April 23 & Here</i> which Chitty choreographed for Toronto Dance Theatre's 12 Solos and Louis Laberge-Côté danced.	2007	5-8
Grab – Fly & Fall	1 folder of textual records	File consists of invoices, artist statements, gallery protocols for installation, newspaper clippings, notes for artist talk, exhibition materials, correspondence, exhibition contracts, and grant materials pertaining to the installation of <i>Fly</i> and <i>Fall</i> at Grimsby Public Art Gallery.	2008	5-9
History, Colour T.V. & You – Banff	1 folder of textual records	File consists of script, correspondence, technical requirements list, press, expense list, letter of agreement, and exhibition materials for <i>Bureau de change</i> at the Walter Phillips Gallery, The Banff Centre during which Chitty performed <i>History, Colour T.V.</i> and <i>You</i> .	2008	5-10
Tulip Tree Leaf Bike Rack – Unrealized	1 folder of textual records 1 drawing : b&w, pen on cardstock ; 22 x 27 cm	File consists of correspondence, proposal, notes, and a sketch of Chitty's design of a tulip tree leaf-shaped bike rack for Niagara Public Art Program that was not selected.	2008	5-11

Hamilton Artists Inc.	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, exhibition card, notes for artist talk, and artist statement pertaining to Chitty's solo exhibition at Hamilton Artists Inc.	2009	5-12
The Wheels on the Bus	1 folder of textual records 25 photographs : col. negatives ; 35 mm 25 photographs : col. prints ; 15.5 x 10 cm 1 contact sheet : col. ; 15.5 x 10 cm	File consists of artist statement, plant list, sketch of garden, budget list, correspondence, and photographs of <i>The Wheels on the Bus</i> a garden that Chitty designed for the Artist's Garden in the Garden City project.	2009	5-13
Want	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a card handed to participants at the performance.	2009	5-14
The Strawberry and its Cultivation in Canada – Unrealized	1 folder of textual records	File consists of proposal and information documents pertaining to the unselected public art sculpture, <i>The Strawberry and its Cultivation</i> by the artist collective Two Lakes Laughing comprised of Chitty and Berenicci Hershorn.	2010	5-15
Greenbelt – Gallery 1313	1 folder of textual records	File consists of artist contract and programmes for the 5 th annual anniversary celebration of Ontario's Greenbelt, during which Chitty exhibited <i>Guardian of Niagara: The Soft Fruit Industry</i> at Gallery 1313.	2010	5-16

Distance of their Mouths	1 folder of textual records	File consists of drafts of the libretto composed by Chitty, newspaper clippings, drafts of sheet music composed by Rose Bolton, and correspondence pertaining to the production of <i>Distance of their Mouths</i> , a multi-media music composition performed by the Gallery Players of Niagara.	2009-2011	5-17
Dissolve – NDC	1 folder of textual records	File consists of audience instructions, performance text, choreographer agreement, correspondence and programmes for <i>Merge</i> at the Niagara Dance Compay, which featured <i>Dissolve</i> , choreographed and conceptualized by Chitty.	2012	5-18
Streaming Twelve	1 folder of textual records 236 photographs (jpg) (10.2 MB) : col.	File consists of research material, exhibition agreement between Chitty and Rodman Hall Art Centre, poster and programmes pertaining to <i>The Source: Rethinking Water Through Contemporary Art</i> which featured Chitty's installation <i>Streaming Twelve</i> .	2014	6-1
Sweet Light – Unrealized	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a grant application to the Ontario Arts Council to support the production of <i>Sweet Light</i> , a multi-media performance that was not selected for a project grant.	2014	6-2
AGYU – Is Toronto Burning?	1 folder of textual records	File consists of the Art Gallery of York University (AGYU) Fall 2014 newsletter and a programme for the exhibition "Is Toronto Burning? Three Years in the Making (and Unmaking) of the Toronto Art Scene" which featured Chitty's <i>Demo Model</i> video.	2014	6-3

Lucius' Garden	1 folder of textual records 1 photograph (1.26 MB) (jpg) : b&w	File consists of expenditure list, exhibition card, technical requirements, research photograph, rules for performers, letters of agreement for performance and installation of <i>Lucius' Garden</i> at <i>In the Soil Arts Festival</i> .	2015	6-4
Confluence Field Trips	1 folder of textual records 1 object : metal case with 5 pins stuck to green felt	File consists of expense list, correspondence, a printed map of the Merritt Trail, notes, pins, and programmes for City Treaty and Art is in the City, during which Chitty led <i>Confluence Field Trips</i> , a series of walking tours.	2015-2016	6-5
The Grass is Still Green	1 folder of textual records	File consists of exhibition agreement between Chitty and Rodman Hall Art Centre, exhibition programmes, and programme for the Ontario Association of Art Galleries 2017 Awards in which <i>The Grass is Still Green</i> won "Exhibit of the Year".	2016	6-6
Daylighting	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a programme for the 2016 7a*11d festival during which Chitty performed <i>Daylighting</i> .	2016	6-7
Swallow	1 folder of textual records	File consists of exhibition programme for the Art Gallery of Windsor, a letter of permission to copyrighted material from the Canadian Hydrographic Service, a history of the Detroit River dredging, and technical requirements for <i>Swallow</i> .	2018	6-8
Power	1 folder of textual records	File consists of exhibition card, newspaper clipping, letters of agreement, insurance documents for walking on the Canadian side of the Niagara river, and research material. File also includes the guest book for the exhibition.	2021	6-9

Series 2: Art documentation files

Dates of creation:

1975-1998

Extent and medium:

601 photographs : b&w and col. slides ; 1 print

Scope and content:

Series comprises photographic documentation of Chitty's live performances, installations, public art projects, and video art.

Notes:*Source of Title Proper:*

Title based on the contents of the series. File titles are based on the original file names. Files that were unnamed have been given supplied titles based on the content of the file.

Arrangement:

All slides were originally housed together in two binders with dividers marking each project. They have been separated by the processing archivist into files based on project with the original order maintained.

File list:

Title	Extent	Scope and content	Dates of creation	Box-folder
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[Early Works]	88 photographs : b&w and col. slides 1 photograph : b&w print ; 25.5 x 20 cm	File consists of slides documenting performances of <i>Ball Dance</i> , <i>Mover</i> , <i>Drop</i> , <i>Lap</i> , <i>Lean Cuts</i> , <i>Extreme Skin</i> , <i>True Bond Stories</i> , <i>Demo Model</i> , and <i>Handicap</i> and a photograph of Chitty wearing <i>Wooden Bikini</i> , which was designed by Tanya Mars and exhibited at Chromaliving Fashion Show. Photograph taken by Suzy King. Note: <i>Wooden Bikini</i> was originally in a folder marked "Misc Photos" and was added this file by the processing archivist.	1975-1983	6-10
Moral/Passion (workshop)	20 photographs : col. slides		1984	6-11
Moral/Passion	60 photographs : col. slides	File consists of slides documenting performance and a list of scenes.	1985	6-12
Lake (workshop)	24 photographs : col. slides		1990	6-13
Lake	80 photographs : col. slides		1990	6-14
The View of the Landscape from Here	37 photographs : col. slides		1990	6-15
Hortus Imaginum	39 photographs : col. slides		1992	6-16
Theatrum Silvaticae	16 photographs : col. slides		1992	6-17
Isadora Speaks	5 photographs : col. slides		1993	6-18

Le Paysage et nos Coeurs	27 photographs : col. slides	1994	6-19
Découvrant le Coeur	20 photographs : col. slides	1994	6-20
Breath of the Heart, Listen	31 photographs : col. slides	1994	6-21
Breath of Life	7 photographs : col. slides	1995	6-22
Nature of the Body	58 photographs : col. slides	1996	7-1
Progress of the Body	19 photographs : col. slides	1997	7-2
Breath and the Heart, Thinking	18 photographs : col. slides	1997	7-3
Bloodbird	29 photographs : col. slides	1998	7-4

Series 3: Curatorial and arts administration files

Dates of creation:

1979-2012

Extent and medium:

12 cm of textual records

50 photographs : 33 prints ; 16 slides ; 1 contact sheet

1 technical drawing

Scope and content:

Series comprises posters, correspondence, programmes, photographs, and budget lists pertaining to exhibitions and works Chitty curated as part of Cultural Desire Projects, Western Front, and as an independent curator. Series also comprises documentation of Chitty's work as an arts administrator in the St. Catharines region.

Notes:

Source of Title Proper:

Title based on the contents of the series. File titles are based on the original file names. Files that were unnamed have been given supplied titles based on the content of the file.

Arrangement:

Files have been arranged chronologically by the processing archivist.

File list:

Title	Extent	Scope and content	Dates of creation	Box-folder
Recent Pasts – A Space	1 folder of textual records	File consists of programme, newspaper clippings, and a poster for Recent Pasts, an exhibition curated by Chitty featuring performances by Anna Blewchamp, Margaret Dragu, Janice Hladki, Johanna Householder, and Louise Garfield.	1979	7-5
Western Front	1 folder of textual records 3 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of correspondence and a programme relating to Chitty's position as Video Coordinator for Western Front Video Productions and Western Front's 20 th anniversary.	1979-1980 1992	7-6

[ANNPAC]	2 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of two photographs of Chitty as Managing Director of the Association of National Non-profit Artist-run Centres.	1982-1983	7-7
Opening Reception [Moral/Passion]	1 folder of textual records 17 photographs : col. prints ; 12.5 x 9 cm 4 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm 1 contact sheet : b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of business cards, biographies, photographs, and press release for the opening reception of <i>Moral/Passion</i> curated as the first projected of Cultural Desire Projects.	1985-1986	7-8
[Randy & Berenicci and Tanya Mars]	1 folder of textual records 7 photographs : b&w prints ; 20 x 25.5 cm	File consists of photographs, programme, and promotional posters for Randy & Berenicci's <i>Dance of Delirium</i> and Tanya Mars' <i>Pure Nonsense</i> which were both performed at the Music Gallery and curated by Cultural Desire Projects. Photographs taken by David Hlynsky and Judy Whalen.	1987	7-9
Vera Project	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence with Vera Frenkel, correspondence with British artists interested in participating in the artwork, press regarding Frenkel's past work, grant application to Toronto Arts Council, and notes pertaining to the planning of <i>Mad for Bliss</i> by Vera Frenkel, curated by Cultural Desire Projects. Note: In the file, the work is referred to by its working title "Some Enchanted Evening or Other – The Story of the World".	1987-1988	7-10

Vera Project – Production	2 folders of textual records	File consists of correspondence, memos, budget lists, drafts of script, requests for permission to use published material, price estimates for props, sketches of tableaux, and meeting minutes related to the production of <i>Mad for Bliss</i> .	1988-1989	7-11 to 7-12
Vera Project – Budget	1 folder of textual records		[1988]-[1989]	7-13
Vera Project – Actors' Equity	1 folder of textual records	File consists of guest artist contract, policy documents, and correspondence pertaining to the hiring of Canadian Actors' Equity Association members for the production of <i>Mad for Bliss</i> .	1989	7-14
Vera Project – Publicity (Elizabeth's File)	1 folder of textual records	File consists of reviews, newspaper clippings, drafts and final copy of press release, and programme card pertaining to the performance of <i>Mad for Bliss</i> at The Music Gallery, Toronto.	1989	7-15
Lake: Arena Contract	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence and contract between William (Bill) H. Bolton Arena and Cultural Desire Projects for the performance of <i>Lake</i> .	1990	7-16
Lake Plans: Bill Bolton Arena	1 technical drawing ; 79.5 x 48.6 cm (folded)	File consists of a technical drawing of the Bill Bolton Arena.	1990	7-18
Lake: Letters of Agreement	1 folder of textual records	File consists of letters of agreement from artists Odette Oliver, Pamela Grundy, Helen Jones, Sandra Whitely, and Steve Clelland, and a letter of resignation from David Golden.	1990	8-1

St. Catharines – Misc. Roles	1 folder of textual records	File consists of newspaper clippings, policy documents for the City of St. Catharines Cultural Policy Steering Committee, press regarding the Laura Sabia Award which was presented to Chitty in 2000, a film proposal to the Aboriginal Dinner Theatre Steering Committee, press regarding Chitty's appointment as the executive director of the St. Catharines and Area Arts Council, and Women of Distinction Awards Gala Nominee for the YWCA Niagara Region.	1990, 1999- 2011	8-2
Jorge Zontal	1 folder of textual records	File consists of invitation cards for the fiftieth birthday and the memorial of Jorge Zontal.	1994	8-4
David Buchan: Man About Town	1 folder of textual records	File consists of exhibition card and catalogue for <i>David Buchan: Man About Town</i> curated by Chitty and held at the Grimsby Public Art Gallery.	1996	8-5
Art at Glendale	1 folder of textual records 16 photographs : col. slides	File consists of photographs, newspaper clipping, promotional material, and call for entries for the Niagara College Glendale Campus Open Art Competition, of which Chitty was the Art Competition Coordinator.	2000	8-6
[Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists]	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a report for the Microfinance for Artists Research Project, a CADA Professional Standards for Dance, and Chitty's business card as Executive Director of CADA.	2011-2012	8-7

Series 4: Writing and speaking files

Dates of creation:

1976-2011

Extent and medium:

10 cm of textual records

2 photographs : 1 print, 1 negative

1 poster

Scope and content:

Series comprises material pertaining to Chitty's publications, artist talks, grant applications, and her work as a facilitator and mediator.

Notes:*Source of Title Proper:*

Title based on the contents of the series. File titles are based on the original file names. Files that were unnamed have been given supplied titles based on the content of the file.

Arrangement:

Files were originally interfiled with project files, but have been separated and arranged chronologically by the processing archivist.

File [Item] list:

Title	Extent	Scope and content	Dates of creation	Box-folder
Spill	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a copy of the first issue of <i>Spill</i> , edited by Chitty.	June 1976	8-8

C.V.s – Old	1 folder of textual records 1 photograph : b&w print ; 20 x 25.5 cm 1 photograph : b&w negative ; 10 x 12.5 cm	File consists of a portrait of Chitty, photographed by Jorge Zontal and C.V.s from various periods of Chitty's career.	1980-1997	8-9
Artexte	1 folder of textual records	File consists of lists of Chitty's publications and correspondence with Artexte Information Centre concerning her dossier within their library collection.	1981-1999	8-10
No Political Interference in the Arts	1 poster : col. ; 36 x 22 cm	File consists of a poster entitled "No political inference in the arts" for a public forum at Toronto City Hall organized by Citizens for the Arts.	1982	8-11
VAG Lecture	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, lecture notes, and flyer for Chitty's artist talk at the Vancouver Art Gallery.	1991	8-12
[Dance Collection Danse]	1 folder of textual records	File consists of copies of <i>Dance Collection Danse's</i> issue nos. 35 and 51 in which Chitty published articles.	1993, 1991	8-13
A Space Anniversary	1 folder of textual records	File consists of newspaper clippings, programmes, poster, correspondence, lecture notes, and artist contract pertaining to A Space's 25 th anniversary, during which Chitty gave an artist talk.	1996	8-14
National Gallery	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, invoice, and contracts pertaining to Chitty's works in the National Gallery of Canada's collection.	1996-2001	8-15

Prendre Parole	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, invitation for launch, and article drafts for the publication <i>So, to Speak</i> which solicited reflections from Canadian artists. This publication was part of Artexte's collection <i>Prendre Parole</i> .	1997-1999	8-16
Not Just Any Body	1 folder of textual records	File consists of conference programme, paper proposal, and paper for "Not Just Any Body: A Global Conference to Advance Health, Well-being and Excellence in Dance and Dancers" and its associated publication which Chitty contributed an essay.	1999	8-17
An Interview with Elizabeth Chitty	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a student's essay based on an interview with Chitty. The essay is missing its author.	1999	8-18
[Mediation and Facilitation]	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a brochure for Chitty's facilitation and mediation services and a copy of the "Three Fires Community Justice Program" which Chitty wrote and facilitated at the Fort Erie Friendship Centre.	2001	8-19
Chalmers Arts Fellowships	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, application, and materials for the Chalmers Arts Fellowships 2002-2003 awards ceremony, during which Chitty was awarded a fellowship to support the creation of <i>Shared Habitat</i> and the <i>Garden Project</i> as well as write an essay for <i>More Caught in the Act</i> edited by Joanna Householder and Tanya Mars.	2002-2003	8-20
Shared Habitat – Symposium	1 folder of textual records	File consists of symposium booklet, rough notes, presentation notes, artist statement, promotional material, and correspondence pertaining to a presentation Chitty gave at Shared Habitat II: Dance and Biology symposium.	2002	8-21

RAFT Web-Streaming Project	1 folder of textual records	File consists of correspondence, meeting notes, newspaper clippings, activity sheets, project description, Ontario Arts Council grant application, final report for the Resource Association for Teens (RAFT) Web Streaming project created by Chitty, Alexandra Hlinyanszky, and Joe Lapinski which introduced youth to digital art skills and tools.	2004-2007	8-22
Chalmers Fellowship	1 folder of textual records	File consists of a Chalmers Arts Fellowships application and results announcement for the 2007 competition of which Chitty was unsuccessful.	2007	8-23
Schulich Class CARFAC National	1 folder of textual records	File consists of speaker's notes and a flyer for the Canadian Artists' Representation/Le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC) labour workshops during which Chitty was on a panel.	2011	8-24
Models of Consensus: The First Nations Example	1 folder of textual records	File consists of an essay written by Chitty for an independent study project, supervised by Anne Innis Dagg. Note: In 2025 the artist provided some additional information about this paper, which is included with the file for added context.	1997	8-25

Series 5: Posters and set design materials

Dates of creation:

1975-1994

Extent and medium:

6 technical drawings

2 drawings

37 posters

Scope and content:

Series comprises design materials for performances, including dance notation, ground plans, tableaux designs and stage/set designs for works that Chitty created or curated in addition to posters for works that Chitty created or was involved with.

Notes:

Source of Title Proper:

Title based on the contents of the series. File titles are based on the original file names. Files that were unnamed have been given supplied titles based on the content of the file.

Arrangement:

The files and items within this series were originally organized together in the same box by the creator. In order to preserve this arrangement, they have been intellectually arranged within the same series but oversize items have been physically separated due to their storage needs.

File [Item] list:

Title	Extent	Scope and content	Dates of creation	Box-folder
[Mad for Bliss Tableaux Designs]	3 technical drawings ; 46.7 x 77 cm Scale 1/2" = 1'	File consists of set designs for each of the 6 tableaux in Vera Frenkel's <i>Mad for Bliss</i> curated by Cultural Desire Projects.	1987	9-1
[Lake Set Design]	3 technical drawings : 91.2 x 61.5 or smaller Scale 1/8" = 1'	File consists of 2 copies of a ground plan and cross-section for the set design of <i>Lake</i> created by Jak Oliver and a blue print of the Bill Bolton Arena which the set design was based upon.	1990	Oversize d folder 1

[Theatrum Silvaticae Choreography]	1 drawing : pencil on graphite paper ; 35.5 x 45.5 cm	File consists of a sketch of the stage with dance notation and path mapping for the performance of <i>Theatrum Silvaticae</i> .	1992	9-2
[Hortus Imaginum Set Design]	1 drawing : pencil on graphite paper ; 55.2 x 45.5 cm	File consists of a sketch of the walking tour taken through Six Mile Creek featuring the different sites used for performance and sound or visual landscape-based art. Note: Not drawn to scale.	1992	9-3
[Lake Poster]	1 poster : col. ; 57.7 x 87 cm	Note: Poster was originally loose and folded in the back of the poster portfolio.	1990	Oversize d folder 1
[Posters]	36 posters : in portfolio, col. and b&w ; 87 x 55 cm or smaller	File consists of posters from Chitty's own works as well as other artists' works that she was involved with.	1975-1994	9-4
