

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
S1239 (SA4449, SA4451)
ELAINE VIETS PAPERS

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis. If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org.

Introduction

Approximately 12 cubic feet

The Elaine Viets Papers contains correspondence, copy-edited manuscripts, photographs, books, and newspaper clippings pertaining to her career as a columnist for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (1972-1997) and mystery writer of the *Francesca Vierling*, *Dead-End Job*, and *Josie Marcus, Mystery Shopper* series. Materials of interest include correspondence from fans of Viets's mystery novels wishing her well after her stroke in 2007, as well as photographs from Viets's book tours and the set of *Viets Beat*, a KMOV talk show Viets hosted in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Also included in this collection are scrapbooks containing Viets's columns for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, written between 1972 and 1995. The newspaper clippings are incomplete, however, as they do not contain her St. Louis Post-Dispatch columns written from 1996 to 1997.

Notes

The 'weirdos' file in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* series contains explicit material that some may consider offensive. Patron discretion is advised.

Donor Information

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Elaine Viets on October 22, 2019 (Accession No. SA4449). An addition was made on October 25, 2019 by Elaine Viets (Accession No. SA4451).

Copyright and Restrictions

Copyright held by Elaine Viets.

Box List

Box 1

Correspondence, 2007 (11 folders)

Box 2

Angela Richman, Death Investigator, plot outlines and manuscript drafts, 2015-2016
Dead-End Job Series

Shop Till You Drop

Plot outline and initial draft, 2002-2003

Version one, 2002-2003 (2 folders)

Version two, 2002-2003 (2 folders)

Version three, 2002-2003 (2 folders)

Uncorrected proof, 2002-2003

Murder Between the Covers

Plot outline and sample chapter and prologue, 2002-2003

S1239 (SA4449, SA4451)
ELAINE VIETS PAPERS

Copy edits, 2002-2003 (2 folders)
Version one, 2002-2003

Box 3

Dying to Call You, research, and book drafts, 2003-2004 (2 folders)
Just Murdered, 2004-2005
Murder with Reservations
 First version, November 1, 2005
 Copy edits, 2006 (5 folders)
 Final version, 2006
Killer Cuts, page proofs, 2009 (2 folders)

Box 4

Final Sail
 Copy edits, 2012
 Rewrites, 2012
Museum exhibit, 2005
Research, photographs of Ferrari dealership, no date
Pumped for Murder, research and outline, 2010
Josie Marcus, Mystery Shopper
Dying in Style
 Copy edits, 2004-2005 (5 folders)
 Page proofs, 2004-2005
High Heels are Murder
 Proposal and copy edits, 2005-2006
 Copy edits, 2005-2006

Box 5

Accessory to Murder, copy edits, 2006-2007 (4 folders)
Francesca Vierling
Backstab
 Overview and original manuscript, 1996-1997
 Manuscript draft, 1996-1997
Rubout and Leather and Lace Murders, 1997-1998
Rubout, copy edits, 1997-1998 (4 folders)
The Pink Flamingo Murders, copy edits, 1998-1999 (2 folders)

Box 6

The Pink Flamingo Murders, copy edits, 1998-1999 (4 folders)
Doc in the Box, copy edits, 1999-2000 (2 folders)
Research for untitled murder mystery, 2001
The Three Bears, 2001
Urban Affairs
 Audiobook, 1990 (2 cassettes)
 Audio script, 1990
 Contract and script, 1990-1993

S1239 (SA4449, SA4451)
ELAINE VIETS PAPERS

Photographs of stage play and promotional advertisements, 1989-1990
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Correspondence and photographs, 1971-1990
Correspondence (weirdos), 1975-1995
Drafts of articles, 1974
Newspaper clippings, 1972-1974 (2 folders)

Box 7

Programs featuring Elaine Viets, 1992-1999
Scientology expose
 Scientology articles written by Viets, 1974
 Scientology courses, 1969-1973 (2 folders)
 The Background and Ceremonies of the Church of Scientology of California, World Wide, 1970
 Scientology: A World Religion Emerges in the Space Age, 1973
 What is Scientology? 1978
University of Missouri and UMSL
 Correspondence and invitation, 1971-1972
 Early stories written by Viets for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and the *National Observer*, 1971
 Notebooks, 1969-1971 (5 folders)
 Report cards and Bulletin for the University of Missouri-Columbia, 1969-1972

Box 8

Term papers and stories written by Viets for the *Columbia Missourian*, 1971-1972
High School, correspondence, school work, and certificates, 1967-1968
Photographs and Audio Visual
 3720 Utah Place (Viets former St. Louis residence), 1995-1999
 Book tour for *Doc in the Box*, St. Louis, 2000
 Book signings and talks, 1995-2003
 Bud Dieckmeyer and cover shots for the *Viets Guide to Sex, Travel, and Anything Else that Will Sell this Book*, 1989
 Marriage to Don Crinklaw and Mizzou ID, 1972
 Night of Literary Feasts, 1999
 Proof shots for *Urban Affairs*, 1988
 Publicity stills, 1989-2003
 Janet Smith family (Source of many of Viets's columns and Viets at the March for Our Lives protest at Parkland School, Florida, 1990, 2018
 Urban Affairs play and Stan Musial, 1993-1997
 Viets Beat set, 1989
 Elaine and Don, 2003
 Elaine Viets film and class of '93, 1993-1995
 Elaine's Movie, Viets at Big Sleep Books, and Elaine Viets on the Charles Snider Show, 1995-2006 (3 CDs, 2 DVD-Rs)
Newspaper Clippings Scrapbooks
 1978

**S1239 (SA4449, SA4451)
ELAINE VIETS PAPERS**

1981 (2 folders)
1982
1983 (2 folders)
1984

Box 9

1984
1985 (2 folders)
1987
1988 (2 folders)
1988-1995 (2 folders)
1989 (2 folders)

Box 10

1990 (3 folders)
1991 (2 folders)
1992 (2 folders)
1993 (2 folders)

Box 11

1994 (2 folders)
1995 (2 folders)

Books

Urban Affairs: Tales from the Heart of the City, 1988
Viets Guide to Sex, Travel, and Anything Else that Will Sell this Book, 1989
How to Commit Monogamy: A Light heartened at Long-Term Love, 1997
Backstab: A Francesca Vierling Mystery, 1997
Rubout: A Francesca Vierling Mystery, 1998
The Pink Flamingo Murders, 1999
Doc in the Box, 2000
Shop Till You Drop: A Dead-End Job Mystery, 2003
Murder Between the Covers: A Dead-End Job Mystery, 2003
Dying to Call You: A Dead-End Job Mystery, 2004 (2 copies)
Just Murdered: A Dead-End Job Mystery, 2005
Murder Unleashed, 2006
Murder with Reservations, 2007
Killer Cuts, 2009 (2 copies)
Pumped for Murder, 2011
Final Sail, 2012
Brainstorm, 2016

Oversize

Newspaper clippings scrapbook, 1975-1979
Newspaper clippings scrapbook, 1979-1982

Oversize Tray 1

S1239 (SA4449, SA4451)
ELAINE VIETS PAPERS

Portraits of Elaine Viets, 1988-1997