



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Biblio Press Records**

Manuscript Collection No. 669

Collection Summary

Title	Biblio Press Records
Dates	1978-2001
Collection Number	MS-669
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Biblio Press Gold, Doris B.
Extent	0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Since 1979, Biblio Press has been publishing non-fiction books for Jewish women with special emphasis on the women's movement in Judaism. As a small, feminist press, it has published a few books yearly, often with input and guidance from the academic community. Originally intended to provide reference guides and bibliographies, Biblio Press expanded to publish books of feminist content and various titles of interest to students in women's studies and religious programs.

Doris Gold was motivated by her long participation in Jewish organizational life to found Biblio Press, dedicated to educating Jewish women about their own history and accomplishments. Gold founded Biblio Press in 1979 particularly to inform Jewish professionals, such as social workers, and Jewish volunteers who served Jewish institutions about the backgrounds, experiences, and needs of Jewish women. Gold discovered, however, that it was laywomen, and not necessarily the professionals that were buying her books.

The first book published by Biblio Press was Aviva Cantor's *The Jewish Woman: 1900-1978* Bibliography. It was an annotated bibliography and guide to hundreds of articles about Jewish women which Cantor updated periodically. More similar titles followed, such as *Jewish Women and Jewish Law Bibliography*, compiled by Ora Hamelsdorf and Sandra Adelsberg and *The Jewish Women's Studies Guide*, edited by Edward R. Levinson and Ellen Sue Levi Elwell. Most of the list were non-fiction, but there were some volumes of poetry, including Gold's own *Honey in the Lion*. By the end of the 1980's Biblio Press had produced several books that are "classics" of Jewish feminism like *Miriam's Well: Rituals for Jewish Women Around the Year* by Penina Adelman, which captured the energy of the emerging Rosh Chodesh movement and provided valuable information to those wanting to form their own groups. Other books regarding Israel and Jewish women leaders, such as *Before Golda: Manya Shocat*, by Rachel Yanait Ben-Zvi and *Written out of History*, by Sondra Henry and Emily Taitz, were published to rectify the historical narrative by placing women within the context of their time and place.

The importance of Biblio Press is in its ability to publish books that the larger publishing houses would not because of the belief that books about Jewish women were too narrow of a market or too controversial. Because Biblio Press was so small, Gold was able to publish the books that she felt were important or in demand. Since its beginnings Biblio Press saw the urgent need for this information and scholarship. This need is most apparent in the increase in sales of books in this genre and in the popularity of college programs and courses offered in Jewish women's studies by the 1990s.

Biblio Press continues to be an important small publisher of Jewish women's studies.

Scope and Content

The Biblio Press collection contains records of Biblio Press, a small women's studies publisher based in New York City. This collection holds correspondence to and from Biblio Press's creator Doris Gold, together with book reviews, book listings and publicity, articles about Biblio Press and Gold, and book covers designed by Gold and others. This collection also contains excerpts from a book about Trude Adler Forsher, Elvis Presley's secretary.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in one (1) series: A. General.

Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Biblio Press Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-669. Biblio Press Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Doris Gold, New York, N.Y., July 2001.

Processing Information Processed by Christine A. Crandall, October 2003.

Index Terms

Subjects Feminist studies / Jewish publishers / Jewish women / Women publishers

Personal Names Gold, Doris

Series A. General, 1978-2001

Scope and Content Note Consists of articles, awards, book covers, correspondence, and book reviews.

Arrangement The files are arranged alphabetically by topic.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Awards, 1963-1987

Box 1. Folder 2. Biblio Press articles, 1980-1998

Box 1. Folder 3. Book covers.

Box 1. Folder 4. Book lists, 1978-1999

Box 1. Folder 5. Book reviews, 1980-1995

Box 1. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1978-1999, undated

Box 1. Folder 7. Correspondence regarding Bright Eminence, 1993

Box 1. Folder 8. Forsher, Trude Adler. Elvis Presley's secretary, 1990

Box 1. Folder 9. Genesis Magazine articles, 1981, 1988-1989

Box 1. Folder 10. Gold, Doris. Biography, 2001