

AMHERST CENTER FOR RUSSIAN CULTURE

**The Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection
1919-1960s**

Summary: The Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection consists of transcripts of letters by O. Mandelshtam, and photocopies of the typescripts for N. Mandelshtam's books of memoirs (*Hope Against Hope* and *Hope Abandoned*).

Quantity: 1.00 linear feet

Containers: 1 record storage box

Processed: October 2012

By: Ethan Gates
Stanley Rabinowitz`

Listed:

By:

Finding Aid: October 2012

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Edited by: Stanley Rabinowitz, Director, Center for Russian Culture

Access: There is no restriction on access to the Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection for research use. Particularly fragile items may be restricted for preservation purposes.

Copyright: Requests for permission to publish from the Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection should be sent to the Director of the Amherst Center for Russian Culture. It is the responsibility of the researcher to identify and satisfy the holders of all copyrights.

INTRODUCTION

Historical Note

Osip Emilyevich Mandelshtam (1891-1938) was born in Warsaw, Poland (then under the control of the Russian Empire), although his family moved to St. Petersburg shortly after Osip's birth. Although he studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, the University of Heidelberg in Germany and the University of St. Petersburg, Mandelstam never completed a formal degree before moving on to a full-time career as a writer. He quickly established himself as a major figure of the Acmeist poetic school (other members including Nikolai Gumilev, Mikhail Kuzmin, Anna Akhmatova and Georgii Ivanov). In 1919 he met Nadezhda Khazina (1899-1980) at a nightclub in Kiev, and the two married three years later.

In 1934, Osip was arrested and exiled from the major cities of the Soviet Union. He and Nadezhda lived in Voronezh until his second arrest in 1938. Osip subsequently died in a transit camp near Vladivostok, while Nadezhda took up a near-nomadic life to avoid being arrested herself. When her husband was rehabilitated in the early 1960s, Nadezhda was allowed to return to Moscow, where she began to write her memoirs. The first volume, *Hope Against Hope* (Vospominaniya), first circulated in *samizdat* form in the Soviet Union before being published in the West in 1970. A second volume, *Hope Abandoned* (Vtoraya kniga), followed in 1974. Nadezhda Mandelshtam later died at her home in Moscow in 1980.

History of the Papers and Their Organization

In 1991, the Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection was donated to the Amherst Center for Russian Culture by Thomas Whitney, AC Class of 1937.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Scope and Content Note

The Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection consists of transcripts of letters of poet and essayist Osip Mandelshtam, and photocopies of the original Russian typescripts for Nadezhda Mandelshtam's two books of memoirs, *Hope Against Hope* and *Hope Abandoned*.

Organization and Arrangement

The Osip and Nadezhda Mandelshtam Collection is organized into two series:

1. Letters (1919-1938)
2. Photocopies of Typescripts (no date)

Series Descriptions

Series 1: LETTERS (1919-1938) contains original typescript transcription of letters by Osip Mandelshtam to various correspondents.

Series 2, PHOTOCOPIES OF TYPESCRIPTS (n.d.) consists of photocopies of the original typescripts for Nadezhda Mandelshtam's two books of memoirs, *Hope Against Hope* and *Hope Abandoned*.

Container List

Series 1: LETTERS (1919-1938)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1919-1938	Mandelshtam, Osip, to various, typescripts

Series 2: PHOTOCOPIES OF TRANSCRIPTS (n.d)

1	2a	n.d.	<i>Hope Against Hope</i> (Vospominaniya), by Nadezhda Mandelshtam, Russian transcript, pp. 1-200
1	2b		<i>Hope Against Hope</i> , pp. 201-400
1	2c		<i>Hope Against Hope</i> , pp. 401-590
1	3a	n.d.	<i>Hope Abandoned</i> (Vtoraya kniga), by Nadezhda Mandelshtam, Russian transcript, pp. 1-92
1	3b		<i>Hope Abandoned</i> , pp. 93-177
1	3c		<i>Hope Abandoned</i> , pp. 178-276
1	3d		<i>Hope Abandoned</i> , pp. 277-431.