



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Selena Research Collection

1961-1997 (Bulk dates: 1995-1996)

Collection SWWC-049

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Patoski, Joe Nick, 1951-
Title:	Guide to the Selena Research Collection
Dates:	1961-1997 (Bulk dates: 1995-1996)
Abstract:	This collection was created and maintained by Joe Nick Patoski in the process of writing the biography of Tejano singer, Selena Quintanilla Perez. The collection is compiled of news clippings, manuscripts, interviews, photographs, court documents, notes, publicity materials, computer disks and ephemera.
Identification:	SWWC-049
Extent:	8 Linear Feet, 17 boxes
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Notes

Joe Nick Patoski was born in 1951 in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He moved with his family to West Fort Worth in 1953, at the age of two. He attended the University of Texas at El Paso, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Texas at Austin, where he began his writing career in 1972 as a columnist with the *Daily Texan*, the newspaper of the University of Texas at Austin. That same year he became a consultant in the music business and had soon earned a reputation as one of the most respected critics of pop culture in the Southwest. Patoski worked as a stringer for *Rolling Stone* from 1974 to 1980, and as a contributing editor for *Texas Monthly* from 1975 to 1980. During the early 1980s, he was the manager and executive producer for several top Texas rock and roll bands, and toured the United States, Europe and South America. In 1985, *Texas Monthly* named Patoski an associate editor. He is currently senior editor for *Texas Monthly*. Patoski has written books and articles on various topics covering the entire range of Texas culture. His work has also appeared in *Mother Jones*, *Village Voice*, *Waterways*, and *Condé Nast Traveler*, as well as many other publications.

Scope and Contents

This collection was created and maintained by Joe Nick Patoski in the process of writing the biography of Tejano singer, Selena Quintanilla Perez. The collection is compiled of news clippings, manuscripts, interviews, photographs, court documents, notes, publicity materials, computer disks and ephemera. Dates range from 1961 to 1997 (bulk 1995-1996).

The collection is arranged into eight series: I. Clippings (1971-1997, undated), II. Subject Files (1961-1996, undated), III. Court Documents (1995), IV. Notes (1995, undated), V. Interviews (1992-1995), VI. Manuscripts (1995-1996), VII. Correspondence (1995-1996), and VIII. Publicity (1995-1996). The materials arrived with little discernible order and have been arranged by the archivist.

The author's year long research and writing processes, which began the day after Selena's death on March 31, 1995 and continued until January 1996, are reflected in this collection. Patoski, working under his publisher's deadline of the first anniversary of Selena's death (March 1996), delegated a portion of the Selena research to friends and colleagues. Richard and Mary Zelade, among others, conducted interviews and research, adding significantly to the information Patoski was able to gather in this short amount of time.

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research

Conditions Governing Use

Photocopying allowed. Patoski holds copyright for Selena materials he wrote and created. Other items will require copyright status determined on a case by case basis.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Joe Nick Patoski, 1996.

Preferred Citation

Selena Research Collection, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University.

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use:

<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Related Materials

Ramón Hernández Tejano Music Collection (Collection 141).

Controlled Access Headings

- Music -- History and criticism
- Music -- Texas
- Music journalists
- Musicians -- Biography
- Musicians -- Interviews
- Musicians -- Texas
- Tejano music
- True crime stories
- Women musicians -- Texas

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Clippings, 1971-1997, undated

Box Folder

1	1	Lake Jackson
1	2	Pre-Shooting
1	3-4	Shooting
1	5-7	Public Grief
2	1	Public Grief
2	2	Media Fact Finding
2	3	Culture of Death
2	4	Posthumous CD: Dreaming of You
2	5	Cashing in on Selena's Death
2	6	Criticisms of Public Grief
2	7-8	Trial
3	1	Selena: Como la Flor
3	2	Selena: The Movie
3	3	Hispanics in the Media
3	4	Tejano Music

Series II: Subject Files , 1961-1995, undated

3	5	Canales, Johnny
3	6-7	Corpus Christi
3	8	Englert, Rod
3	9	Jehovah's Witnesses
3	10	Lake Jackson
3	11	Patoski, Joe Nick
3	12	Quintanilla, Abraham, Jr.
4	1-2	Quintanilla, Selena
4	3	Saldivar, Yolanda
4	4	Tejano Music
4	5	Tejano Stars
5	1	Tejano Stars
5	2	Texas Radio Stations
5	3	Tinker, Douglas

Series III: Court Documents, 1995

5 4 Ramiro Burr vs. Bantam Double Day Publishing Esparaza/Katz Productions, Inc., Q Productions, Inc., and Abraham Quintanilla, Jr.

5 5 Family Settlement of Selena's Estate

5 6 State of Texas vs. Yolanda Saldivar

Series IV: Notes, 1995, undated

6 1 Research Team, Notes of Richard and Mary Zelade

6 2 Loose Notes

6 3 Phone List

6 4 Legal Pad Notes

7 1 Legal Pad Notes

7 2-5 Spiral Bound Notes

Series V: Interviews, 1993-1995, undated

8 1 Aguilera, Al

8 2 Arriaga, Suzette Quintanilla; Cavalos, Veronica; Doria, Alice

8 3 Barrios, Greg

8 4 Behar, Jose

8 5 Brite, Charlie

8 6 Burr, Ramiro

8 7 Byrne, David

8 8 Canales, Laura

8 9 Cappel, Lynn

9 1 Chavez, Mike

9 2 Clark, Shaundra

9 3 Cubillos, Ruben

9 4 Davila, Manuel

9 5 Espinoza, Alex and Bobby Jo

9 6 Flores, Sam

9 7 Garcia, Ruben

9 8 Hernandez, Ramon

10 1 Ledesma, Cynthia

10 2 Ledesma, Primo

10 3 Lee, Mitchell

10 4 Maldonado, Vilma

10	5	Martinez Jr., Freddie
10	6	Martinez Sr., Freddie
10	7	Maxx, Charlie and Talamantez, Esmi
10	8	Napolielio, Peter; Rosales, Lupe; and Palacio, Dave
10	9	O'Conner, Candy
10	10	O'Conner, Candy and her mother
11	1	Navaira, Emilio
11	2	Nora
11	3	Perez, Chris
11	4	Quintanilla, Abraham Jr.; Quintanilla, Abraham III; and Davila, Manuel
11	5	Quintanilla, Abraham Jr.; Quintanilla, Abraham III; Quintanilla Arriaga, Suzette and Perez, Chris
11	6	Quintanilla, Selena - Interviewed by Mas Magazine's Joseph Harmes
11	7	Quintanilla, Selena - Interviewed by unidentified interviewer(s)
11	8	Ramirez, Jon
11	9	Ramirez, Nano
11	10	Randolf, Phillip
11	11	Sosa, Lionel and Kathy
11	12	Valdez, Carlos
11	13	West, Jim
12	1	Wheeler, Mark and Davis, Tony
12	2	Wong, Leonard

Series VI: Manuscripts , 1995-1996, undated

12	3	Typescript, organized by chapters
12	4-5	Typescript with editor's handwritten corrections, includes letter from Little, Brown & Co. to Patoski
12	6	Typescript with editor's corrections
13	1	Typescript with editor's corrections
13	2-3	Typescript, later rough draft, no corrections
13	4-5	Typescript, no corrections
13	6	Typescript with editor's handwritten corrections
14	1-5	Typescript with editor's handwritten corrections
15	1-2	Original Proof and Manuscript, includes letter from Little, Brown & Co. to Patoski
15	3-5	Uncorrected advance proof
16	1	Uncorrected advance proof
16	2	Selena: Como la Flor (paperback)
16	3	Three book jackets for Selena: Como la Flor

Series VII: Correspondence, 1995-1996, undated

16 4 A-L
16 5 M-Z

Series VIII: Publicity, 1995-1996, undated

16 6 Eye of the Biographer
17 1-2 Book tour
17 3 Selena Trial Revisited
17 4 Texas Writers Month
17 5 Texas Book Festival