



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to Audiovisual Material Relating to Pacita Abad, 1984-2008, in the Archives of American Art

Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner

2021/04/08

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1994-2005.....	4
Series 2: Professional Materials, 1995-2000.....	5
Series 3: Interviews and Documentaries, 1990-2004.....	6
Series 4: Exhibitions and Artwork, 1984-2008.....	8

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Audiovisual material relating to Pacita Abad
Date:	1984-2008
Identifier:	AAA.abadpaci
Creator:	Abad, Pacita Garrity, Jack
Extent:	89.63 Gigabytes
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection of audiovisual material relating to Pacita Abad measures 89.63 GB and dates from 1984 to 2008. All materials in this collection are in born-digital format and include video and audio recordings and presentations. The Biographical Materials series includes videos of Pacita Abad's life in the Washington, D.C., region, and several recordings of memorials and services after her passing in 2004. The Professional Materials series consists of videos of two workshops and two lectures given by Pacita Abad. The Interviews and Documentaries series consists of American and Asian TV programs, films, and radio interviews with and about Pacita Abad and her art. The Exhibitions and Artwork series has videos and presentations of Pacita Abad's art, and solo and group exhibitions.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2009 by Jack Garrity, Abad's husband and director of Pacita Abad Art Estate.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Audiovisual material relating to Pacita Abad, 1984-2008. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. This collection is open for research. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact References Services for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor

restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the Smithsonian's Terms of Use for additional information.

Biographical / Historical

Pacita Abad (1946-2004) was an Ivatan and Filipina painter based in New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. Abad emigrated to the United States from the Philippines in 1970, and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1994.

Abad traveled in over 80 countries and different cultures had a profound influence on her artistic style. She developed a technique of trapunto painting, which entailed stitching and stuffing painted canvases to give them a three-dimensional, sculptural effect, and incorporating materials such as traditional cloth, mirrors, beads, shells, plastic buttons, and other objects into the surface of paintings. Abad crafted more than 5,000 artworks over a 30-year career. Her work has been featured in over 60 solo and group exhibitions at museums and galleries worldwide, and her art is held in private collections and cultural institutions in more than 70 countries.

Scope and Contents

The collection of audiovisual material relating to Pacita Abad measures 89.63 GB and dates from 1984 to 2008. All materials in this collection are in born-digital format and include video and audio recordings and presentations. Several of the videos were transferred from VHS tapes. Some recordings in this collection are only partially transferred, and technical quality of both audio and video components varies. The Biographical Materials series includes videos of Pacita Abad's life in the Washington, D.C., region, and several recordings of memorials and services after her passing in 2004. The Professional Materials series consists of videos of two workshops and two lectures given by Pacita Abad. The Interviews and Documentaries series consists of American and Asian TV programs, films, and radio interviews with and about Pacita Abad and her art. The Exhibitions and Artwork series has videos and presentations of Pacita Abad's art, and solo and group exhibitions.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as four series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1994-2005 (19.39 GB; ER01-ER08)
- Series 2: Professional Material, 1995-2000 (11.86 GB; ER09-ER11, ER42)
- Series 3: Interviews and Documentaries, 1990-2004 (36.68 GB; ER12-ER29)
- Series 4: Exhibitions and Artwork, 1984-2008 (21.70 GB; ER30-ER41)

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Asian American artists
Filipino American artists

Women artists

Types of Materials:

Sound recordings

Video recordings

Occupations:

Painters -- Washington (D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1994-2005

19.39 Gigabytes (ER01-ER08)

Scope and Contents: The Biographical Materials series consists of videos of Pacita Abad's life in the Washington, D.C. region, and of memorials and services in the Philippines and Singapore after her passing in 2004. Materials in the series are arranged chronologically.

This series includes a 1994 recording of Abad's U.S. citizenship naturalization ceremony. One recording illustrates the construction and blessing of Fundacion Pacita, Abad's studio and home in Batanes, Philippines, where she is buried. In January 2005, the National Museum of the Philippines hosted a parangal [eulogy] in her memory.

Folder ER01	Naturalization Ceremony, Washington, D.C. (1994 September 17), Digital Video Recording, 2006 3.24 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER02	Life in Washington, D.C. area (circa 1994), Digital Video Recording, 2003 3.72 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER03	Construction and Blessing of Fundacion Pacita, Batanes, Philippines (2004), Digital Video Recording, 2004 4.08 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER04	Funeral in Batanes, Philippines (2004), Digital Video Recording, 2004 2.67 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER05	Requiem in Memory of Pacita Abad, Jakarta, Indonesia (2004 December), Digital Video Recording, 2004 1.24 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER06	Memorial for Pacita, Manila, Philippines (2004), Digital Presentation, 2004 0.011 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER07	Memorial for Pacita: A Celebration of Pacita's Life (2004), Digital Video Recording, 2004 4.37 Gigabytes (11 computer files)
Folder ER08	Parangal for Pacita, Manila, Philippines (2005), Digital Video Recording, 2005 0.056 Gigabytes (One computer file)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Professional Materials, 1995-2000

11.86 Gigabytes (ER09-ER11, ER42)

Scope and Contents: The Professional Materials series consists of Pacita Abad's talk to college students in Providence, RI, artist's talk at Tyler Print Institute in Singapore, a mask workshop for children in Bowie, MD, and a painting workshop in Singapore.

Folder ER09	Artist Talk, Providence College, Rhode Island (circa 1995), Digital Video Recording, 2006 3.88 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER10	Mask Workshop, Huntington Community Center, Bowie, MD (circa 1995), Digital Video Recording, 2008 0.442 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER11	Painting Workshop, Singapore Tyler Print Institute (circa 2004), Digital Video Recording, 2004 3.76 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER42	Artist Talk, Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore (2003 August 11), Digital Video Recording, 2006 3.78 Gigabytes (Six computer files)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Interviews and Documentaries, 1990-2004

36.68 Gigabytes (ER12-ER29)

Scope and Contents: The Interviews and Documentaries series consists of American and Asian TV programs, films, and radio interviews with and about Pacita Abad and her art. Series is arranged chronologically. In *Slumber Party, Artists' Conversation*, Abad discusses art and being an artist with several D.C.-area artists. Parthasarathy Ganesan's *Spirited Faces* visits Abad's home and studio in Singapore. Interview with Felice Prudente at Ateneo de Manila University was conducted shortly before Abad's passing. This series concludes with three documentaries about Abad's final work, painting the massive Alkaff Bridge in Singapore.

Folder ER12	Three Documentaries on Pacita Abad (circa 1985-1990), Digital Video Recordings, 2006 1.62 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER13	Painting the Globe, a Video Scetch of Pacita Abad, film by Raki Jones (circa 1990), Digital Video Recording and Presentation, 2006 0.902 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Folder ER14	Art to Art: Expressions by Asian American Women, video by Riverfilms Production, Wild at Art (circa 1990), Digital Video Recording, 2006 1.18 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER15	Paper Making at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, TV Documentary (1990), Digital Video Recording, 2006 0.473 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER16	Slumber Party - Artists' Conversation, TV program by N.J. Heubusch, Arlington Community Television (1993), Digital Video Recording, 2006 1.67 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER17	Inside Out, Ellipse Exhibit 1993, video by Linda Lewett (circa 1993), Digital Video Recording, 2001 3.98 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER18	Wayang Painting and Dinnerware at Koi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia (circa 1995), Digital Video Recording, 2006 0.134 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER19	Interview with Sid Reyes (circa 1997), Digital Audio Recording, 2006 0.617 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER20	Interview with Steven Shalowitz, Gold 90.5 FM, Singapore (circa 1997), Digital Audio Recording, 2006 1.83 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Folder ER21	Spirited Faces, TV documentary by Parthasarathy Ganesan (circa 2002), Digital Video Recording, circa 2002

	1.42 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER22	Art Nation: Universal Blues, host Beatrice Chia, TV 12 Singapore (2002), Digital Video Recording, 2002 3.54 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER23	Interview with Elizabeth Sullivan (circa 2004), Digital Audio Recording, circa 2004 0.756 Gigabytes (Three computer files)
Folder ER24	Flamenco with Rose Borromeo, Infusion TV program (circa 2004), Digital Video Recording, 2004 4.95 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Folder ER25	Art Nation: Wild Art, TV Program (circa 2004), Digital Video Recording, circa 2004 0.232 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER26	The Passions of Pacita Abad, Interview with Felice Prudente at Rizal Library of Women's Writings, Ateneo de Manila University (2004 September 3), Digital Video Recordings, 2004 5.81 Gigabytes (Three computer files)
Folder ER27	Groovy: The Colors of Pacita Abad, film by Milo Sogueco (2005), Digital Video Recording, 2005 3.52 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER28	Pacita's Painted Bridge, film by Milo Sogueco (2005), Digital Video Recordings, 2005 2.49 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER29	Singapore's Art Bridge, film by Milo Sogueco (2007), Digital Video Recording, 2007 Woman of Color, film by Milo Sogueco (2007), Digital Video Recording, 2007 1.53 Gigabytes (One computer file)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Exhibitions and Artwork, 1984-2008

21.7 Gigabytes (ER30-ER41)

Scope and Contents: The Exhibitions and Artwork series has videos and presentations of Pacita Abad's art, and solo and group exhibitions. The series is arranged chronologically. Abad had regular exhibitions in Asia and in the US. Researchers should also see Series 3, Interviews and Documentaries, for additional footage of Abad's artwork.

Folder ER30	A Philippine Painter Looks at the World, Museum of Philippine Art, Manila, Philippines (1984 22 February-15 April), Digital Audio Recording, 2008 0.32 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER31	Assaulting the Deep Sea, Ayala Museum, Manila, Philippines (1986 May 26-Jun 25), Digital Video Recording, 2006 0.964 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Folder ER32	Beyond the Borders: Art by Recent Immigrants, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, NY (1994), Digital Video Recording, 2006 1.01 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER33	Jamming on an Old Saya, fashion theater show, Cultural Center of the Philippines, documentary by Sari Dalena (1995), Digital Video Recording, 2006 4.12 Gigabytes (One computer file) Partial transfer only.
Folder ER34	Exploring the Spirit, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia (1996 July 10-28), Digital Video Recording, 2006 2.15 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER35	The Sky Is the Limit, Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall, Manila, Philippines, (2001 March 13-26), Digital Video Recording, 2003 2.61 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER36	Pacita Abad - CD Profile (2002), Digital Presentation, 2002 0.018 Gigabytes (19 computer files) Partial transfer only.
Folder ER37	SingArt: A Brush with Lions, Singapore (2004), Digital Video Recordings, 2004 3.86 Gigabytes (Four computer files)
Folder ER38	Paper Pulp Work Process, Singapore Tyler Print Institute (circa 2004), Digital Video Recordings, circa 2004 1.02 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER39	Pacita Abad's Singapore Studio (circa 2005), Digital Presentation, circa 2005 0.231 Gigabytes (One computer file)
Folder ER40	The Shape That Is, Jendela Visual Arts Space, Singapore (circa 2005), Digital Video Recording, 2008

0.496 Gigabytes (One computer file)

Folder ER41

Through the Looking Glass, The Esplanade, Singapore (2006 March 4-April
23), Digital Video Recording, 2006

0.286 Gigabytes (One computer file)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)