



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Fletcher Benton Papers,
1934-2014, in the Archives of American Art

Almudena Escobar Lopez

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Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, administered through the Council on
Library and Information Resources' Hidden Collections grant program.

2014 July 31

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Fletcher Benton papers
Identifier:	AAA.bentflet
Date:	1934-2014
Extent:	8.7 Linear feet 1.47 Gigabytes
Creator:	Benton, Fletcher, 1931-
Language:	English; German; Norwegian; Spanish; Korean; Japanese; Dutch; Portuguese.
Summary:	The papers of sculptor and painter Fletcher Benton measure 8.2 linear feet and 1.47 GB and date from 1934 to 2014. They document his career as a sculptor with international presence through certificates, personal photographs, legal papers, correspondence, exhibition and commission documentation, clippings, exhibition-related printed materials, broadcast materials, publications about his work, an editioned kinetic Christmas card, and photographs, sound and video recordings, and motion picture film documenting his work and career.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2005-2006 and 2014 by Fletcher Benton. Benton's wife, Bobbie Benton, organized the material by subject matter and date.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Fletcher Benton conducted by Paul J. Karlstrom, 1989 May 2-4 is available on the Archives of American Art website.

Processing Information

This collection was fully processed and a finding aid prepared by Almudena Escobar Lopez in 2014 with funding provided by the Council on Library and Information Resources' "Hidden Collections" grant program. Motion picture film reels were inspected and re-housed in 2016 with funding provided by the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2019 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Fletcher Benton papers, 1934-2014. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment. Use of audiovisual material without a duplicate copy requires advanced notice.

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Biographical / Historical

Fletcher Benton was born in Jackson, Ohio in 1931 to Fletcher and Nell Cavett Benton and was the oldest of three children. Benton graduated from Jackson High School in 1949. After serving in the Navy he graduated from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) in 1956 and moved to San Francisco, where he started working as an instructor at the California College of Arts and Crafts in 1959. He was in San Francisco during the flourishing of the Beat generation, where he had a studio in the North beach area and exhibited at coffee house galleries.

After travelling around Europe in 1960, Benton moved to New York City where he tried to make his living through painting and teaching privately. During those years he was supported by Jackson's local arts patron and family friend, Lillian E. Jones. In 1960 he had his first solo exhibition at Gump's gallery in San Francisco, but his work was taken down after one day because it was considered obscene for including female nudes. He returned to San Francisco in late 1961.

In 1966 Fletcher started teaching at the San Francisco Art Institute and established himself as a primary figure of American kinetic art. In 1966, Peter Selz included his work in the exhibition *Directions in Kinetic Sculpture* at the University Art Gallery in Berkeley, CA. During the exhibition Benton met the artists Pol Bury and George Rickey with whom he became friends. The exhibition, along with an article "The Movement Movement" that appeared in Time magazine the same year, established Benton's reputation as a significant American Kinetic artist. He also started teaching at the California State University in San José in 1967 where he continued working until 1986.

By 1974 Benton abandoned kinetic art to continue exploring sculpture in three dimensions in a style that became known as "new constructivism." The artworks were conceived in the series *Folded Circles* and *Folded Square Alphabets* and were produced in bronze, aluminum and steel. It was also during the 1970s that he started doing large-scale commissions such as the 1977 IBM commission.

Between 1981 and 1984 Benton constructed his studio in Dore Street in the Market district of San Francisco where he continues to work today. During the 1980s Benton started his *Balanced/Unbalanced* series, which introduced the idea of gravity using geometric forms in different formats and sizes.

From 1984 he began to show more work in Europe, especially in Germany, where in 1993 he got a major commission to create a colossal public sculpture in Cologne entitled *Steel Watercolor Triangle Ring*. It was also in Germany where Benton encountered the work of Wassily Kandinsky and Kazimir Malevich, and he began work on his *Construct Relief* series in reponse, which he dedicated to Kandinsky. These geometric constructions are flat, canvas-like steel structures that combine features of painting and sculpture. As the

series evolved, the work became more like painting, constructed to hang on the wall without a back piece, so they seem to be floating in the space.

Benton continues to live and work in San Francisco and is represented by multiple galleries in the United States and Germany.

Scope and Contents

The papers of sculptor and painter Fletcher Benton measure 8.2 linear feet and 1.47 GB and date from 1934 to 2014. They document his career through personal photographs, legal papers, correspondence, exhibition and commission documentation, clippings, exhibition-related printed materials, broadcast materials, publications about his work, an editioned kinetic Christmas card, photographs, sound and video recordings motion picture film, some of which also appears in digitized form.

Biographical Materials include personal photographs, legal documents related to a court case with book designer Ed Marquand, biographical texts, interview transcripts, and a home video made by the artist. Correspondence is with other artists, friends, galleries, museums and other institutions, including George W. Neubert, André Emmerich Gallery, Pieter Sanders, Pol Bury, George Rickey, Ulfert Wilke, Marlene Louchheim, DeWain Valentine, Lillian E. Jones, and Edward Lucie-Smith. Interviews include sound recordings of interviews with Benton by academics and journalists, including Edward Lucie-Smith, Dan Tooker, and Dan De Wilde.

Exhibition and Commission Files consist of correspondence with galleries, museums and commission patrons; financial records; shipping and subcontracting documentation; motion picture film, video, and sound recordings related to exhibitions and installations; and planning and design materials. Series includes a significant amount of oversized drawings and plans for site-specific work. There is a large volume documentation from the *Folded Circle-Arc* commission by Stanley Consultants, Inc. in Muscatine, Iowa; the California/International Arts Foundation Traveling Sculpture Exhibition; *Double Folded Circle Ring* in Brussels and *Double Circle Folded* by Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

Printed Materials include news clippings related to Benton's career, as well as brochures, exhibition catalogs, posters and other printed materials related to exhibitions and commissions. Broadcast materials include television news footage, radio and television interviews, documentaries, and promotional materials made by galleries and other cultural institutions.

Photographic and Moving Image Materials include art-related images showing Benton in his studio and images of exhibitions, installations and inaugurations. Also found are still photographs and motion picture films of artworks, including paintings, sculptures, and kinetic drawings, and a series of photographs of sculptures taken by David Finn.

Artwork consists of an editioned art Christmas card created by Benton for Galeria Bonino in New York from 1969. *An American Artist* Moving Image Materials consist of 13 videocassettes (VHS) which document the production process of the documentary *Fletcher Benton: An American Artist* by Morgan Cavett. There is footage from interviews with Benton and with curator George W. Neubert, footage of San Francisco with comments from Benton about his time there, interviews with the artist's studio assistants, images of his studio in Dore street and a couple of almost finished rough versions of the documentary.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as nine series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material (0.3 linear feet; boxes 1, 9)
- Series 2: Correspondence (1 linear foot; boxes 1, 2, OV 10)
- Series 3: Interviews (0.3 linear feet; box 2)
- Series 4: Exhibition and Commission Files (2 linear feet, 0.50 GB; boxes 2-4, OV 11-13, RD 14, FC 15, ER01)
- Series 5: Printed Materials (2.3 linear feet; boxes 4-6, OV 10)
- Series 6: Broadcast Materials (1.1 linear foot; boxes 6-7)
- Series 7: Photographic and Moving Image Materials (0.5 linear feet, 0.97 GB; boxes 7, 9, FC 16-17, ER02)
- Series 8: Artwork (1 item; box 7)
- Series 9: *An American Artist* Video Recordings (0.6 linear feet; boxes 7-8)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists' studios -- Photographs

Types of Materials:

Christmas cards
Drawings
Interviews
Motion pictures (visual works)
Photographs
Sound recordings
Transcripts
Video recordings

Names:

André Emmerich Gallery
Bury, Pol, 1922-2005
De Wilde, Dan
Finn, David
Galerie Denino
Jones, Lillian E.
Louchheim, Marlene
Lucie-Smith, Edward
Marquand, Ed
Neubert, George W.
Rickey, George
Sanders, Pieter
Tooker, Dan
Valentine, De Wain, 1936-
Wilke, Ulfert, 1907-1987

Occupations:

Painters -- California -- San Francisco
Sculptors -- California -- San Francisco

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1934-2013

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1 and 9)

Biographical material includes four folders of photographs from Benton's childhood to the present and a number of personal photographs of the artist with family members and art personalities including Harold Paris, Edward Lucie-Smith, Dewain Valentine and Peter Selz. There is also a home video on 1 videocassette (VHS) by the artist showing part of his home studio and some of the sculptures from his garden. Among the legal documents and certificates there is a folder with materials about Benton's law suit against Ed Marquand, an editor that was hired to work on a book about Benton's Kinetic Art between 1986 and 1987.

Photographs and moving images of Benton working in his studio, of his artwork, and art-related events are found in series 7, Photographic and Moving Image Materials. Additional photographs and moving images related to exhibitions and commissions are found in series 4, Exhibitions and Commission files.

Box 1	Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1	Childhood Photographs, 1934-circa 1945
Box 1, Folder 2	Portraits of Benton, circa 1960-circa 1995 Oversized portrait moved to Box 9 folder 5
Box 1, Folder 3	Family and Personal Photographs , 1962-circa 1990
Box 1, Folder 4	Benton with Art Personalities, 1975-1996
Box 1, Folder 5	Certificates, Awards, Diplomas & Certificates, 1981-2003
Box 1, Folder 6	Contract with Habenicht & Howlett, 1968
Box 1, Folder 7	Guggenheim Grant Application , 1968-1969
Box 1, Folder 8	Legal Records about Fletcher Benton's Book on Kinetic Art, Benton vs Ed Marquand, 1986-1987
Box 1, Folder 9	Home Video: '3 Water Sculptures' (VHS), 1993 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 1, Folder 10	Caricature of Fletcher Benton and his Wife Bobbie Benton, 1996
Box 1, Folder 11	Biographical Texts about Benton, circa 1965-1975, 1974

Includes two copies of the introduction used for the book *Fletcher Benton: Selected Works 1964-74* by Diane Ghirardo Burke, De Saisset Art gallery

Box 1, Folder 12

Unidentified Interview Transcripts, circa 1985

Box 9

Oversized portrait from Box 1, folder 2

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Series 2: Correspondence , 1961-2014

1 Linear foot (Box 1, 2 and OV 10)

Correspondence is with galleries and museums that exhibited Benton's work including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, André Emmerich gallery, Gloria Luria Gallery, Howard Wise Gallery, Yares Gallery and Thomas Baebor Gallery. There is extended correspondence with curators George W. Neubert and Gerald Nordland as well as the British art critic and writer Edward Lucie-Smith.

There is a series of correspondence related to Benton's exhibitions in Germany with the B. Haasner Gallerie and curators Jutta Brederhoff, Gerhard Kolberg, Peter Nestler and Jolie Leisegang. Leisegang was co-author of the book *Fletcher Benton: An American Artist* with Carter Ratcliff and Collette Chattopadhyay. There is also a large volume of correspondence with the prominent Dutch art collector Pieter Sanders and the Belgian contemporary art consultant Louise Descamps-Schneider.

Significant personal correspondence is found with two of Benton's former professors from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, Richard Clark Smith and the painter Edwin Fulwider. Personal correspondence also includes letters with the artists Pol Bury, George Rickey, Ulfert Wilke, Marlene Louchheim and the photographer David Finn. There are also two early letters from Benton to Lillian E. Jones, a mentor and arts' patron from Jackson, Ohio who supported the sculptor during his first years at New York City.

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name and chronologically within each folder. Correspondence with less than three letters is filed in general alphabetical files. Letters with first names only, greeting cards and illegible signatures are filed at the end of the series. Additional correspondence can be found in Series 4, Exhibition and Commission Files. Some of the correspondents appear in Series 3, Interviews, and in the photographs in Series 1, Biographical Materials.

Box 1, Folder 13	A, 1978-2011
Box 1, Folder 14	Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, 1969-1985
Box 1, Folder 15	André Emmerich Gallery , 1989-2003
Box 1, Folder 16	Carol and Sheldon Appel , 1989-1997
Box 1, Folder 17	Leon A. Arkus, 1983-1986
Box 1, Folder 18	Arts Club of Chicago, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 19	The Arts Commission of San Francisco, 1985-1986
Box 1, Folder 20	Artists Equity Association, Inc. , 1979-1980
Box 1, Folder 21	B, 1980-2003
Box 1, Folder 22	Galerie B. Haasen, 1986-1988
Box 1, Folder 23	Joan N. Borinstein, 1985-1986

Box 1, Folder 24	Jutta Brederhoff, 1987-2013
Box 1, Folder 25	Pol Bury, 1978-1994
Box 1, Folder 26	C, 1983-2013
Box 1, Folder 27	Richard Clark Smith, 1979-1984
Box 1, Folder 28	Gisele Cottier, 1983
Box 1, Folder 29	D, 1983-2011
Box 1, Folder 30	Louise Descamps-Schneider, 1992-2000
Box 1, Folder 31	Detroit Institute of Arts, 1984-1994
Box 1, Folder 32	E, 1990-2013
Box 1, Folder 33	F, 1982-2010
Box 1, Folder 34	David Finn, 2001-2012
Box 1, Folder 35	Edwin Fulwider, 1978-1989
Box 1, Folder 36	Sidney M. Feldman, 1980-1985
Box 1, Folder 37	G, 1985-2012
Box 1, Folder 38	Gloria Luria Gallery, 1983-1986
Box 1, Folder 39	H, 1980-2010 Oversized drawing removed to OV 11
Box 1, Folder 40	Howard Wise Gallery, 1966
Box 1, Folder 41	I, 1977-2005
Box 1, Folder 42	J, 1976-2013
Box 1, Folder 43	Lillian E. Jones, 1961
Box 1, Folder 44	K, 1980-2013

Box 1, Folder 45	Paul J. Karlstrom, 1984
Box 1, Folder 46	David M. Kezur, 1983-1987
Box 1, Folder 47	Gerhard Kolberg, 1993-1995
Box 1, Folder 48	L, 1981-2013
Box 1, Folder 49	Jolei Leisegang, 1980-1987
Box 1, Folder 50	Tiziana Lorenzelli, 1991
Box 1, Folder 51	Los Angeles Art Center of Design, 1986
Box 1, Folder 52	Marlene Louchheim, 1980-2013
Box 1, Folder 53	Edward Lucie-Smith, 1989-1996
Box 1, Folder 54	M, 1980-2012
Box 1, Folder 55	Metropolitan Dade County Florida, 1980
Box 1, Folder 56	Miami University, 1979-2011
Box 1, Folder 57	Muscatine Commission, 1980-1982
Box 1, Folder 58	N, 1977-2013
Box 1, Folder 59	George W. Neubert, 1983-1994
Box 1, Folder 60	Peter Nestler, 1989-1998
Box 1, Folder 61	Gerald Nordland, 1978-2010
Box 1, Folder 62	O, 1986-2005
Box 1, Folder 63	Oakland Museum, 1967-1978
Box 1, Folder 64	P, 1983-2012
Box 1, Folder 65	Pacific Mutual, 1980-1982
Box 1, Folder 66	Barbara Pontecorvo, 2005-2006

Box 1, Folder 67	Q, 2010
Box 1, Folder 68	R, 1990-2010
Box 1, Folder 69	George Rickey, 1977-2005
Box 1, Folder 70	S, 1979-2014
Box 2, Folder 1	Pieter Sanders, 1981-1993
Box 2, Folder 2	San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 1981-2001
Box 2, Folder 3	San José State University, 1977-1985
Box 2, Folder 4	Arthur Silverman, 1994
Box 2, Folder 5	Louis Skidmore Jr., 1978-1985
Box 2, Folder 6	Marvin Smalley, 1982-1991
Box 2, Folder 7	Herbert J. Solomon , 1994
Box 2, Folder 8	Sunset Magazine, 1985
Box 2, Folder 9	T, 1985-2005
Box 2, Folder 10	Thomas Babeor Gallery , 1983-1984
Box 2, Folder 11	U, 1974-1982
Box 2, Folder 12	University of Arizona, 1980-1989
Box 2, Folder 13	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), 1983-1993
Box 2, Folder 14	V, 1980-2011
Box 2, Folder 15	W, 1972-1994
Box 2, Folder 16	Frederick R. Weisman, 1986-1990
Box 2, Folder 17	Ulfert Wilke, 1981-1982

Box 2, Folder 18	Yares Gallery, 1983-1985
Box 2, Folder 19	Yorkshire Sculpture Park, 1985-1986
Box 2, Folder 20	Z, 2011
Box 2, Folder 21	First Name Only , 1980-2013
Box 2, Folder 22	Greeting Cards, 2010-2013
Box 2, Folder 23	Illegible Signatures, 1982-1996
Box OV 11	Oversized drawing from Box 1, folder 39

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Series 3: Interviews, 1977- circa 1990

0.3 Linear feet (Box 2)

Series contains sound recorded interviews conducted by different journalists and researchers. Interviewers of note include those conducted by the British art critic Edward Lucie-Smith, Dan Tooker, Dan De Wilde, who interviewed Benton for a documentary on American sculptors. Interviews are on 1 sound tape reel and 7 sound cassettes.

Interviews are arranged chronologically. Interviews from television and radio broadcasts are found in Series 6 Broadcast Materials.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 24 | Dan Tooker and Dan DeWilde Interview for Documentary "Contemporary Artists at Work, Sculptors", 1977
<i>1 Sound tape reel (Duration circa 45 minutes; Handwritten note on original box: "Interview with Fletcher Benton by Dan Tooker and Dan DeWilde. August 1977. 7 1/2 ips, mono dub side one and side two (ca.45 minutes total))</i> |
| Box 2, Folder 25 | Katherine R. Alviso Interview, 1979
<i>1 Sound cassette (Cassette is a copy, location of original unknown; handwritten note on original cassette: "Conversation with Fletcher Benton. November 17, 1979 - interviewed at his studio in San Francisco, CA by Katherine R. Alviso. COPY")</i> |
| Box 2, Folder 26 | Susan Raeburn Interview, 1979
<i>1 Sound cassette (Duplicate; handwritten note inside the original box: " This is a duplicate of FB-RS Interview (transcribed)")</i>
<i>1 Sound cassette (Original; handwritten note on original cassette: "Fletcher Benton-with Susan Raeburn. Competence + the modern Artist")</i> |
| Box 2, Folder 27 | Edward Lucie-Smith Interview, 1988
<i>1 Sound cassette (Handwritten note on original cassette: "Edward Lucie-Smith October, 1988")</i> |
| Box 2, Folder 28 | Bill Minschew Interview, undated
<i>1 Sound cassette (Includes two transcripts)</i> |
| Box 2, Folder 29 | George Neubert Interview, undated
<i>1 Sound cassette (Duplicate, location of original unknown; handwritten note on cassette: "Fletcher Benton Geo Nubert Interview watch copy")</i> |

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Series 4: Exhibition and Commission Files , 1959-2004

2 Linear feet (Box 2-4, OV 11-13, RD 14, FC 15)
0.5 Gigabytes (ER01)

Materials include correspondence with galleries, museums and specific commission patrons; financial records; shipping and subcontracting documentation; audiovisual material and planning and design materials, including a significant amount of oversized materials. The most extensive documentation is found for the *Folded Circle-Arc* commission by Stanley Consultants, Inc. in Muscatine, Iowa; the California/International Arts Foundation Traveling Sculpture Exhibition; *Double Folded Circle Ring* in Brussels and *Double Circle Folded* by Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Note that the folder of South American Materials contains correspondence, shipping records and inventories of artwork involving Estudio Actual (Caracas), Galeria Bonino Ltd, (New York) and Stanford University. An early exhibition in San Francisco is documented on digitized motion picture film shot by Al Wong in 1967. Additional audiovisual material in the series include 2 videocassettes (VHS); one with documentation of the installation of *Double Folded Circle Ring* in Brussels, and a promotional video about *Double Circle Folded* in Los Angeles; and one sound cassette recording of the reception for *Folded Circle-Arc* in Muscatine, Iowa.

Arrangement is chronological. Additional information about exhibitions and commissions is found in series 2, Correspondence and series 5, Printed Materials.

Box 2, Folder 30	Gump Gallery, San Francisco, California (1960), 1959-1960
Item FC 15	Film Footage by Al Wong, San Francisco Art Institute Exhibition, 1967 <i>1 Film reel (Ektachrome Print, original ; 16 mm)</i>
Folder ER01	Film Footage by Al Wong, San Francisco Art Institute Exhibition (1967), Digital Video Recording, 2004 <i>0.5 Gigabytes (One computer file)</i> Duplicate of film reel in Box FC15.
Box 2, Folder 32	South American Materials, 1971-1976
Box 2, Folder 33	Art Club of Chicago (1979), 1979
Box 2, Folder 34	Milwaukee Art Center (1980), 1980
Box 2, Folder 35	Newport Harbor Art Museum (1980), 1980-1985
Box 2	<i>Folded Circle -- Arc</i> (1980), Muscatine, Iowa, Stanley Consultants, Inc. Commission
Box 2, Folder 36	Correspondence and Documentation about the Commission , 1980-1981
Box 2, Folder 37	Stanley Consultants, Inc. Dossier, 1980
Box 2, Folder 38	Sound Recording of Reception for Fletcher Benton, 1980

1 Sound cassette (Hadwritten note on the cassette: "reception for Fletcher Benton Stanley Consultants, Muscatine, IOWA Sept. 12, 1980")

- Box 2, Folder 39 Photographic Materials for a Public Exhibition , 1980
- Box 2, Folder 40 Muscatine Art Center Exhibition (1980), 1980-1981
- Box 2, Folder 41 Klingspor Museum, Offenbach, West Germany (1980), 1981
German.
- Box 2, Folder 42 *Folded Square Alphabet 'D'* (1981), Offenbach, Germany, 1981
- Box 2, Folder 43 "Polychrome," Hansen Fuller Goldeen Gallery, San Francisco, California (1981),
1981-1984
- Box 2, Folder 44 San José Museum of Art (1982), 1981-1985
- Box 2, Folder 45 "Brook House Sculpture Invitational," Kaiser Center, Oakland, California (1982),
1982-1983
- Box 2, Folder 46-47 California International Arts Foundation Traveling Sculpture Exhibition (1986),
1981-1986
Folder 47 contains copies of plans and drawings; oversized material moved to
Box 9, folder 4
- Box 3, Folder 1 Fresno Art Center (1985), 1984-1985
- Box 3, Folder 2 Gloria Luria Gallery, Miami, Florida (1984), 1984
- Box 3, Folder 3 Chapman College Sculpture Acquisition Program, Orange, California (1985),
1984-1985
- Box 3, Folder 4 "Teachers and their Pupils," Anna Gardner Gallery, Stinson Beach, California
(1985), 1985
- Box 3, Folder 5 Artists Forum, Fine Arts Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles (1985),
1985
Oversized drawings moved to OV.11
- Box 3 Art Insitute of Southern California, Exhibition and Lecture (1986)
- Box 3, Folder 6 Correspondence and Documentation, 1985-1986
- Box 3, Folder 7 Photographs, 1986

- Box 3, Folder 8 Thomas Babeor Gallery Exhibition, La Jolla, California (1986), 1986
- Box 3, Folder 9 Branson School Exhibition, Ross, California (1986), 1986
- Box 3, Folder 10 *Folded Square Alphabet Q 10'* (1986) IBM Commission, 1986
Oversized materials moved to OV 11
- Box 3, Folder 11 San Francisco Landscape Garden Show, Fort Mason Center (1986), 1986
Oversized materials moved to RD 14
- Box 3, Folder 12 "Furniture in the Aluminum Vein," Kaiser Center, Oakland, California (1986), 1986
Oversized drawings moved to Box 9, Folder 4
- Box 3, Folder 13 "Seven Artists in Depth: The Creative Process," San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (1986), 1986
- Box 3, Folder 14 San Francisco Arts Commission Festival, Civic Center Plaza (1986), 1986
Oversized materials moved to OV. 11
- Box 3, Folder 15 Loan of *Balanced, Unbalanced Wheels*, City of Phoenix, Arizona, 1986
- Box 3, Folder 16 Transamerica Redwood Park, San Francisco, California (1986), 1986
- Box 3, Folder 17 Art Store Gallery Exhibition, San Francisco, California (1987), 1986-1987
- Box 3, Folder 18 "Arts Irvine" (1987) , 1987
- Box 3, Folder 19 "International Working Symposium of Open Air Sculpture in Steel," Kleinwefers, Krefeld, West Germany, 1987
Oversized drawings and plans moved to OV 12
- Box 3, Folder 20 Palo Alto Cultural Center, Exhibition and Lecture (1988), 1987-1988
- Box 3 *Double Folded Circle Ring* (1992), Brussels, Belgium
- Box 3, Folder 21 Correspondence, 1991-1992
- Box 3, Folder 22 Contrats, 1992
- Box 3, Folder 23 Photographs and Site Plans, 1992-1996
Oversized plans moved to RD 14
- Box 3, Folder 24-25 Commission's Files, 1992-1996

Box 3, Folder 26	Shipping Documentation, 1992
Box 3, Folder 27	Video recording of Intallation, 1992 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Handwritten on the original box: "151 Boulevard Emile Jacquain Unveiling of Sculpture Source B ref 2509")</i>
Box 3, Folder 28-29	Gothaer Kunstforum, <i>Steel Watercolor Triangle Ring</i> (1993), Cologne, Germany, 1991-1993
Box 3, Folder 30	<i>Double Column, Ring, Triangle</i> (1994), Arizona State University, 1994
Box 3, Folder 31	Video Recording of Installation of <i>Balanced/Unbalanced Wheels #2</i> (1995), University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1995 <i>1 Videocassettes (Betacam)</i>
Box 3, Folder 32-34	<i>Double Circle Folded</i> (2002) Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, 2000-2002
Box 4, Folder 1-3	<i>Double Circle Folded</i> (2002), Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California , 2000-2002 <i>Includes a rough edit of a promotional video on one videocassette (VHS) in folder 3.</i> Oversized plans and drawings moved to OV.11 and OV.13 from Folders 1 and 2.
Box 9	Oversized Drawing from Box 2 folder 47
Box 9	Oversized Drawings from Box 3, Folder 12
Box OV 11	Oversized Drawing from Box 3, Folder 5
Box OV 11	Oversized Materials from Box 3, Folder 10
Box OV 11	Oversized Materials from Box 3, Folder 14
Box OV 11	Oversized Materials from Box 4, Folder 1
Box OV 11	Oversized Plans from Box 4, Folder 2
Box OV 12	Oversized Drawings and Plans from Box 3, Folder 19
Box OV 13	Oversized Plans from Box 4, Folder 2
Roll 14	Oversized Plans from Box 3, Folder 11
Roll 14	Oversized Plans from Box 3, Folder 23

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Series 5: Printed Materials, 1959-2006

2.3 Linear feet (Boxes 4-6 and OV 10)

Series contains printed material related to Benton's exhibitions and commissions. There are international materials in German, Japanese, Korean, Dutch and Spanish. Types of material include newspaper and magazine clippings, exhibition catalogs, magazines, published books, brochures, posters, leaflets, press releases, and postcards related to exhibitions and commissions. Scattered magazines, books, and press releases referencing Benton's exhibitions are filed with exhibition catalogs, along with institutional collection catalogs unrelated to a particular exhibiton. Exhibition-related printed material consists mainly of exhibition announcements, but posters, brochures, and programs are also found.

Series is arranged by type of material, and chronologically within each type. Newspaper and Magazine Clippings were originally organized in adhesive album pages but were removed during processing due to preservation concerns. Original album pages were photocopied to preserve the original arrangement. Additional printed materials can be found in series 4, Exhibition and Commission Files.

Box 4, Folder 4	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1959-1961
Box 4, Folder 5	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1964-1965 Oversized Clipping moved to OV 10
Box 4, Folder 6	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1966
Box 4, Folder 7	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1967
Box 4, Folder 8	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1968
Box 4, Folder 9	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1969
Box 4, Folder 10	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1970
Box 4, Folder 11	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1971
Box 4, Folder 12	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1972
Box 4, Folder 13	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1973
Box 4, Folder 14	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1975
Box 4, Folder 15	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1976
Box 4, Folder 16	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1977
Box 4, Folder 17	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1978
Box 4, Folder 18	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1979

Box 4, Folder 19	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1980
Box 4, Folder 20	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1981
Box 4, Folder 21	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1982
Box 4, Folder 22	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1983
Box 4, Folder 23	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1984
Box 4, Folder 24	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1985
Box 4, Folder 25	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1986-1987
Box 4, Folder 26	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1988
Box 4, Folder 27	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1989
Box 4, Folder 28	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1990-1997
Box 4, Folder 29	Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 2000-2006
Box 4, Folder 30	Exhibition Catalogs, 1965 Includes <i>NY World's Fair Art'65</i> and <i>Lesser Known and Unknown Painters/Young American Sculpture-East-West</i>
Box 4, Folder 31	Exhibition Catalogs, 1966 Includes <i>Los Angeles Engineer / Scientist</i> , June 1966
Box 4, Folder 32	Exhibition Catalogs, 1967 Includes Flint Institute of Arts <i>Light and Movement</i> exhibition; <i>Whitney Review 1966-7</i> catalog, and <i>Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture</i> by the Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois
Box 4, Folder 33	Exhibition Catalogs, 1968 Includes <i>Selection 1968</i> , University of California, Berkeley
Box 4, Folder 34	Exhibition Catalogs, 1969
Box 4, Folder 35-36	Exhibition Catalogs, 1970 Includes <i>Constructivist Tendencies</i> , University of Santa Barbara, California
Box 4, Folder 37	Exhibition Catalogs, 1971

Box 4, Folder 38	Exhibition Catalogs, 1973
Box 5, Folder 1	Exhibition Catalogs, 1974 /includes <i>Public Sculpture / Urban Environment Catalog</i> , Neubert, G., Oakland Museum, CA
Box 5, Folder 2	Exhibition Catalogs, 1975 Includes program from San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's <i>First Artists' Soapbox Derby</i>
Box 5, Folder 3	Exhibition Catalogs, 1976
Box 5, Folder 4	Exhibition Catalogs, 1977
Box 5, Folder 5	Exhibition Catalogs, 1978
Box 5, Folder 6	Exhibition Catalogs, 1979
Box 5, Folder 7	Exhibition Catalogs, 1980
Box 5, Folder 8	Exhibition Catalogs, 1981
Box 5, Folder 9	Exhibition Catalogs, 1982
Box 5, Folder 10	Exhibition Catalogs, 1984
Box 5, Folder 11	Exhibition Catalogs, 1984 Includes <i>California Sculpture Show Catalog</i> , International Arts Foundation, Los Angeles, CA, and <i>Works in Bronze: A Modern Survey Catalog</i> , Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA
Box 5, Folder 12	Exhibition Catalogs, 1985
Box 5, Folder 13	Exhibition Catalogs, 1986
Box 5, Folder 14	Exhibition Catalogs, 1987 Includes <i>Fletcher Benton: Sculpture and Watercolors 1980-1986</i> , with introduction by Jan Butterfield.
Box 5, Folder 15	Exhibition Catalogs, 1989 Includes the book <i>Motion Motion: Kinetic Art</i>
Box 5, Folder 16	Exhibition Catalogs, 1990

	Includes <i>Picasso, Gravuren, und Fletcher Benton Skulpturen</i> , Mathias Spital, Rheine (Nov-Dec, 1990)
Box 5, Folder 17	Exhibition Catalogs, 1991
Box 5, Folder 18	Exhibition Catalogs, 1993
Box 5, Folder 19	Exhibition Catalogs, 1994 Includes <i>Ohioana Quaterly</i> , Vol XXXVII, number 3, Fall, noting Benton's receipt of the annual State Career Award
Box 5, Folder 20	Exhibition Catalogs, 1995
Box 5, Folder 21	Exhibition Catalogs, 1996
Box 5, Folder 22	Exhibition Catalogs, 1997
Box 5, Folder 23	Exhibition Catalogs, 1998
Box 5, Folder 24	Exhibition Catalogs, 2001 Includes <i>Fletcher Benton</i> , Tascende Gallery catalog, February-June, 2001
Box 5, Folder 25	Exhibition Catalogs, 2003 Includes <i>Fletcher Benton: Sculpture, Reliefs, Works on Paper</i> , Neuhoff Gallery, NY
Box 5, Folder 26	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1964-1965
Box 5, Folder 27	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1966
Box 5, Folder 28	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1967
Box 5, Folder 29	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1968
Box 5, Folder 30	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1969
Box 5, Folder 31	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1970 Oversized material moved to OV 10
Box 5, Folder 32	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1971
Box 5, Folder 33	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1972
Box 5, Folder 34	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1974

Box 5, Folder 35	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1975
Box 5, Folder 36	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1978
Box 6, Folder 1	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1979
Box 6, Folder 2	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1980
Box 6, Folder 3	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1982
Box 6, Folder 4	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1983
Box 6, Folder 5	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1984
Box 6, Folder 6	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1985
Box 6, Folder 7	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1986 Oversized poster moved to OV.10
Box 6, Folder 8	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1987
Box 6, Folder 9	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1988
Box 6, Folder 10	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1989
Box 6, Folder 11	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1991
Box 6, Folder 12	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1995
Box 6, Folder 13	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1996
Box 6, Folder 14	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 1997
Box 6, Folder 15	Exhibition Related Printed Materials, 2000-2003
Box 6, Folder 16	Modern Mode Advertisement, 1981 Oversized advertisement moved to OV.10
Box OV 10	Oversized Materials from Box 4 Folder 5
Box OV 10	Oversized Materials from Box 5 Folder 31
Box OV 10	Oversized Materials from Box 6 Folder 7

Box OV 10

Oversized Materials from Box 6 Folder 16

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Series 6: Broadcast Materials, 1973-2001

1.1 Linear feet (Boxes 6-7)

Broadcast materials consist of a variety of sound and video productions including radio and television programs featuring Benton, documentaries, promotional videos, and exhibition-related programs. Material is on two sound cassettes and ten videocassettes (U-matic and VHS).

Television footage includes an interview conducted by Paul Turner for a special program on KQED celebrating their Auction Art Awards from 1973-1975, news footage from the installation of the public sculpture *Folded Circle-Arc* from WQAD in Illinois, and an interview for WDAF-TV about Benton's exhibition in Halls' Gallery in Kansas City. A radio program is also found from Frankfurt's local radio, in German, about his work during the early 1980's in Germany.

Additional video programs include a distribution copy of a documentary about Dr. Wennesland, for which Benton did a short interview; an extended interview conducted by George W. Neubert in relation to Benton's work between 1964-1974; and a California State University production where Fletcher Benton discusses his kinetic work with professor Jim McManus. The latter tape also includes a short video about computer artist Grace Hertlein. *Good Time to be West* is a documentary about twelve California sculptors and the relationship between their work and the region. *American Artists in Jewelry* is a short documentary about the exhibition held at the Gilman Baker Gallery in Boca Raton, Florida, in which Benton and DeWain Valentine participated, among other artists. *The Lollipops: A Kinetic Sculpture by Fletcher Benton* includes an interview with Benton talking about his sculpture and its mechanical operations. There is also one sound cassette that contains the soundtrack from an unidentified television program with an interview of Benton.

Television and radio programs are filed first in the series, followed by documentaries and exhibition-related material. Additional audiovisual material includes a home movie in series 1, Biographical material, studio and artwork documentation in series 7, Photographs and Moving Image Materials, and raw footage and production materials for a documentary in series 9, *An American Artist* video recordings.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 6, Folder 17 | <p>Television Interview, KQED , 1975
 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Duplicate; handwritten note on the cassette: "KQED TV Interview 1975 Benton")</i>
 <i>1 Videocassettes (U-matic) (Original; handwritten note on original cassette: "KQED")</i></p> |
| Box 6, Folder 18 | <p>Television News Footage of Installation of <i>Folded Circle-Arc</i> (1980), Muscatine, IA, 1980
 <i>1 Videocassettes (U-matic) (Original; handwritten note on the original box: "News Story and Video Footage Shot by WQAD TV Moline, ILL. Fletcher Benton Sculpture, Stanley Consultants, Muscatine, Iowa, September 12, 1980")</i>
 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Duplicate; handwritten note on the cassette: "Benton Sculpture Installation Muscatine, Iowa, 1980")</i></p> |
| Box 6, Folder 19 | <p>Radio Interview and Other Broadcast Material, Hessischer Rundfunk Hr2 (Frankfurt), 1981
 <i>1 Sound cassette (Handwritten note on cassette: "Hess Rundfunk2. Programm, Prisma. 10 July 1981")</i>
 <i>1 Sound cassette (Handwritten note on cassette: "Hess. Rundfunk II / 7.1.81. Portrait des amerikanisieren bildhauer Fletcher Benton. von J. Leisegang")</i></p> |
| Box 6, Folder 20 | <p>Television Interview, WDAF (Kansas City, MO) , 1997</p> |

1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Handwritten note on box: "Halls Interview. WDAF TV CHANNEL 4 KANSAS CITY (FOX) 04/10/97 12:00PM NEWS")

- Box 6, Folder 21 *Dr. Wennesland, An Icon Among the Beats, By Gerd Hennum, 2001
1 Videocassettes (VHS)*
- Box 6, Folder 22 *Fletcher Benton: Selected Works 1964-74 International Video Corporation .
Dessaisset Art Gallery and Museum. , 1975
1 Videocassettes (U-matic) (Original)
1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Duplicate)*
- Box 6, Folder 23 *Introduction to Art. Part One: Fletcher Benton, kinetic artist / Part Two: Grace
Hertlein, computer artist , 1973-1975
1 Videocassettes (U-matic) (Original)
1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Duplicate)*
- Box 7, Folder 1 *Good Time to be West, 1984
1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Duplicate material; original not found with collection)*
- Box 7, Folder 2 *American Artists in Jewelry , circa 1990
1 Videocassettes (VHS)*
- Box 7, Folder 3 *The Lollipops: A Kinetic Sculpture by Fletcher Benton, circa 1990
1 Videocassettes (VHS)*
- Box 7, Folder 4 *Sound from Unidentified Television Interview, undated
1 Sound cassette*

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Series 7: Photographic and Moving Image Materials, 1960-2005

0.5 Linear feet (Boxes 7, 9, FC 16-17)

0.97 Gigabytes (ER02)

Series includes photographs and moving image documentation of artwork, exhibitions, inaugurations, and images of Benton in his studios. Images of the artist include photographs, partially digitized motion picture film, and video taken in Benton's studios on Bloxom Street and Dore Street in San Francisco. Moving images of Benton's studios include a promotional video about the Dore Street Studio by Dave Hatch and a student film by Al Wong about Benton's studio at 63 Bloxom Street (1967). Images of artwork include photographs and motion picture film of paintings, sculptures, and kinetic works. David Finn's pictures are digital prints of Benton's sculptures created for the book *Fletcher Benton* (2003) by Carter Ratcliff.

Personal photographs of Benton and his friends and family are found in series 1, Biographical Materials. Additional moving image materials are also found in series 1, as well as in series 4, Exhibition and Commission Files, series 6, Broadcast Materials, and series 9, *An American Artist* Video Recordings.

Box 7	Images of the Artist
Box 7, Folder 5	Studio Photographs, circa 1960-circa 1990
Item FC 16	Bloxom Street Studio Footage, 1967 <i>1 Film reel (Original; Ektachrome; handwritten note on the original film can: "1967 By Al Wong (63 Bloxom St SF)"; 16mm)</i>
Folder ER02	Bloxom Street Studio Footage (1967), Digital Video Recording, 2004 <i>0.97 Gigabytes (One computer file)</i> Duplicate of film reel in Box FC16.
Box 7, Folder 6	Dore Street Studio footage, 1984 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS) (Handwritten label on video cassette: "Professional Sample Dore St. Studio")</i>
Box 7, Folder 7	Dore Street Studio Photographs by Leo Holub , 1990 Oversized photographs moved to Box 9, Folder 5
Box 7	Images of Art Work
Box 7, Folder 8	Paintings, circa 1950-1961
Item FC 17	Sculptures, 1965-1997 <i>Includes 1 film reel : 16 mm; original Kodachrome; handwritten note on original can: "Fletcher Benton Retrospective of Early Works. Bronte St"</i>
Folder ER02	Sculptures (1965), Digital Video Recording, 2004 <i>0.97 Gigabytes (One computer file)</i> Duplicate of film reel in Box FC17.
Box 7, Folder 10	Kinetic Drawings, 1968-1971

Box 7, Folder 11-15	David Finn Pictures, 2005
Box 7, Folder 16	Sunset Magazine Pictures , 1984
Box 7, Folder 17	Photographs of Exhibitions, Installations and Inaugurations , circa 1960-circa 1980
Box 9	Oversized Photograph moved from Box 7, Folder 7

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Series 8: Artwork , 1969

1 Item (Box 7)

Edited art Christmas card created by Benton for Galeria Bonino in New York.

Box 7, Folder 18

Miniature Synchronetic Christmas Card, 1969

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Series 9: *An American Artist* Video Recordings, 1995-2003

0.6 Linear feet (Boxes 7-8)

Series consists of 13 videocassettes (VHS) from the production of the documentary *Fletcher Benton: An American Artist* by Morgan Cavett, who was Benton's cousin. Being production material, there is a substantial quantity of footage that was not used in the final documentary, which is available on Benton's website and on DVD. Some of the material is personal and filmed in a casual manner.

The full, unedited interview with the curator George W. Neubert and Fletcher Benton's interview at the Davis Symphony Hall comprise two video cassettes each. An interview and footage about the Homage to WWII Airplanes series is also found on two videocassettes.

Three videocassettes contain footage of San Francisco's North Beach area with comments from Benton about his first years in the city, along with interviews of two of his studio assistants, Michael Roby and another unidentified assistant. Local scenes include Vesuvio Cafe and City Lights Books. Footage also includes studio scenes, some still shots of sculptures, and a tour given by Benton of his studio. Additional footage of the Dore Street studio and Benton's Napa home is on two videocassettes, and two rough edits of the documentary are on two additional videocassettes.

Additional video recordings are found in series 1, Biographical Materials, series 4, Exhibition and Commission Files, series 6, Broadcast Materials, and series 7, Photographic and Moving Image Materials.

Box 7, Folder 19	George W. Neubert Interview, 1995-2003, undated <i>2 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 7, Folder 20	Fletcher Benton Interview at the Davis Symphony Hall, 1995-2003 <i>2 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 7, Folder 21	<i>Homage to WWII Airplanes Series</i> , 1995-2003 <i>2 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 7, Folder 22	San Francisco North Beach Area and Assistants Interviews, 1995-2003 <i>3 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 8, Folder 1	Dore Street Studio Materials, 1995-2003 <i>2 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 8, Folder 2	Rough Edited Versions, 1995-2003 <i>2 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>

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