



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Ron Ho Papers, 1975-2003, in the Archives of American Art

Sarah Mundy

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Ron Ho papers
Date:	1975-2003
Identifier:	AAA.horon
Creator:	Ho, Ron
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of Seattle jeweler Ron Ho measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1975 to 2003. The collection comprises the Bellevue Arts Award, Best of the Eastside Award, and Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair awards; correspondence with Helen Drutt, Tacoma Art Museum, Society of North American Goldsmiths, Susan Biskeborn, Seattle Art Museum, and others; files for the several exhibitions; and printed material relating to Ho that includes clippings and exhibition catalogs and announcements.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Ron Ho papers were donated in 2004 by Ron Ho as part of the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Ron Ho conducted on May 9, 2017 by Lloyd Herman for the Archives of American Art at Ho's home in Seattle, W.A.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Ron Ho papers, 1975-2003. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Ron Ho (1936-2017) was a Chinese American jeweler in Seattle, Washington.

Ho was born Ronald Tau Wo Ho in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1936. After being introduced to crafts by a music teacher, Ho realized that he enjoyed working with his hands. He went on to study art education at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, and received a Master of Art Education degree from the University of Washington. Ho became close friends with fellow Seattle artist Ramona Solberg who shared his love of travel and using found objects to create jewelry pieces.

Ho has won numerous awards including Asian Artist of the Year by the Wing Luke Asian Museum in 1988 and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Seattle Metals Guild in 2007. He also became a fellow at the American Craft Council, as well as a lifetime member of Northwest Designer-Craftsmen.

Ho died in 2017 in Seattle.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Seattle jeweler Ron Ho measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1975 to 2003. The collection comprises the Bellevue Arts Award, Best of the Eastside Award, and Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair awards; correspondence with Helen Drutt, Tacoma Art Museum, Society of North American Goldsmiths, Susan Biskeborn, Seattle Art Museum, and others; files for the several exhibitions; and printed material relating to Ho that includes clippings and exhibition catalogs and announcements.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- American studio craft movement
- Asian American artists
- Asian American jewelers
- Chinese American artists

Names:

- Biskeborn, Susan
- Drutt, Helen Williams
- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
- Society of North American Goldsmiths
- Wing Luke Asian Museum (Seattle, Wash.)

Occupations:

Jewelers -- Washington (State) -- Seattle

Container Listing

Series 1: Ron Ho Papers, 1975-2003

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: The series comprises the Bellevue Arts Award, Best of the Eastside Award, and Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair awards; correspondence with Helen Drutt, Tacoma Art Museum, Society of North American Goldsmiths, Susan Biskeborn, Seattle Art Museum, and others; files for the exhibitions *Good as Gold: Alternative Materials in American Jewelry* (1981), *A Room of One's Own: Asian American Installation Art* (1993), and exhibitions at the Wing Luke Asian Museum; and printed materials relating to Ho that consist of clippings, exhibition catalogs and announcements, Pacific Lutheran University Alumni material, and a few miscellaneous items.

Box 1, Folder 1	Award, Bellevue Arts Award, 1990
Box 1, Folder 2	Award, Best of the Eastside Award, 1992
Box 1, Folder 3	Awards, Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair, circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1997-2003
Box 1, Folder 5	Exhibition, Good as Gold: Alternative Materials in American Jewelry (1981), 1981
Box 1, Folder 6	Exhibitions, Wing Luke Asian Museum Exhibition Forms, 1984-1988
Box 1, Folder 7	Exhibition, A Room of One's Own: Asian American Installation Art (1993), 1992-1993
Box 1, Folder 8	Printed Materials, Clippings, circa 1980-circa 1990
Box 1, Folder 9	Printed Materials, Exhibition Catalogs and Announcements, 1975-1996
Box 1, Folder 10	Printed Materials, Miscellaneous, 1982-1993
Box 1, Folder 11	Printed Materials, Pacific Lutheran University Alumni, 1990

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