



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Edward M. Plunkett
Mail Art to Richard Shebairo, 1983-1986,
in the Archives of American Art

Ryan Evans

2018 April 27

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/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Edward M. Plunkett mail art to Richard Shebairo
Identifier:	AAA.shebrich
Date:	1983-1986
Extent:	0.02 Linear feet
Creator:	Shebairo, Richard
Language:	English
Summary:	Mail art from Edward M. Plunkett to Richard Shebairo measures 0.02 linear feet and date from 1983-1986, including letters, rubber-stamped envelopes, newspaper clippings, perforated faux postage stamps, several handmade booklets and rubber stamped communications, an unopened letter to Plunkett, which he altered with rubber stamps and signed "EMP 84." Also included is a 3x5 inch memo book inscribed "to Richard April 1, 1985 E M Plunkett," containing rubber-stamp narratives. Correspondence relates to accounting tasks and materials, accompanied with mentions of Plunkett's enclosed mail art.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Edward M. Plunkett mail art to Richard Shebairo, 1983-1986, was donated in 2018 by Richard Shebairo.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Ryan Evans in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Edward M. Plunkett mail art to Richard Shebairo, 1983-1986. 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.

Biographical / Historical

Edward M. Plunkett (1922-) is a mail artist who coined the name "New York Correspondence School" in the early 1960s to describe the work he was making with contemporaries such as Ray Johnson. Richard Shebairo was Plunkett's accountant.

Scope and Contents

Mail art from Edward M. Plunkett to Richard Shebairo measure 0.02 linear feet and date from 1983-1986, including letters, rubber-stamped envelopes, newspaper clippings, perforated faux postage stamps, several handmade booklets and rubber stamped communications, an unopened letter to Plunkett, which he altered with rubber stamps and signed "EMP 84." Also included is a 3x5 inch memo book inscribed "to Richard April 1, 1985 E M Plunkett," containing rubber-stamp narratives. Correspondence relates to accounting tasks and materials, accompanied with mentions of Plunkett's enclosed mail art.

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:

Rubber stamps

Types of Materials:

Mail art

Names:

Plunkett, Ed (1922-)

Container Listing

Series 1: Edward M. Plunkett Mail Art to Richard Shebairo, 1983-1986

22 Items (Folder 1)

Correspondence from Edward M. Plunkett to Richard Shebairo relates to accounting tasks and materials, and is accompanied with mentions of Plunkett's enclosed mail art. Mail art includes rubber-stamped envelopes, newspaper clippings, perforated faux postage stamps, several handmade booklets and rubber stamped communications, an unopened letter to Plunkett, which he altered with rubber stamps and signed "EMP 84." Also included is a 3x5 inch memo book inscribed "to Richard April 1, 1985 E M Plunkett," containing rubber-stamp narratives.

Folder 1

Edward M. Plunkett mail art to Richard Shebairo, 1983-1986

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