



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Reuben Tam Papers,
1931-2006, in the Archives of American Art

Erin Kinhart and Rihoko Ueno

The processing and digitization of the Reuben Tam papers received
Federal support from the Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool,
administered by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Reuben Tam papers
Identifier:	AAA.tamreub
Date:	1931-2006
Extent:	8.1 Linear feet
Creator:	Tam, Reuben
Language:	English Collection is in English.
Summary:	The papers of landscape painter and educator Reuben Tam measure 8.1 linear feet and date from 1931 to 2006. The papers document his career as a painter in New York, Maine, and Hawaii through biographical material; correspondence with family, friends, art organizations, schools, and galleries; diaries, poetry, and other writings; exhibition catalogs, news clippings, other printed material; photographs; artwork, including seventeen sketchbooks; and eight scrapbooks.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Scrapbooks were lent for microfilming 1970 by Reuben Tam and were subsequently donated in 2009 along with additional papers by Geraldine King Tam, Reuben Tam's widow.

Related Materials

Reuben Tam papers, 1958-1966, are also located at Syracuse University.

Available Formats

The bulk of the collection was digitized in 2017 and is available on the Archives of American Art's website. Materials which have not been digitized include blank pages, blank versos of photographs, and duplicates. In some cases, exhibition catalogs and other publications have had their covers, title pages, and relevant pages scanned.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and described in a finding aid by Erin Kinhart in 2011. The collection was fully processed and prepared for digitization by Rihoko Ueno in 2017. The digitization of the Reuben Tam papers received Federal support from the Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

Preferred Citation

Reuben Tam papers, 1931-2006. 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. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Reuben Tam papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical / Historical

Reuben Tam (1916-1991) was a landscape painter and educator in New York, Maine, and Hawaii. Tam was born in Kapaa, Hawaii, in 1916. He received a degree in education in 1937 from the University of Hawaii and was briefly a public school teacher before attending graduate courses at the California School of Fine Arts. In 1941 he moved to New York and took courses in art history and philosophy at the New School for Social Research and Columbia University. Tam became affiliated with the Downtown Gallery in 1945 and was a prolific exhibitor in national and regional shows, winning critical praise as an abstract landscape painter. In 1948 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and first exhibited in the National Academy's annual exhibition in 1947.

Tam was an instructor at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School from 1946 to 1974. While there he taught advanced studies in painting and was chairman of the graduate painting department. He also served as a visiting professor at Oregon State University, Haystack, and Queens College, CUNY.

Beginning in 1948, Tam and his wife, Geraldine, spent summers at their home and studio on Monhegan Island, Maine. Tam's work was deeply influenced by coastal landscapes both in Maine and in his native Hawaii. In 1981 he and his wife moved back to Kapaa, Hawaii, where he continued to paint and exhibit his new works until his death in 1991.

Scope and Contents

The papers of landscape painter and educator Reuben Tam measure 8.1 linear feet and date from 1931 to 2006. The papers document his career as a painter in New York, Maine, and Hawaii through biographical material; correspondence with family, friends, art organizations, schools, and galleries; diaries, poetry, and other writings; exhibition catalogs, news clippings, other printed material; photographs; artwork, including seventeen sketchbooks; and eight scrapbooks.

Biographical material includes school documents, records of his tenure as an instructor at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School, artwork consignment and sales records, and slides and accompanying audio cassette recording of the "Reuben Tam Show" about his work as an artist on Monhegan Island, Maine.

Correspondence is with family, fellow artists, including William Kienbusch and Hyde Solomon, as well as art organizations, schools, and museums, such as Brooklyn Museum of Art School, Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Maine Coast Artists group, and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

Also found is correspondence with the three galleries which represented his work: Downtown Gallery, Alan Gallery, and Coe Kerr Gallery.

The collection includes five bound diaries as well as diary entries written by Reuben Tam on loose sheets of paper, primarily documenting the 1940s. Other writings include drafts of poetry, one notebook, miscellaneous notes, and essays by others.

Printed material consists of school publications, exhibition catalogs and announcements for solo and group shows, brochures, flyers, magazines, bulletins, and news clippings. Eight scrapbooks found in this collection also include newspaper clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, as well as event invitations, membership cards, and letters, documenting 40 years of Reuben Tam's career.

Photographs are of Reuben Tam, Tam with friends and family, and artwork. One photograph album contains photographs from Tam's visits to Maine from 1946 to 1948, and includes photographs of fellow artists Hyde Solomon, Carl Nesjar, Dorothy Andrews, and William Kienbusch. Artwork in the collection includes prints, drawings, and watercolors as well as seventeen large sketchbooks documenting the coastal landscape of Monhegan Island, Maine.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 8 series:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1934-1993 (Box 1; 0.4 linear feet)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1931-2006 (Box 1-4; 3.5 linear feet)
- Series 3: Diaries, 1932-1974 (Box 4-5; 0.4 linear feet)
- Series 4: Writings, 1939-1987 (Box 5; 7 folders)
- Series 5: Printed Material, 1935-1997 (Box 5-6, 9; 1.2 linear feet)
- Series 6: Photographs, circa 1930-1990 (Box 6-7, 9; 1.0 linear foot)
- Series 7: Artwork, circa 1936-1975 (Box 7, 9-10, OV 11; 0.7 linear feet)
- Series 8: Scrapbooks, 1938-1978 (Box 7-8; 0.9 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Educators -- Hawaii
Educators -- Maine
Educators -- New York (State)
Painters -- Hawaii
Painters -- Maine
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Diaries
Drafts (documents)
Drawings
Photographs
Poems

Prints
Scrapbooks
Sketchbooks
Sound recordings
Watercolors

Names:

Alan Gallery (Charles Alan)
Andrews, Dorothy, 1918-2008
Brooklyn Museum of Art
Coe Kerr Gallery
Downtown Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
Kienbusch, William, 1914-1980
Nesjar, Carl, 1920-
Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture
Solomon, Hyde, 1911-

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, 1934-1993

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

This series contains biographical summaries and resumes documenting Reuben Tam's career, as well as his school records, diplomas, and teaching records, including extensive records of his tenure at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School. Also found are records of artwork sales and loans, various lists of artwork, and the consignment and purchase records for the galleries which represented Tam. Also of note is a slide show and accompanying audio cassette recording of the "Reuben Tam Show" about his work as an artist on Monhegan Island, Maine.

Folders are arranged alphabetically.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for blank pages and duplicates. The sound recording of the "Reuben Tam Show" has been digitized for research access.

Box 1, Folder 1	Appraisal Records, 1991-1992 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 2	"Artists of Hawaii" Television Program Documents, 1983 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 3	Artwork Freight Records, 1991-1994 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 4	Artwork Sales and Loans, 1948, circa 1969-1992 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 5	Bills and Receipts (1 of 2), circa 1941-1977 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 6	Bills and Receipts (2 of 2), circa 1941-1977 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 7	Biographical Information and Resumes, 1944-1987 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8	Calendar Pages, 1965 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 9	Consignments and Purchases, Alan Gallery, 1953-1955 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10	Consignments and Purchases, Alan Gallery, 1956-1967 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 11	Consignments and Purchases, Coe Kerr Gallery, 1971-1979 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 12	Consignments and Purchases, Downtown Gallery, 1943-1951

	Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 13	Consignments and Purchases, Downtown Gallery, 1959, 1952-1953 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 14	Diplomas, 1937-1938 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 15	Identification Card, 1940 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 16	Lists of Artwork, circa 1957-1984 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 17	Memorial Program, 1991 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 18	National Endowment for the Arts Grant Application, 1969 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 19	"Reuben Tam Show" Slide Show, circa 1980 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 20	"Reuben Tam Show" Sound Recordings, circa 1980 <i>2 sound cassettes (Duplicates)</i>
Box 1, Folder 21	School Records, 1934-1940 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 22	Teaching Records, 1973, 1943, 1940 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 23	Teaching Records, Brooklyn Museum of Art School (1 of 2), 1948-1974 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 24	Teaching Records, Brooklyn Museum of Art School (2 of 2), 1948-1974 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 25	Travel Documents, 1974 Image(s)

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1931-2006

3.5 Linear feet (Boxes 1-4)

This series contains Tam's correspondence with his wife Geraldine, family, friends, colleagues, art associations, schools, museums, and galleries. Also found are copies of Tam's outgoing correspondence and letters sent to Geraldine Tam after Reuben's death. Researchers should note that additional letters of significance are located within the scrapbooks in Series 8.

Of note is correspondence with friends and fellow artists Alan Gussow, William Kienbusch, Frances Kornbluth, Carl Nesjar, Ben Norris, and Hyde Solomon, as well as art organizations, schools, and museums, such as Artists Equity Association, Brooklyn Museum of Art School, Honolulu Academy of Arts, Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Maine Coast Artists group, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Also found is correspondence with the three galleries which represented his work: Downtown Gallery, Alan Gallery, and Coe Kerr Gallery.

Family and outgoing correspondence is arranged chronologically followed by general correspondence which is arranged alphabetically.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for duplicates.

Box 1, Folder 26	Correspondence between Reuben and Geraldine Tam, circa 1954-1971 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 27	Correspondence between Reuben and Geraldine Tam, 1971-1976 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 28	Family Correspondence, 1941, 1970-1974 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 29	Family Correspondence, 1985-1988 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 30	Family Correspondence, 1989 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 31	Family Correspondence, 1990 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 32	Family Correspondence, 1991-1992 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 33	Family Correspondence, 1993 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 34	Family Correspondence, 1994 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 35	Family Correspondence, 1995 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 36	Family Correspondence, 1996

	Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 37	Family Correspondence, 1997-1998 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 38	Family Correspondence (Undated), circa 1970-circa 1998 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 39	Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others (Undated), circa 1991-1998 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 40	Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others, 1991-1998 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 41	Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others, 2001-2002 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 42	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1940-1945 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 43	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1946-1947 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 44	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1948-1949 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 45	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1950-1952 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 1	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1953 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 2	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1954 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 3	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1955 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 4	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1956-57 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 5	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1958-1959 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 6	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1963-1966 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 7	Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1970-1989 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 8	Alan Gallery, 1953-1960

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 9	Alan Gallery, 1962-1974 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 10	Allentown Art Museum, 1974 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 11	Artists Equity Association, 1952-1972 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 12	Art League of Hilton Head, 1977-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 13	A, Miscellaneous: Ad-An, 1941-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 14	A, Miscellaneous: Ar-Av, 1939-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 15	Barrett, Tom and Leni Mancuso, 1970-1975 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 16	Betts, Edward, 1976-1980 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 17	Boothbay Region Art Foundation, 1967-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 18	Brooklyn Museum Art School, 1947-1968 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 19	Brooklyn Museum Art School, 1969-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 20	B, Miscellaneous: Ba-Bi, 1938-1997 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 21	B, Miscellaneous: Bl-By, 1955-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 22	Clough, Gari and Elena, circa 1965-1972 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 23	Coe Kerr Gallery, 1970-1972 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 24	Coe Kerr Gallery, 1973-1978 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 25	Coe Kerr Gallery, 1979-1984

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 26	Colby College Art Museum, 1964-1976 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 27	Columbia University, 1967-1973 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 28	C, Miscellaneous: Ca-Ce, 1940-1997 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 29	C, Miscellaneous: Ch-CI, 1948-1988 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 30	C, Miscellaneous: Coa-Con, 1943-1993 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 31	C, Miscellaneous: Cor-Cu, 1967-1988 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 32	Downtown Gallery, 1945-1957 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 33	D, Miscellaneous: Da-Di, 1941-1979 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 34	D, Miscellaneous: Do-Dr, 1939-1995 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 35	E, Miscellaneous, 1963-1975 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 36	Ford Foundation, 1958-1959 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 37	F, Miscellaneous: Fa-Fe, 1957-1976 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 38	F, Miscellaneous: Fi-Fo, 1960-1979 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 39	F, Miscellaneous: Fr-Fu, 1942-1994 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 1	Goldsmith, Lawrence, 1968-1979 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 2	Gussow, Alan, 1967-1975 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 3	Gussow, Alan, 1976-1997

	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 4	G, Miscellaneous: Ga-Gi, 1948-1988 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 5	G, Miscellaneous: Go-Gu, 1940-1990 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 6	Haystack, 1970-1971 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 7	Honolulu Academy of Arts, 1939-1993 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 8	Honolulu Print Makers, 1942-1948 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 9	H, Miscellaneous: Ha, 1943-1997 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 10	H, Miscellaneous: He-Hu, 1938-1994 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 11	Institute of International Education, 1957-1961 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 12	International House, 1974, circa 1942-1943 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 13	I, Miscellaneous, 1940-1987 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 14	Jahn, Elena, 1959-1994 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 15	Joe De Mers Gallery, 1973-1977 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 16	John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 1942-1990 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 17	J, Miscellaneous, 1952-1977 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 18	Kienbusch, William, 1947-1949 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 19	Kienbusch, William, 1950-1975 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 20	Kirchner, Leon, 1943-1948

	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 21	Kline, Amy Sue and Thomas McColl, 1973-1974 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 22	Kornbluth, Frances, 1989, 1970-1977 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 23	Kurka, Don, 1967-1995 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 24	K, Miscellaneous: Ka-Ko, 1935-1984 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 25	K, Miscellaneous: Kr-Ku, 1954-1973 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 26	Lamont Gallery, 1970 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 27	Lyman House Memorial Museum, 1984-1986 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 28	L, Miscellaneous: La-Le, 1944-1977 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 29	L, Miscellaneous: Li-Ly, 1942-1990 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 30	Maine Art Gallery, 1961-1967 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 31	Maine Coast Artists, 1953, 1964-1969 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 32	Maine Coast Artists, 1970-1976 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 33	Maine Coast Artists, 1977-1984 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 34	Manoa, 1989 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 35	Miller, Donald, 1942-1943 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 36	Museum of Modern Art, 1952-1974 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 37	M, Miscellaneous: Mac-Mai, 1962-1978

	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 38	M, Miscellaneous: Mal-May, 1969-1994 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 39	M, Miscellaneous: Mc-Mo, 1947-2006 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 40	National Academy of Design, 1966-1989 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 41	Nesjar, Carl, 1946-1967 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 42	Norris, Ben, 1958-1978 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 1	N, Miscellaneous: N.-Na, 1945-1980 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 2	N, Miscellaneous: Ne-No, 1931-1992 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 3	Oregon State University, 1965-1967 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 4	O, Miscellaneous, 1953-1979 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 5	Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, 1940-1967 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 6	Porter, Cecil, 1971-1973 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 7	Portland Museum of Art, 1958-1993 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 8	P, Miscellaneous: Pa-Pe, 1948-1985 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 9	P, Miscellaneous: Ph-Pu, 1941-1989 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 10	Q, Miscellaneous, 1973, 1997 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 11	Rockwell, Fritz, 1943-1947 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 12	R, Miscellaneous: Ra-Ri, 1958-1973

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 13	R, Miscellaneous: Ro-Ru, 1943-1974 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 14	Samenfeld, Mark, circa 1953-1969 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 15	Schaffner, John, 1957-1958 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 16	Shoemaker, Peter, 1952-1997 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 17	Silk Screen Group, 1942-1943 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 18	Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 1954-1967 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 19	Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 1969-1976 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 20	Solomon, Hyde, 1944-1972 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 21	State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (Hawaii), 1970-1997 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 22	Syracuse University, 1964-1970 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 23	S, Miscellaneous: Sa-Sc, 1943-1992 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 24	S, Miscellaneous: Se-Sm, 1939-1979 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 25	S, Miscellaneous: So-Su, 1941-1988 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 26	Twining, Libbie Cooper, 1969-1974 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 27	T, Miscellaneous, 1939-1976 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 28	University of Colorado, 1970, 1953 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 29	University of Delaware, 1980-1987

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 30	University of Hawaii, 1942-1990 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 31	University of Illinois, Urbana, 1952-1959 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 32	U, Miscellaneous, 1934-1978 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 33	V, Miscellaneous, 1940-1970 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 34	Whitney Museum of American Art, 1953-1986 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 35	Winters, Denny, circa 1952-1978 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 36	W, Miscellaneous: Wa-We, 1940-1978 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 37	W, Miscellaneous: Wh-Wo, 1955-1997 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 38	Y-Z, Miscellaneous, 1959-1991 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 39	Unidentified Correspondence, 1939-1971 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 40	Unidentified Correspondence, 1972-1990 Image(s)

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Series 3: Diaries, 1932-1974

0.4 Linear feet (Boxes 4-5)

This series contains five bound diaries as well as diary entries written by Reuben Tam on loose sheets of paper. Most of the diaries document Tam's activities during the 1940s, including his early visits to Maine. Diaries also include a few sketches and notes.

Diaries are arranged in chronological order.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for blank pages.

Box 4, Folder 41	Diary, 1932 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 42	Diary (Loose Pages), 1938 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 1	Diary (Loose Pages), 1939 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 2	Diary (Loose Pages), 1940-1941 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 3	Diary, 1941 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 4	Diary, 1941-1942 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 5	Diary (Loose Pages), 1942-1943 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 6	Diary (Loose Pages), 1944-1947 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 7	Diary, 1947-1948 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 8	Diary, 1962-1974 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 9	Diary (Loose Pages), circa 1966-1970 Image(s)

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Series 4: Writings, 1939-1987

7 Folders (Box 5)

This series contains drafts of poetry by Reuben Tam, one notebook containing notes on artwork and painting technique, and miscellaneous writings and notes by Tam, including thoughts on Montauk, New York, and Monhegan Island, Maine. Also found are an essay about Tam, "Reuben Tam, Metaphysical Painter" by Martin James, and an article for Kauai Magazine by Pat I. Griffin.

The material in this series has been arranged alphabetically by type of writing, such as essays, notes, and poems.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for blank pages and duplicates.

Box 5, Folder 10	Autobiographical Essay by Reuben Tam, 1975 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 11	Miscellaneous Writings and Notes, 1944 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 12	Miscellaneous Writings and Notes, 1946-1987 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 13	Notebook, 1942 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 14	Poetry by Reuben Tam, circa 1940-circa 1942 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 15	Poem by Jerry Friese, "Signature", 1939 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 16	Writings about Reuben Tam, 1945, 1985 Image(s)

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Series 5: Printed Material, 1935-1997

1.2 Linear feet (Boxes 5-6, 9)

Printed material consists of a book of poetry by Reuben Tam titled *The Wind-Honed Islands Rise*, publications produced by the Brooklyn Museum Art School, exhibition catalogs and announcements for solo and group shows of Tam's work, brochures, flyers, and other miscellaneous publications. Included are several catalogs for exhibitions at the Downtown Gallery. Also found are magazines, bulletins, and news clippings of articles documenting Tam's career. Researchers should note that numerous clippings and exhibition announcements are also included within the scrapbooks found in Series 8.

The material in this series has been arranged by document type (exhibition announcements and catalogs, report, magazines, clippings, etc.), then arranged chronologically within those groupings.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for duplicates. Most of the exhibition catalogs and other publications have had their covers, title pages, and relevant pages scanned.

Box 5, Folder 17	<i>The Wind-Honed Islands Rise</i> by Reuben Tam, 1996 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 18	Brooklyn Museum Art School Publications, 1947-1973 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 19	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs (Undated), circa 1940-circa 1990 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 20	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1937-1941 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 21	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1942-1944 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 22	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1945-1946 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 23	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1946-1947 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 24	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1948-1949 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 25	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1950-1951 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 26	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1952 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 27	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1953-1959 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 28	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1960-1969 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 1	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1970-1979

	Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 2	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1980-1996 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 3	Foundation Reports, 1948, 1991 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 4	Gallery Publications, circa 1940-circa 1952 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 5	Magazines and Bulletins, 1935-1941 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 6	Magazines and Bulletins, 1945-1949 Image(s) Oversized magazine housed in Box 9.
Box 6, Folder 7	Magazines and Bulletins, 1950-1979 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 8	Magazines and Bulletins, 1984-1997 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 9	News Clippings (Undated), circa 1940-circa 1995 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 10	News Clippings, circa 1938-1940 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 11	News Clippings, 1941-1946 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 12	News Clippings, 1947-1949 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 13	News Clippings, 1950-1965 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 14	News Clippings, 1970-1979 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 15	News Clippings, 1980-1995 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 16	Miscellaneous Printed Material (1 of 2), circa 1937-1989 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 17	Miscellaneous Printed Material (2 of 2), circa 1937-1989 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 18	Miscellaneous Printed Material, circa 1940-circa 1949

[Image\(s\)](#)

Box 9

Oversized Magazine digitized with material from Box 6, Folder 6, 1948

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Series 6: Photographs, circa 1930-1990

1 Linear foot (Boxes 6-7, 9)

This series consists of photographs of Reuben Tam, Tam with friends and family, photographs and slides of his artwork, and four photograph albums. Included are photographs of Tam in his studio, sketching on Monhegan Island, and portraits taken by his nephew, William Ing. One photograph album contains photographs from Tam's visits to Maine from 1946 to 1948 and includes photographs of fellow artists Hyde Solomon, Carl Nesjar, Dorothy Andrews, and William Kienbusch.

The material in this series is loosely arranged by subject. Photographs of Reuben Tam are at the beginning of the series.

The bulk of this series has been scanned, except for duplicates and blank versos of photographs.

Box 6, Folder 19	Small Snapshots of Reuben Tam, 1940-1949 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 20	Photographs of Reuben Tam, circa 1940-1947 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 21	Photographs of Reuben Tam, 1947-1951 Image(s) Oversized photographs housed in Box 9.
Box 6, Folder 22	Photographs of Reuben Tam, 1951-1968 Image(s) Oversized photograph housed in Box 9.
Box 6, Folder 23	Photographs of Reuben Tam, 1969-1977 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 24	Photographs of Reuben Tam by William Ing, circa 1960-1984 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 25	Photographs of Reuben Tam on Monhegan Island, circa 1970-circa 1979 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 26	Photographs of Reuben Tam and Others, circa 1940-1990 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 27	Photograph of Monhegan Cottage, circa 1950-circa 1959 Image(s) Oversized photograph housed in Box 9.
Box 6, Folder 28	Photographs for Still Life Lecture, 1986 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 29	Photograph Album, Personal (1 of 2), 1946-1948 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 30	Photograph Album, Personal (2 of 2), 1946-1948

	Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 31	Photograph Album of Artwork 1 (1 of 2), circa 1940-circa 1949 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 32	Photograph Album of Artwork 1 (2 of 2), circa 1940-circa 1949 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 1	Photograph Album of Artwork 2 (1 of 2) , circa 1940-1961 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 2	Photograph Album of Artwork 2 (2 of 2), circa 1940-1961 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 3	Photograph Album of Artwork 3, circa 1960-circa 1969 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 4	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1930-circa 1979 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 5	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1930-circa 1980 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 6	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1940-circa 1979 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 7	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1940-circa 1987 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 8	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1950-circa 1969 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 9	Negatives and Slides, 1983, undated Image(s)
Box 9	Oversize Photographs of Reuben Tam digitized with material from Box 6, Folders 21-22, circa 1948, circa 1960
Box 9	Oversize Photograph of Monhegan Cottage digitized with Box 6, Folder 27, circa 1950-circa 1959

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Series 7: Artwork, circa 1936-1975

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 7, 9-10, OV 11)

Artwork includes Reuben Tam's drawings, watercolors, prints, and sketchbooks, as well as two drawings by others. Some of these works are from the period that Tam was a student at the University of Hawaii. Seventeen large sketchbooks contain Tam's pencil, ink, and watercolor sketches of the rocky landscape on Monhegan Island, Maine. One pastel portrait, possibly of Tam, is by an unidentified artist, and one sketch by Geraldine Tam is titled "Reuben Tam Typing."

The material in this series has been loosely grouped by medium and format (drawings, portraits, prints, sketchbooks, etc.). The sketchbooks have been arranged chronologically.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for blank pages.

Box 7, Folder 10	Drawings and Watercolors, circa 1936, 1954, undated Image(s) Oversized items housed in Box 9.
Box 7, Folder 11	Pastel Portrait, circa 1937 Image(s) Oversized item housed in OV 11.
Box 7, Folder 12	Prints, circa 1935-circa 1975 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 13	Sketch by Geraldine Tam, 1971 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 1	Sketchbook 1, 1964 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 2	Sketchbook 2, 1964 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 3	Sketchbook 3, 1964 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1967 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 5	Sketchbook 1, 1968 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 6	Sketchbook 2, 1968 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 7	Sketchbook 1, 1969 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 8	Sketchbook 2, 1969

	Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 1	Sketchbook 1, 1970 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 2	Sketchbook 2, 1970 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 3	Sketchbook 3, 1970 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1972 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1973 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 6	Sketchbook 1, 1975 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 7	Sketchbook 2, 1975 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 8	Sketchbook (Undated) 1, circa 1964-circa 1975 Image(s)
Box 10, Folder 9	Sketchbook (Undated) 2, circa 1964-circa 1975 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder	Oversize Drawings digitized with material from Box 7, Folder 10, circa 1954
Box OV 11, Folder	Oversized Pastel Portrait digitized with Box 7, Folder 11, circa 1937

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Series 8: Scrapbooks, 1938-1978

0.9 Linear feet (Boxes 7-8)

This series contains eight scrapbooks, documenting 40 years of Reuben Tam's career as an artist in New York and Maine. Included in the scrapbooks are newspaper clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, event invitations, membership cards, and letters from Downtown Gallery, Museum of Modern Art, Carnegie Institute, Brooklyn Museum, and other galleries and art organizations. Three loose scrapbook pages appear to be from scrapbooks not found in this collection.

Scrapbook pages have been removed from fragile binders and placed into archival folders, maintaining the original page order. Scrapbooks were numbered by Reuben Tam and are in chronological order.

The bulk of the series has been digitized, except for a few pages of duplicates.

Box 7, Folder 14	Loose Scrapbook Pages, circa 1939-1942 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 15	Scrapbook 1 (1 of 2), 1938-1944 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 16	Scrapbook 1 (2 of 2), 1938-1944 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 17	Scrapbook 2 (1 of 2), 1945-1947 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 18	Scrapbook 2 (2 of 2), 1945-1947 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 19	Scrapbook 3 (1 of 2), 1946-1949 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 20	Scrapbook 3 (2 of 2), 1946-1949 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 21	Scrapbook 4 (1 of 2), 1949-1952 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 22	Scrapbook 4 (2 of 2), 1949-1952 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 23	Scrapbook 5 (1 of 3), 1952-1959 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 24	Scrapbook 5 (2 of 3), 1952-1959 Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 25	Scrapbook 5 (3 of 3), 1952-1959 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 1	Scrapbook 6 (1 of 3), 1960-1967

	Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 2	Scrapbook 6 (2 of 3), 1960-1967 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 3	Scrapbook 6 (3 of 3), 1960-1967 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 4	Scrapbook 7 (1 of 2), 1967-1970 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 5	Scrapbook 7 (2 of 2), 1967-1970 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 6	Scrapbook 8 (1 of 2), 1971-1978 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 7	Scrapbook 8 (2 of 2), 1971-1978 Image(s)

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