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.

2017 August 1
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Reuben Tam papers
Identifier: AAA.tamreub
Date: 1931-2006
Extent: 9.2 Linear feet
Creator: Tam, Reuben
Language: English

Collection is in English.

Summary: The papers of landscape painter and educator Reuben Tam measure 9.2 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. There is a 1.1 linear foot unprocessed addition to the collection donated in 2020 that includes 34 sketchbooks, circa 1940-1974, by Tam from his time in New York, Hawaii, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Oregon, Alaska and Canada.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
Scrapbooks were lent for microfilming in 1970 by Reuben Tam and were subsequently donated in 2009 along with additional papers by Geraldine King Tam, Reuben Tam's widow. 34 additional sketchbooks were donated in 2020 by the Geraldine King Tam Trust, via Cindy King, trustee and niece of Geraldine King Tam.

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


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 9.2 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. There is a 1.1 linear foot unprocessed addition to the
collection donated in 2020 that includes 34 sketchbooks, circa 1940-1974, by Tam from his time in New York, Hawaii, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Oregon, Alaska and Canada.

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 9 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)
- Series 9: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1940-1974 (Box 12, OV13; 1.1 linear foot)

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)
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
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
  2 Sound cassettes (Duplicates)
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
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Family Correspondence, 1996 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Family Correspondence, 1997-1998 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Family Correspondence (Undated), circa 1970-circa 1998 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others (Undated), circa 1991-1998 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others, 1991-1998 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Letters to Geraldine Tam from Others, 2001-2002 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1940-1945 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1946-1947 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1948-1949 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1950-1952 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, Folder 1</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1953 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, Folder 2</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1954 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1955 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1956-57 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Outgoing Letters by Reuben Tam, 1958-1959 Image(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
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-Cl, 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
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

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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)
  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
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)

Image(s)

Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 40  National Academy of Design, 1966-1989
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 41  Nesjar, Carl, 1946-1967
Box 3, Folder 42  Norris, Ben, 1958-1978
Box 4, Folder 1  N, Miscellaneous: N.-Na, 1945-1980
Box 4, Folder 2  N, Miscellaneous: Ne-No, 1931-1992
Box 4, Folder 3  Oregon State University, 1965-1967
Box 4, Folder 4  O, Miscellaneous, 1953-1979
Box 4, Folder 5  Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, 1940-1967
Box 4, Folder 6  Porter, Cecil, 1971-1973
Box 4, Folder 7  Portland Museum of Art, 1958-1993
Box 4, Folder 8  P, Miscellaneous: Pa-Pe, 1948-1985
Box 4, Folder 9  P, Miscellaneous: Ph-Pu, 1941-1989
Box 4, Folder 10  Q, Miscellaneous, 1973, 1997
Box 4, Folder 11  Rockwell, Fritz, 1943-1947
Box 4, Folder 12  R, Miscellaneous: Ra-Ri, 1958-1973
Box 4, Folder 13  R, Miscellaneous: Ro-Ru, 1943-1974
Box 4, Folder 14  Samenfeld, Mark, circa 1953-1969
| Box 4, Folder 15 | Schaffner, John, 1957-1958 |
| Box 4, Folder 16 | Shoemaker, Peter, 1952-1997 |
| Box 4, Folder 17 | Silk Screen Group, 1942-1943 |
| Box 4, Folder 18 | Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 1954-1967 |
| Box 4, Folder 19 | Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 1969-1976 |
| Box 4, Folder 20 | Solomon, Hyde, 1944-1972 |
| Box 4, Folder 21 | State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (Hawaii), 1970-1997 |
| Box 4, Folder 22 | Syracuse University, 1964-1970 |
| Box 4, Folder 23 | S, Miscellaneous: Sa-Sc, 1943-1992 |
| Box 4, Folder 24 | S, Miscellaneous: Se-Sm, 1939-1979 |
| Box 4, Folder 25 | S, Miscellaneous: So-Su, 1941-1988 |
| Box 4, Folder 26 | Twining, Libbie Cooper, 1969-1974 |
| Box 4, Folder 27 | T, Miscellaneous, 1939-1976 |
| Box 4, Folder 28 | University of Colorado, 1970, 1953 |
| Box 4, Folder 29 | University of Delaware, 1980-1987 |
Box 4, Folder 30  University of Hawaii, 1942-1990

Box 4, Folder 31  University of Illinois, Urbana, 1952-1959

Box 4, Folder 32  U, Miscellaneous, 1934-1978

Box 4, Folder 33  V, Miscellaneous, 1940-1970

Box 4, Folder 34  Whitney Museum of American Art, 1953-1986

Box 4, Folder 35  Winters, Denny, circa 1952-1978

Box 4, Folder 36  W, Miscellaneous: Wa-We, 1940-1978

Box 4, Folder 37  W, Miscellaneous: Wh-Wo, 1955-1997

Box 4, Folder 38  Y-Z, Miscellaneous, 1959-1991

Box 4, Folder 39  Unidentified Correspondence, 1939-1971

Box 4, Folder 40  Unidentified Correspondence, 1972-1990

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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)

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  
*The Wind-Honed Islands Rise* by Reuben Tam, 1996  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 18  
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
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 15</th>
<th>News Clippings, 1980-1995</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 16</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Printed Material (1 of 2), circa 1937-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 17</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Printed Material (2 of 2), circa 1937-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 18</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Printed Material, circa 1940-circa 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9</td>
<td>Oversized Magazine digitized with material from Box 6, Folder 6, 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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
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
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9, 8</td>
<td>Sketchbook 2, 1969</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 1</td>
<td>Sketchbook 1, 1970</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 2</td>
<td>Sketchbook 2, 1970</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 3</td>
<td>Sketchbook 3, 1970</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 4</td>
<td>Sketchbook, 1972</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 5</td>
<td>Sketchbook, 1973</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 6</td>
<td>Sketchbook 1, 1975</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 7</td>
<td>Sketchbook 2, 1975</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 8</td>
<td>Sketchbook (Undated) 1, circa 1964-circa 1975</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 9</td>
<td>Sketchbook (Undated) 2, circa 1964-circa 1975</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oversize Drawings digitized with material from 7, 10, circa 1954</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OV 11, 7</td>
<td>Oversized Pastel Portrait digitized with 7, 11, circa 1937</td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
Box 8, Folder 1  Scrapbook 6 (1 of 3), 1960-1967

Box 8, Folder 2  Scrapbook 6 (2 of 3), 1960-1967

Box 8, Folder 3  Scrapbook 6 (3 of 3), 1960-1967

Box 8, Folder 4  Scrapbook 7 (1 of 2), 1967-1970

Box 8, Folder 5  Scrapbook 7 (2 of 2), 1967-1970

Box 8, Folder 6  Scrapbook 8 (1 of 2), 1971-1978

Box 8, Folder 7  Scrapbook 8 (2 of 2), 1971-1978

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Series 9: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1940-1974

1.1 Linear feet (Box 12, OV 13)

The unprocessed 1.1 linear foot addition includes 34 sketchbooks, circa 1940-1974, by Tam from his time in New York, Hawaii, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Oregon, Alaska and Canada.

Box 12  Unprocessed Addition, circa 1940-1974

Oversize 13  Unprocessed Addition, circa 1940-1974

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