



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Masami Teraoka Papers, 1966-2017, in the Archives of American Art

Rayna Andrews

Funding for the processing of this collection was provided by Gerald and Bente Buck.

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Archives of American Art
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Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Arrangement..... | 2 |
| Biographical / Historical..... | 1 |
| Scope and Contents..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | 4 |
| Series 1: Biographical Material, 1970, 1980-2005..... | 4 |
| Series 2: Correspondence, 1975-2017..... | 5 |
| Series 3: Writings, 1966-2012..... | 6 |
| Series 4: Personal Business Records, 1976-2015..... | 9 |
| Series 5: Project and Exhibition Files, 1976-2010..... | 11 |
| Series 6: Printed Material, 1973-2017..... | 13 |
| Series 7: Photographic Material, circa 1976-2008..... | 15 |

Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | Masami Teraoka papers |
| Date: | 1966-2017 |
| Identifier: | AAA.teramasa |
| Creator: | Teraoka, Masami, 1936- |
| Extent: | 6.3 Linear feet |
| Language: | This collection includes materials in English and Japanese. |
| Summary: | The papers of painter Masami Teraoka measure 6.3 linear feet and date from 1966 to 2017. The collection includes biographical material, correspondence, writings, personal business records, project and exhibition files, printed material, and photographic material. Much of the collection documents Teraoka's association with Catherine Clark Gallery. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Masami Teraoka papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by Masami Teraoka in 2018.

Processing Information

The collection was minimally processed and a finding aid prepared by Rayna Andrews in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Masami Teraoka papers, 1966-2017. 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. Use of audiovisual recordings and electronic records with no duplicate copies requires advance notice.

Biographical / Historical

Masami Teraoka (1936-) is a Japanese American, Hawaii-based painter known for his paintings created in the style of traditional Japanese Ukiyo-e prints. Teraoka studied aesthetics from 1954 to 1959 at Kwansai Gakuin University in Kobe, Japan. In 1961 he moved to the United States where he attended Otis Art Institute (now Otis College of Art and Design) in Los Angeles from 1964 to 1968, earning both a Bachelors of Fine Art and a Masters of Fine Art. He has exhibited widely, including at the Oakland Museum, the Indiana Museum of Art, the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, the Yale University Art Gallery, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Queensland Art Gallery, and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution. Masami Teraoka lives and works in Hawaii.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter Masami Teraoka measure 6.3 linear feet and date from 1966 to 2017. The collection includes biographical material, correspondence, writings, personal business records, project and exhibition files, printed material, and photographic material. Much of the collection documents Teraoka's association with Catherine Clark Gallery.

Biographical material includes copies of Masami Teraoka's resume, an appointment book, and assorted documents.

Correspondence is primarily business related, with some personal correspondence scattered throughout. Much of this collection appears to have been compiled by Catharine Clark Gallery, where Teraoka has exhibited since 1998, on behalf of the artist. Of the professional correspondence regarding Teraoka's work and upcoming exhibitions present in this series, a significant portion does not appear to be directly to or from the artist.

The writings series is arranged as two subseries: general writings and Masami Teraoka book project. The first subseries includes artist statements, article and essay drafts, lists, and notes. Many of the notes present in this series appear to be from Catherine Clark Gallery gallery regarding Teraoka projects and exhibitions. The second subseries includes correspondence, contracts, drafts of essays, notes and lists, and images related to the production and publication of the book *Ascending Chaos: The Art of Masami Teraoka 1966-2006*, published by Chronicle Books.

Personal business records include consignment and loan agreements, reproduction requests, inventory and price lists, and sales records. Also included is a "Mega Binder" compiled by Catharine Clark Gallery, which consists primarily of consignment, loan, and sale information and related correspondence.

Project and exhibition files include such material as correspondence, notes, lists, financial information, printed material, and photographic material related to Masami Teraoka exhibitions and projects. Also included in this series are VHS videos related to a documentary and to exhibitions.

Printed material includes books; a course pack from the University of Southern California which includes an essay about Masami Teraoka; exhibition announcements, invitations, and catalogs; magazines, newspapers, and clippings; museum brochures; posters; and press releases. Some printed material is in Japanese.

Photographic material includes personal photographs and snapshots, photographs and photocopies of works of art, and photographs documenting shipping damage.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as seven series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1970, 1980-2005 (Box 1; 4 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1975-2017 (Box 1; 0.9 linear feet)
- Series 3: Writings, 1966-2012 (Box 2; 1 linear foot)
- Series 4: Personal Business Records, 1976-2015 (Box 3; 0.7 linear feet)
- Series 5: Project and Exhibition Files, 1976-2010 (Boxes 3-4; 0.9 linear feet)
- Series 6: Printed Material, 1973-2017 (Boxes 4-7, OV 8-12; 2.5 linear feet)
- Series 7: Photographic Material, circa 1976-2008 (Box 7, 5 folders)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Asian American art
Asian American artists
Asian American painters
Asian American printmakers
Japanese American art
Japanese American artists

Types of Materials:

Videorecordings

Occupations:

Painters -- Hawaii
Printmakers -- Hawaii

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, 1970, 1980-2005

4 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: This series consists of an appointment book, copies of Masami Teraoka's resume and associated bibliographic information, and assorted biographical documents including a DMV certificate of ownership and a customs declaration.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Appointment Book, 1980 |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Resumes and Bibliographies, 1989-2005 |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Resumes and Writing About Masami Teraoka by Marcia Morse and Peter Clothier, 2005 |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Assorted Biographical Documents, 1970, 1981 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1975-2017

0.9 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: This series contains primarily business related correspondence with museums and galleries, as well as scattered personal correspondence. Much of this correspondence appears to have been compiled by Catharine Clark Gallery on behalf of the artist and is therefore between the gallery and other institutions regarding Teraoka's work and exhibitions, but does not include direct correspondence with Teraoka.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 5-16 | Chronological Correspondence, 1975-2002 One floppy disk, containing a mailing list, included in folder 10. |
| Box 1, Folder 17 | Teraoka — Follow Up, Disassembled Binder, 2002 |
| Box 1, Folder 18-20 | Chronological Correspondence, 2003-2017, undated |
| Box 1, Folder 21 | Correspondence, Archives of American Art, 2002-2003 |
| Box 1, Folder 22 | Correspondence, Pamela Auchincloss Gallery, 1998-2001 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Writings, 1966-2012

1 Linear foot (Box 2)

Arrangement: This series is arranged as 2 subseries.

3.1: General Writings, 1978-2012

Scope and Contents: Included in this subseries is an artist statement, articles and essays, visitor responses to an exhibition, notes, and lists. Researchers should note that notes and lists present in this series appear to be generated by Catharine Clark Gallery regarding Teraoka projects and exhibitions and not by the artist himself.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Artist Statement, Painting Notes, AIDS Series Translations, and Statements on Works Written by Others, 1978-1988, 2007 |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Notes Jotted Down on December 9, 1986 While Masami Teraoka Discussed His Exhibit at Space Gallery, Los Angeles, with Jeri Coates, 1986 |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Visitor Responses to Brenda and Other Stories, circa 1996 |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | Updating Ukiyo-e: The Art of Masami Teraoka by Mary Davis MacNaughton, 1989 |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | Unidentified Article Draft, circa 1992 |
| Box 2, Folder 6 | Essays and Article Draft, 1993-1998 |
| Box 2, Folder 7 | Essay by Adrian Brooks, 1998, 2004 Includes four floppy disks, one letter, and partial hard copy of an essay. |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | Questioning Art History's Canon: Case Studies on Satirical Appropriation, Master's Thesis by Brandelyn Mary-Christine Andres, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 9 | West Coast Art Alliance Proposal Draft, 2002 |
| Box 2, Folder 10 | Notes and Notebooks, 1989, 1995-2012 |
| Box 2, Folder 11 | Lists, 1989, 2001 |

3.2: Masami Teraoka Book Project, 1966-1974, 1981, 1998-2006

Scope and Contents: This subseries includes biographical information, correspondence, contracts, drafts of essays, images, and notes and lists related to the book *Ascending Chaos: The Art of Masami Teraoka 1966-2006*, published by Chronicle Books.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Box 2, Folder 12 | Biography and Press Coverage, 1981, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 13 | Correspondence and Contract, Alison Bing, 2004 |
| Box 2, Folder 14 | Correspondence, Eleanor Heartney, 2003-2005 |

Notes: Includes a draft of Heartney's essay, *Masami Teraoka's Inferno: Tales for an Era of Moral Chaos*.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 15 | Correspondence, Caroline Herter, 2004 |
| Box 2, Folder 16 | Correspondence, Images, 2004-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 17 | Correspondence, Ed Lau, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 18 | Correspondence, Rowan Pelling, 2003-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 19 | Correspondence, Alan Rapp and Chronicle Books, 2004-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 20 | Correspondence, Returned Letters — Collectors, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 21 | Correspondence, Returned Letters — Institutions, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 22 | Correspondence, Returned Letters — Non MT Work, 2005-2006 3 Electronic discs (CD) Includes correspondence, invoices, payment records, inventories, agreements, and notes, as well as three CDs. |
| Box 2, Folder 23 | Correspondence, Returned Letters — Problems (No Credit), 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 24 | Correspondence, Masami Teraoka, 2003-2004 |
| Box 2, Folder 25 | Correspondence, Charlotte Von der Hude, 1998, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 26 | Correspondence, 2003-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 27-28 | Contracts and Agreements, 2004-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 29 | Drafts, The Art of Masami Teraoka by Alison Bing, circa 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 30 | Drafts, The Art of Masami Teraoka by Alison Bing, with Edits from Masami Teraoka and Lynda Hess, 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 31 | Drafts, Essays and Introduction, 2005-2006 |
| Box 2, Folder 32 | Extra "Courtesy Of..." Pages, circa 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 33 | Images, Deleted Images, 1966-1974, 2004-2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 34 | Images, Notes and Lists, circa 2005 1 Electronic discs (CD) Includes lists of images and one CD. |
| Box 2, Folder 35-38 | Images, Photocopies of Ukiyo-e Collection, circa 2005 |

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| Box 2, Folder 39 | Images, Photocopies of Ukiyo-e Collection, circa 2005 |
| Box 2, Folder 40 | Images, Transparency of Drawing for Conspirators, 1930 by Phillip Guston, 2006 |
| Box 2, Folder 41 | Notes and Lists, circa 2004 |
| Box 2, Folder 42 | Notes and Questions About Galleys, 2006 |
| Box 2, Folder 43 | Notes on Design and Color Correction, 2006 |
| Box 2, Folder 44 | Translations for Chronicle Book, circa 2005 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Personal Business Records, 1976-2015

0.7 Linear feet (Box 3)

Scope and Contents: This series includes consignment, loan, and reproduction contracts and agreements, appraisal reports, donation and gift records, inventory and price lists, and sales records. Also included is a "Mega Binder" compiled by Catharine Clark Gallery, which consists primarily of consignment, loan, and sale information and related correspondence.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Box 3, Folder 1 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment/Sales Records, 1989 |
| Box 3, Folder 2-5 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment Contracts and Records, 1994-2015 |
| Box 3, Folder 6 | Agreements and Contracts, Space Gallery, Ed Lau, Jeri Coates, 1989, 1996-2004 Notes: Includes correspondence, appraisal reports, and inventory lists. |
| Box 3, Folder 7 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment to Herb Solomon, 1997-2002 |
| Box 3, Folder 8 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment from Nick and Nancy Kaars, 1998-2000 |
| Box 3, Folder 9 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment to Alfred F. Hall, Jr., 2000 Notes: Includes correspondence. |
| Box 3, Folder 10 | Agreements and Contracts, Consignment to Solomon Fine Art, 2002-2005 |
| Box 3, Folder 11-13 | Agreements and Contracts, Loan Agreements and Records, 1980-2010 |
| Box 3, Folder 14 | Agreements and Contracts, Loan Agreements and Records — Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 1995-2000 |
| Box 3, Folder 15 | Agreements and Contracts, Lecture Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding, 1989, 2010 |
| Box 3, Folder 16 | Agreements and Contracts, Photographic Materials Loan Forms, 1994-2003 |
| Box 3, Folder 17 | Agreements and Contracts, Reproduction, Copyright, and Publishing, 1989-2007, 2014 |
| Box 3, Folder 18 | Agreements and Contracts, Certificate of Ownership, circa 1982 |
| Box 3, Folder 19 | Appraisal, Authentication, and Condition Records, 1998-2004, 2015 |
| Box 3, Folder 20 | Donation and Gift Records, 1985-2010 |
| Box 3, Folder 21 | Invoices and Receipts, Framing and Shipping, 1998, 2009-2010 |
| Box 3, Folder 22 | Invoices and Receipts, Videotapes and USPS, 2003 |

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| Box 3, Folder 23 | Lists, Price Lists and Accounting, 1997 |
| Box 3, Folder 24 | Lists, Price Lists, circa 1978, circa 1992-2008 |
| Box 3, Folder 25 | Lists, Atthowe Fine Arts Services Inventory, 2000 |
| Box 3, Folder 26 | Lists, List of Works, Work Reference Report, Collector List, 1999-2005 |
| Box 3, Folder 27 | Print Documentation, 1993 |
| Box 3, Folder 28-29 | Sales Records, 1976-1998, 2009-2014 |
| Box 3, Folder 30 | Sales Records, Stanford University Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, 2002 |
| Box 3, Folder 31-34 | "Mega Binder", 2002-2004 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Project and Exhibition Files, 1976-2010

0.9 Linear feet (Boxes 3-4)

Scope and Contents: This series includes contracts and agreements, correspondence, notes, lists, financial information, printed material, and photographic material related to Masami Teraoka's exhibitions and projects. Also included are videocassette recordings related to the documentary *The Floating World: Masami Teraoka and His Work* and other exhibitions.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 3, Folder 35 | Biennale of Sydney, 1985-1986 |
| Box 3, Folder 36 | Tokyo: Form and Spirit (1985) Exhibition at Walker Art Center, 1986 |
| Box 3, Folder 37 | Landscapes by 20th Century Artists of Hawai'i (1987) at Lyman House Memorial Museum, 1987 |
| Box 3, Folder 38 | NEA Grant Application, 1987-1989 |
| Box 3, Folder 39 | Waves and Plagues: The Art of Masami Teraoka Touring Exhibition, 1988-1989 |
| Box 3, Folder 40 | Asia/America: Identities in Contemporary Asian American Art (1993) Exhibition at the Asia Society, 1993 |
| Box 3, Folder 41 | Ascending Chaos: Paintings by Masami Teraoka (1997) Exhibition at Catharine Clark Gallery, 1997 |
| Box 3, Folder 42 | Masami Teraoka Conversations With the Artist at the Asian Art Museum, 1997 2 Videocassettes (VHS) |
| Box 3, Folder 43 | Exhibition of Works at Pasadena City College, 1998 |
| Box 3, Folder 44 | Life, Death, and Laughter: Paintings and Prints by Masami Teraoka (1998) Exhibition at California State University Hayward, 1998 |
| Box 4, Folder 1 | Three Rivers Arts Festival, 1998 |
| Box 4, Folder 2 | The Contemporary Museum Biennial (2001), 2001 |
| Box 4, Folder 3 | 291 Gallery Installation Project, 2001-2002 |
| Box 4, Folder 4 | United States Department of State, Art in Embassies Program, 2001-2002 |
| Box 4, Folder 5 | The Floating World: Masami Teraoka and His Art Documentary by Louise Lo, Presented by the National Asian American Telecommunications Association (NAATA), 2001-2003 |

1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Includes correspondence, film festival program, and VHS of broadcast version of documentary.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 4, Folder 6 | Masami Teraoka Exhibition at Catharine Clark Gallery and Event Planning Budget, 2002 |
| Box 4, Folder 7 | Masami Teraoka Works on Paper 1972 to 2002, 2002 1 Videocassettes (VHS) |
| Box 4, Folder 8 | Teraoka Meeting at Getty Museum, 2003 |
| Box 4, Folder 9 | US Inquisition (2003) Exhibition at Catharine Clark Gallery, 2003 |
| Box 4, Folder 10 | Masami Teraoka (2003) Exhibition at John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 2003-2005 |
| Box 4, Folder 11 | Exhibition of Works at Carleton College Art Gallery, 2004 |
| Box 4, Folder 12-13 | 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (2006) at the Queensland Art Gallery, 2004-2006 |
| Box 4, Folder 14 | HIV/AIDS in the Age of Globalization (2004-2006) at Museum of World Culture, 2004-2006 |
| Box 4, Folder 15 | Cloning Eve + Geisha, circa 2004 1 Videocassettes (VHS) |
| Box 4, Folder 16 | Exhibition of Works at Robyn Buntin Galleries, 2005 |
| Box 4, Folder 17 | Here Comes the Bogey-Man (2005) Exhibition at Chelsea Art Museum, 2005 |
| Box 4, Folder 18 | Drawing On the Past: The Art of Masami Teraoka (2007) Exhibition at Sonoma State University, 2005-2007 |
| Box 4, Folder 19 | Masami Teraoka Celebration Journey Hawai'i and Australia Tour (2006) in Conjunction with Ascending Chaos: The Art of Masami Teraoka 1966-2006, 2006 |
| Box 4, Folder 20 | Manifestations of Contemporary Art in Iran (2007) at Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007 1 Electronic discs (CD) Includes correspondence, printed material, and CD. |
| Box 4, Folder 21 | Cure Violence Project Proposal, 2010 |
| Box 4, Folder 22 | Assorted Projects, Exhibitions, and Exhibition Planning, 1976-1998, 2006-2009 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 6: Printed Material, 1973-2017

2.5 Linear feet (Boxes 4-7, OV 8-12)

Language: Materials in this series are primarily in English and Japanese.
 Scope and Contents: This series contains books; a course pack from the University of Southern California which includes *Waves and Plagues: The Art of Masami Teraoka*; exhibition announcements, invitations, catalogs, and programs; magazines, newspapers, and other clippings; museum brochures; posters; and press releases.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Box 4, Folder 23 | Book by Leonard Koren, Published by Chikuma Books, 1984 Language: This book is in Japanese. |
| Box 4, Folder 24 | Book, Hokusai's Great Wave: Biography of a Global Icon by Christine M. E. Guth, 2015 |
| Box 4, Folder 25 | Course Pack, University of Southern California, Includes <i>Waves and Plagues: The Art of Masami Teraoka</i> by Howard A. Link, 2005 |
| Box 4, Folder 26-29 | Exhibition Announcements, Invitations, Catalogs, 1973-1987 |
| Box 5, Folder 1-12 | Exhibition Announcements, Invitations, Catalogs, 1988-2017 Includes one electronic disc (DVD). |
| Box 5, Folder 13-19 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1973-1991 |
| Box 6, Folder 1-5 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1992-2008, 2014-2016 |
| Oversize 8 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1975-1989 |
| Oversize 9 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1990-1993 |
| Oversize 10 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1994-1997 |
| Oversize 11 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings, 1998-2004, 2010, 2015 |
| Box 6, Folder 6 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Illustrations and Advertisements, 1978-2006 |
| Box 6, Folder 7 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Japanese Language Magazines, 1991-1994 |
| Box 7, Folder 1 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Japanese Language Magazines, 1997, 2002 |
| Box 7, Folder 2-3 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Japanese Language Material, 1987-1996 |
| Box 7, Folder 4 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Material Related to Tokyo: Form and Spirit Exhibition, 1986 |

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|-----------------|--|
| Oversize 8 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings Related to Tokyo: Form and Spirit Exhibition, 1986 |
| Box 7, Folder 5 | Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings — Material Related to Waves and Plagues Exhibition, 1989 |
| Oversize 9 | Oversize Magazines, Newspapers, and Clippings Related to Waves and Plagues Exhibition, 1989-1990 |
| Box 7, Folder 6 | Museum Brochures, circa 1993-2004 |
| Oversize 12 | Posters, 1973-2007 |
| Box 7, Folder 7 | Press Releases, 1978-1996 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 7: Photographic Material, circa 1976-2008

5 Folders (Box 7)

Scope and Contents: Photographic material includes personal photographs and snapshots, photographs of works of art, photocopies of works of art, and photographs documenting shipping damage.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 7, Folder 8 | Photocopies, Images of Works of Art, 1987-1992 |
| Box 7, Folder 9 | Photographs of Works of Art, 1996-circa 1997, undated Includes photographs, one letter, and 1 electronic disc (DVD). |
| Box 7, Folder 10 | Personal Photographs, 2003, undated |
| Box 7, Folder 11 | Photographs of Works of Art, Venice Beach/ Zen to Chidori, 1976, circa 2007 |
| Box 7, Folder 12 | Photographs Documenting Shipping Damage, 2008 |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)