



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Chao-Chen Yang Papers, 1945-circa 1970, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Chao-Chen Yang papers
Date:	1945-circa 1970
Identifier:	AAA.yangchao
Creator:	Yang, Chao-Chen, 1910-1969
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of photographer Chao-Chen Yang measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1945 to circa 1970. Found are artworks, biographical materials, writings, photographs, and printed material. Also included are two sound cassettes with an edited transcript of Yang's oral autobiography. Photographs depict Yang and also include copy prints of Yang's photographic works documenting his career as a professional photographer.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Jean Yang, widow of Chao-Chen Yang donated his papers to the Archives of American Art in 1991.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reel 4883 for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Chao-Chen Yang papers, 1945-circa 1970. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

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

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Chao-Chen Yang (1910-1969) was a Chinese American photographer based in Seattle, Washington. Born Hangchow, China, Yang received degrees in foreign relations and art education from the University of Hwin-Hwa, Shanghai, and became the director of the Department of Art at the Government Institute in Nanking. Coming to the United States in 1934 to work at the Chinese Consulate in Chicago, he took night courses in art at the Art Institute of Chicago from 1935 to 1939. He was transferred to Seattle as Deputy Consul and founded the Seattle Photographic Society in 1941. He served as director of the Northwest Institute of Photography and concentrated in color photo printing processes.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of photographer Chao-Chen Yang measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1945 to circa 1970. Found are artworks, biographical materials, writings, photographs, and printed material. Also included are two sound cassettes with an edited transcript of Yang's oral autobiography. Photographs depict Yang and also include copy prints of Yang's photographic works documenting his career as a professional photographer.

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:

- Asian American artists
- Asian American photographers
- Chinese American artists

Types of Materials:

- Drawings
- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Occupations:

- Photographers -- Washington (State) -- Seattle

Container Listing

Series 1: Chao-Chen Yang Papers, 1945-circa 1970

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: The Chao-Chen Yang papers include sketches, awards, resumes; writings by and about Yang; photographs of Yang and fine art photos taken by Yang; and printed material. Two sound cassettes contain the oral autobiography of Yang with an accompanying transcript edited by Jean Yang, Yang's wife.

Box 1, Folder 1	Artwork, circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 2	Biographical Material, 1955-1967
Box 1, Folder 3	Oral Autobiography, Sound Recordings, 1965 2 Sound cassettes
Box 1, Folder 4	Oral Autobiography, Transcript, circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 5	Writings, General, circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 6	Writings, About Yang, circa 1950-1960
Box 1, Folder 7	Photographs, of Yang, 1956-1959
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs, by Yang, circa 1950-circa 1969
Box 1, Folder 9	Printed Material, 1945-1969

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