Miu Eng Eastern Wind Collection

Mark Tseng-Putterman
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Collection Overview

Repository: Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title: Miu Eng Eastern Wind Collection
Identifier: ACMA.06-102
Date: 1973-1983
Extent: 2.1 Linear feet (consisting of 1 oversized box)
Creator: Eng, Miu, 1955-
Language: Collection is in English. Some materials in Chinese.
Summary: The Miu Eng Eastern Wind Collection, which dates from 1973-1983 and measures 2.1 linear feet, speaks to Ms. Eng's role as an activist and artist in Washington D.C.'s early Asian American movement. The collection includes newsletters, photographs, and booklets documenting Ms. Eng's activities with Eastern Wind, a pan-Asian American youth organization formed in 1973 that sought to document and address Asian American issues in the D.C. area. The collection also includes posters designed by Ms. Eng for several D.C. Asian American community programs of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Processing Information
Processed by Mark Tseng-Putterman, 2018 Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center Summer Fellow.

Preferred Citation
Miu Eng Eastern Wind collection, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Miu Eng.

Restrictions
Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist at ACMarchives@si.edu
Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Miu Eng (1955-present) is a Chinese American designer whose work helped document Asian American community activism in the Washington, D.C. area in the 1970s and 1980s. Born in 1955 in Hong Kong, Eng's family immigrated to the United States when Eng was 11 years old. They settled in Washington, D.C.'s Chinatown on New York Avenue NW, where her grandfather had been working as a restaurant chef.

While in high school, Eng became involved in Eastern Wind, a pioneering group of Asian American college students who had come together in August of 1973 with the goal of addressing and raising awareness about Asian American issues in the D.C. area. The group, part of a national movement of growing pan-Asian American political awareness, published a newsletter (also called Eastern Wind) through the mid-1970s, for which Eng designed covers and provided illustrations. With funding from the DC Bicentennial Commission and sponsorship by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Eastern Wind designed and mounted a 32-foot wide mural celebrating the past, present, and future of Chinese America. Eng served as a key designer, sketching and orchestrating the painting of the mural, which would be installed on the exterior of the Jade Palace Restaurant on H Street and 7th Streets NW.

After graduating from George Washington University with a B.A. in graphic design and economics, Eng continued to provide design work for various local Asian-American community efforts, including designing posters for the WPFW Asian American radio show "Gold Mountain," D.C. and for the city's observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Week.

Scope and Contents

Biographical files contain a 1977 award presented to Eng for her work on a large-scale mural entitled "Chinese in America: Past, Present, and Future" that was mounted at the corner of 7th and H Streets NW in Washington, DC.

Newsletters include four newsletters published by Eastern Wind, described as "the Asian American community newsletter of Washington, D.C." Highlights from the newsletters include updates on the status of Asian American Studies at University of Maryland, a history of D.C. Chinatown, and essay series on Asian Americans in the Women's Movement and the history of Asian American ethnic groups in Washington D.C. A separate booklet, "Washington, D.C.'s Chinese Community," was published in 1975 by Eastern Wind and contains archival and oral history research conducted as part of Eastern Wind's Chinatown History Project.

Photographs include three reproduced black-and-white photographs taken by Harry Chow depicting various stages of Eastern Wind's 1976 Chinatown mural project, and a 28:32 DVD slide show containing photographs taken by Chow, including daily scenes of D.C. Chinatown, the 1973 Chinese American Summer Festival, the design and production of the Chinatown mural, and covers of Eastern Wind's newsletter from 1973-1974.
Posters include posters designed by Miu Eng for D.C. Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, 1981-1983, as well as a 1979 poster Eng designed for WPFW-FM's radio show, “Gold Mountain.”

**Arrangement**

Miu Eng Eastern Wind Collection is arranged in 4 series.

Series 1: Biographical Files

Series 2: Newsletters

Series 3: Photographs

Series 4: Posters

**Names and Subject Terms**

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

- **Subjects:**  
  - Activism  
  - Asian American women artists  
  - Asian Americans  
  - Chinese Americans  
  - Civil rights  
  - Student movements

- **Cultures:**  
  - Chinese Americans

- **Types of Materials:**  
  - Newsletters  
  - Photographs  
  - Posters

- **Geographic Names:**  
  - Chinatown (Washington, D.C.)
Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Files, 1977
Contains a 1977 award presented to Miu Eng for her work on a large-scale mural entitled "Chinese in America: Past, Present, and Future" that was mounted at the corner of 7th and H Streets NW in Washington, DC.

Box 1, Folder 1 Appreciation Award to Miu Eng, 1977 February

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Series 2: Newsletters, 1975-1976

Contain four newsletters and one booklet published by Eastern Wind, described as "the Asian American community newsletter of Washington, D.C." newsletters and one booklet.

Box 1, Folder 2

Eastern Wind: The Asian-American Community Newsletter of Washington, D.C.
Vol. 3, No. 11, 1975 March-April

Image(s)

This issue of Eastern Wind includes cover art designed by Miu Eng, organizational news, a history of Filipinos in Washington, D.C., and an essay published by the Committee to Save Angel Island Detention Center.

Box 1, Folder 2

Eastern Wind: The Asian-American Community Newsletter of Washington, D.C.
Vol. 3, No. 12, 1975 May-June

Image(s)

This issue of Eastern Wind includes cover art designed by Miu Eng, news of an Asian-American studies course dropped at University of Maryland, and a history of Koreans in Washington, D.C.

Box 1, Folder 2

Eastern Wind: The Asian-American Community Newsletter of Washington, D.C.
Vol. 4, No. 1, 1975 September-October

Image(s)

This issue of Eastern Wind includes cover art designed by Miu Eng, organizational news, and an essay on Asians and the Women's Movement.

Box 1, Folder 2

Eastern Wind: The Asian-American Community Newsletter of Washington, D.C.
Vol. 4, No. 3, 1976 January-March

Item currently on display at the Anacostia Community Museum in "A Right to the City" exhibition until April 20, 2020.

This issue of Eastern Wind includes cover art designed by Miu Eng, and marks the Lunar New Year of the Dragon.

Box 1, Folder 2

Washington D.C.'s Chinese Community, 1975, date listed 4674 in accordance with Chinese calendar

Item currently on display at the Anacostia Community Museum in "A Right to the City" exhibition until April 20, 2020.

Image(s)

Booklet published by Eastern Wind contains archival and oral history research conducted through the organization's Chinatown history project.

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Contains three reproduced black-and-white photographs taken by Harry Chow depicting various stages of Eastern Wind's 1976 Chinatown mural project, and a 28:32 DVD slideshow containing photographs taken by Chow, created by Harry Chow, which document various activities of Eastern Wind.

Box 1, Folder 3  Chinatown Mural Project, 1976
Three reproduced black-and-white photographs depict Eastern Wind's Chinese-American heritage mural, from design and painting to the mural's installation above Chinatown's Jade Palace Restaurant.

Box 1, Folder 4  Harry Chow Collection DVD, circa 1973-1977
A DVD slideshow contains photographs taken by Eastern Wind member Harry Chow, documenting various organizational activities including the 1973 Chinese American Summer Festival and the Chinese-American heritage mural.

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Series 4: Posters, 1979-1983


Box 1, Folder 5  Gold Mountain, D.C. , 1979
Image(s)
Poster designed by Miu Eng for the WPFW radio show Gold Mountain, which covered Asian-American issues in the D.C. area.

Box 1, Folder 5  Strangers No More: Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, 1981 May
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 5  A People Emerging: Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, 1981 May
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 5  Perseverance, Progress: Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, 1982 May
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 5  Working Together: Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, 1983 May
Image(s)

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