



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Ming-Ju Sun
Garfinckel's Fashion Drawings

NMAH.AC.0897

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2005

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Ming-Ju Sun Garfinckel's Fashion Drawings
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0897
Date:	circa 1972-2002, undated
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (5 boxes, 1 map-folder)
Creator:	Sun, Ming-ju Sun, Ming-ju
Language:	English .
Summary:	Fashion drawings and the photographic work of Ming-Ju Sun while as an employee of Garfinckel's Department Store and as an independent artist.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Archives Center by Ming-Ju Sun in 2005.

Related Materials

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Carolyn and Donald Grepke Paper Doll Collection (AC0752)

Joseph Magnin Poster Collection (AC0355)

Division of Costume Audiovisual Collection (AC0801)

Priscilla of Boston Collection (AC0557)

California Shop Records (AC0572)

National Cotton Council of America Photographs and Films (AC01177)

Warchaw Collection of Business Americana (AC0060)

Processing Information

Processed by Danleigh H. Kaplan, intern, September 2005; supervised by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, archivist.

Preferred Citation

Ming-Ju Sun Garfinckel's Fashion Drawings, 1972-2002, undated, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

The collection is open for research use. Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves.

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Biographical / Historical

Ming-Ju Sun arrived in the United States from China in the 1940s. In the early 1970s, she studied fine art, taking classes on the history of costume and textiles as well as Chinese and Japanese history at the University of Maryland. While earning her graduate degree she worked as a fashion illustrator for the Garfinckel's department store located in Washington, DC. Beginning in the 1980s, Sun worked as an independent artist creating hand-illustrated paper-doll, sticker, and coloring books for Dover Publishing. Her artwork has been shown in galleries in Washington, DC.

Source: *Collecting and Discovering Ming-Ju Sun: Paper-doll Cues to a Family History* by Rachel Endoso, December 10, 2014.

Scope and Contents

Collection consists of the original drawings and photographic work of Ming-Ju Sun as an employee of Garfinckel's Department Store and as an independent artist. It includes original artwork, newspaper advertisement tear sheets, photographic materials, fashion illustration coloring books, fashion catalogs, and other materials that provide information about the fashion industry and its advertising. The materials document women's fashions dating from 1972- to 2002. The collection is a rich resource for advertising art in the 20th century, fashion and costume design, and fashion history.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in two series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Advertising art -- 20th century
Costume design
Fashion
Fashion merchandising
Women -- Employment
Women in business -- 1970-2010
advertising
advertising -- Clothing and dress -- 1970-2010
advertising -- Clothing trade -- 1970-2010
advertising -- Fashion -- 1970-2010

Types of Materials:

Advertisements
Catalogs
Drawings -- 20th century
Paper dolls
Tear sheets

Names:

Ambrose, Amie
Garfinckel's (Department store)
Sun, Ming-ju

Container Listing

Series 1: Fashion Drawings, circa 1972-2002, undated

Include materials created by Ming-Ju Sun as an employee of Garfinckel's Department Store. The series is arranged into six subseries: Subseries 1.1, Original Artwork, circa 1975-1983, undated; Subseries 1.2, Newspaper Advertisements, circa 1972-1983, undated; Subseries 1.3, Photocopies of Newspaper Advertisements, circa 1972-1983, undated; Subseries 1.4, Photographic Slides, undated; Subseries 1.5, Paper Doll Fashion Coloring Books, 2001-2002, undated; and Subseries 1.6, Newspaper Articles, circa 1977.

Subseries 1.1: Original Artwork, circa 1975-1983, undated

Consists of mostly pen and ink drawings. These drawings were created on or attached to poster board. Text about the advertised fashions, the Garfinckel's logo, and directions on how and when to print the advertisement were either pasted or written on most of the pieces. Photographic prints of the original artwork are also included among these materials. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 1	Drawings, 1975
Map-folder 1	Drawings, 1975-1978
Box 1, Folder 2	Drawings, 1976
Box 1, Folder 3	Drawings, 1977
Box 1, Folder 4	Drawings, 1977
Box 1, Folder 5	Drawings, 1977
Box 1, Folder 6	Drawings, 1977
Box 1, Folder 7	Drawings, 1977
Box 1, Folder 8	Drawings, 1978
Box 2, Folder 1	Drawings, 1979
Box 2, Folder 2	Drawings, 1983
Box 4, Folder 1	Drawings, undated
Box 4, Folder 2	Drawings, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Drawings, undated

Box 2, Folder 4 Drawings, undated

Box 2, Folder 5 Drawings, undated

Box 2, Folder 6 Drawings, undated

Subseries 1.2: Newspaper Advertisements, circa 1972-1983, undated

Includes the original hand-drawn illustrations or tear sheets sent to newspapers for their advertisements. These materials appeared in the Washington Post, Washington Star, Washington Star News, Evening Star and Daily News, and the Sunday Star and Daily News. Most of the advertisements are of women's clothing. Other advertised items include lingerie, sleepwear, outerwear, jewelry, cosmetics, perfume, shoes, and children's clothing. These originals are fragile and the materials in subseries 1.3 should be used for research. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 3, Folder 1 Tear sheets, 1972-1973

Box 4, Folder 3 Tear sheets, 1972-1973

Box 4, Folder 4 Tear sheets, 1974-1975

Box 4, Folder 5 Tear sheets, 1976-1977

Box 4, Folder 6 Tear sheets, 1978-1983

Box 3, Folder 2 Tear sheets, 1978-1983

Box 4, Folder 7 Tear sheets, undated

Box 4, Folder 8 Tear sheets, undated

Box 3, Folder 3 Tear sheets, undated

Subseries 1.3: Photocopies of Newspaper Advertisements, circa 1972-1983, undated

Contain photocopies created by the Archives Center of all the original hand-drawn illustrations or tear sheets in subseries 1.2 for research use. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 3, Folder 4 Tear sheets, 1972-1976

Box 4, Folder 9 Tear sheets, 1972-1976

Box 3, Folder 5 Tear sheets, 1977-1983

Box 4, Folder 10 Tear sheets, 1977-1983

Box 3, Folder 6 Tear sheets, undated

Box 4, Folder 11 Tear sheets, undated

Box 4, Folder 12 Tear sheets, undated

Subseries 1.4: Photographic Slides, undated

Consists of three color photographic slides featuring women's fashion drawings. The slides are undated.

Box 5, Folder 1 Color slides, undated

Subseries 1.5: Paper Doll Fashion Coloring Books, 2001-2002, undated

Includes Sun's artwork for Dover Publishing coloring books. The coloring books document over 1,000 years of Chinese fashions, and the fashions of thirty-six first ladies and ten official hostesses of the White House. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order.

Box 5, Folder 2 Chinese Fashions, 2001-2002, undated

Box 5, Folder 3 Fashions of the First Ladies, 2001-2002, undated

Subseries 1.6: Newspaper Articles, circa 1977

Materials discuss Garfinckel's advertising strategy and the retail atmosphere in Washington, DC at the time and includes a reproduction of Sun's artwork.

Box 5, Folder 4 Articles, circa 1977

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Series 2: Fashion Catalogs, circa 1972-1989

Consists of fashion catalogs from Garfinckel's Department Store. The 1976 catalog was the first catalog published by Garfinckel's. It features Garfinckel's staff members as models (including Ming-Ju Sun on page 31). As Art Director for Raleigh, corporate owner of Garfinckel's at the time, Sun hired Ruven Afanador, an established fashion photographer and artist, to photograph the 1988 catalog. Sun photographed the images in the 1989 catalog. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 5, Folder 5	Catalog, 1972
Box 5, Folder 6	Catalog, circa 1976
Box 5, Folder 7	Catalog, 1988
Box 5, Folder 8	Catalog, 1989

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