



Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

Yousuf Karsh photographs of R.C. Gorman

Emily Moazami

2018

National Museum of the American Indian  
4220 Silver Hill Rd  
Suitland, Maryland 20746-2863  
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1400  
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.3038  
nmaiarchives@si.edu  
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Arrangement.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3

---

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Museum of the American Indian
<b>Title:</b>	Yousuf Karsh photographs of R.C. Gorman
<b>Date:</b>	1981-1993
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.310
<b>Creator:</b>	Karsh , Yousuf, 1908-2002 (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.25 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	This collection contains 3 photographs depicting Diné (Navajo) artist R.C. Gorman and one poster depicting his artwork.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Mrs. Tracy Fontaine Evans.

### Separated Materials

This collection also includes R.C. Gorman 13 artworks held in NMAI's object collection, catalog numbers 270169-270181.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Emily Moazami, Assistant Head Archivist, 2018.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Yousuf Karsh photographs of R.C. Gorman, NMAI.AC.310, Box and Folder Number; National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archive Center collections is by appointment only, Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Please contact the archives to make an appointment (phone: 301-238-1400, email: [nmaiarchives@si.edu](mailto:nmaiarchives@si.edu)).

### Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish the Yousuf Karsh photographs must be directed to his estate directly.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Diné (Navajo) artist R.C. (Rudolph Carl) Gorman was born in Chinle, Arizona in 1931. His father Carl Gorman was also an artist and as well as a Navajo code talker in World War II.

After serving in the U.S. Navy and studying art and literature at Northern Arizona University, R.C. received a Navajo Tribal Council scholarship to study art at Mexico City College in 1958. It was there that Gorman was introduced to the works of Diego Rivera and José Clemente Orozco, which would later influence own artwork. Later Gorman moved to Taos, New Mexico and opened the first Native-owned fine art gallery in 1968.

Best known for his imagery depicting Navajo women, Gorman's work is held in the collections of many national museums including the National Museum of the American Indian, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Ariz.

Gorman died in 2005 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

---

## Scope and Contents

This collection contains 3 photographs depicting artist R.C. Gorman [Diné (Navajo)] and 1 poster advertising an exhibit of his work in 1993.

---

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 1 oversize box.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Diné (Navajo)

Cultures:

Diné (Navajo)

Names:

Gorman, R. C. (Rudolph Carl), 1932-2005

---

## Container Listing

- Oversize 1 [Photograph of R.C. Gorman, circa 1981](#)  
1 Gelatin silver print  
Photographer: Karsh , Yousuf, 1908-2002  
Notes: Gelatin silver print depicting a portrait of artist R.C. Gorman [Diné (Navajo)], photographed by Yousuf Karsh circa 1981. The photograph is signed by Karsh and has a note written by Gorman that reads, "To Tracy and Cam Evans- Love, R.C. Gorman."  
  
The back of the print has a stamp that reads, "No. 3 [handwritten] Karsh, Ottawa." Another note reads, "WO# 7639"  
  
This photograph is copyrighted by the Estate of Yousuf Karsh. Please contact the Estate for permission to use this image.  
  
Names: Gorman, R. C. (Rudolph Carl), 1932-2005  
Culture: Diné (Navajo)
- Oversize 1 [Photograph of R.C. Gorman, circa 1981](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Photographer: Karsh , Yousuf, 1908-2002  
Notes: Gelatin silver print depicting a portrait of artist R.C. Gorman [Diné (Navajo)], photographed by Yousuf Karsh circa 1981. The photograph is signed by Karsh and has a note written by Gorman that reads, "To Tracy and Cam Evans- Love, R.C. Gorman, 1981."  
  
The back of the print has a stamp that reads, "No. 21 [handwritten] Karsh, Ottawa." Another note reads, "WO# 7642"  
  
This photograph is copyrighted by the Estate of Yousuf Karsh. Please contact the Estate for permission to use this image.  
  
Names: Gorman, R. C. (Rudolph Carl), 1932-2005  
Culture: Diné (Navajo)
- Oversize 1 [Photograph of R.C. Gorman, circa 1981](#)  
1 Photographic print  
Photographer: Karsh , Yousuf, 1908-2002  
Notes: Color photograph depicting a portrait of artist R.C. Gorman [Diné (Navajo)], photographed by Yousuf Karsh circa 1981. The photograph is signed by Karsh and has a note written by Gorman that reads, "To Tracy and Cam Evans- With Love, R.C. Gorman."  
  
The back of the print has a stamp that reads, "No. K [handwritten] Karsh, Ottawa." Another note reads, "WO# 7641"  
  
This photograph is copyrighted by the Estate of Yousuf Karsh. Please contact the Estate for permission to use this image.  
  
Names: Gorman, R. C. (Rudolph Carl), 1932-2005  
Culture: Diné (Navajo)
- Oversize 1 [Poster of R.C. Gorman work, 1993](#)  
1 Poster

Notes: One poster depicting an R.C. Gorman artwork. The bottom of the poster reads, "R.C. Gorman / Taos Art Association / Stables Art Center 1993"

There is a handwritten note by Gorman that reads, "To Tracy and Cam- love, R.C. Gorman"

Names: Gorman, R. C. (Rudolph Carl), 1932-2005

Culture: Diné (Navajo)