Finding aid to Sheldon Renan program notes, correspondence, and related Pacific Film Archive material PFA.MSS.003

Christine Chevalier
BAMPFA Film Library
2009-04-23
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: BAMPFA Film Library
Title: Sheldon Renan program notes, correspondence, and related Pacific Film Archive material
creator: Renan, Sheldon, 1941-
Identifier/Call Number: PFA.MSS.003
Physical Description: 2 cartons
Physical Description: 2 Linear Feet
Date (inclusive): 1967-1975
Language of Material: Collection materials are in English
Physical Description: Some of the documents were originally printed on tracing paper and are torn or heavily creased. These documents have been photocopied.
UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive Film Library and Study Center
Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open for research use.
Accruals
The collection appears to be is complete. It contains all of the Sheldon Renan papers that have been stored at the Pacific Film Archive since his departure as director in 1975.
Arrangement
The material is arranged into five series: Series 1 - PFA early years Series 2 - Film materials from Renan period at PFA Series 3 - Film programming materials Series 4 - Festivals and conferences Series 5 - Correspondence
Biographical / Historical
Sheldon Renan was born in Portland, Oregon in 1941. He graduated from Yale University in 1963 and prior to his arrival in Berkeley he wrote television commercials in New York City and then worked for film importing companies. As a recipient of a Rockefeller grant he was able to write a book about experimental films, "Introduction to American Underground Film". Renan then came to Berkeley from New York City in 1966. Renan is considered to be the principal founder of the Pacific Film Archive at the University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley. Using the model he had seen at New York's Museum of Modern Art where the film department served as archive, study center and exhibition program, Renan set out to start the same type of organization in the Bay Area. Renan began by proposing this model to the San Francisco Museum of Art and then the Oakland Museum but both institutions turned him down. However, the University Art Museum at Berkeley's new director, Peter Selz agreed. Sheldon Renan was appointed the Pacific Film Archive's first director in 1967. In September 1967 film programs were presented on a weekly basis at Wheeler Auditorium on the university campus, and sometimes in a Dwinelle lecture hall. However, in its beginnings the official existence of the Pacific Film Archive was not recognized by the university administration. This situation evolved and on January 22, 1971 the PFA was given its permanent official home in the University Art Museum's new building on Durant Avenue.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Sheldon Renan program notes, correspondence, and related Pacific Film Archive material, 1967-1975. [PFA--MSS--003]. UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley.
Scope and Contents
The collection contains the papers of Sheldon Renan, during his professional affiliation with the Pacific Film Archive at the University of California, Berkeley. This includes his early work, starting in 1967, of founding the film archive and being appointed the PFA's first director up until his resignation in 1975. Therefore the scope of the collection is from 1967 to 1975. The collection is a record of Renan's work in developing the PFA. The Renan papers in the collection include his notes and correspondence on film programming projects presented at the PFA, as well as film festivals and conference papers Renan attended while acting as the PFA director. Sheldon Renan's work represents a significant contribution to the achievements of the modern Pacific Film Archive today. This archival collection is an important part of the PFA's heritage.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Motion picture producers and directors--California
Film festivals
Film archives
Motion picture theaters
Motion picture film collections
Box 1  

Series 1 -- PFA early years 1969-1973, undated  
Physical Description: 9 folders  
Arrangement  
This series is arranged by year.  
Scope and Contents  
This series contains materials related to Renan's work and the early development of the Pacific Film Archive. As the main founder of the PFA, Sheldon Renan was instrumental in the evolution of the PFA as an institution. These documents contain information regarding Renan's crucial role as director, as well as personal documents such as photos of Renan during this time period, a biographical sketch as a press release and Renan's resignation in 1975.

Box 1, Folder 1  
PFA opening celebration 1971  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 2  
Renan biography and photos 1971, undated

Box 1, Folder 3  
PFA growth and development report -- S. Renan 1972  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 4  
PFA and regional development 1970-1974, undated  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 5  
Report on regional development [Rough draft?] approximately 1972-1973  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 6  
Draft Report on Short Film Distribution 1972  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 7  
Pilot Study of Cultural Film Centers -- Research materials 1972  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 8  
Report on PFA organizational and operational problems by Andre G. Borda 1974  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 9  
Renan resignation 1975  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1  

Series 2 -- Film materials from Renan period at PFA 1967-1975, undated  
Physical Description: 5 folders  
Arrangement  
This series is arranged topically.  
Scope and Contents  
This series represents a collection of film organizations' documents during the time period in which Renan was director at the PFA. The contents contain information regarding the film history of years 1967 to 1975 on the UC Berkeley campus, in the city of Berkeley, in the Bay Area and in other university film institutions across North America.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 10</th>
<th><strong>Film presentations, advertisements, and brochures approximately 1970-1974</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 11</td>
<td><strong>Film groups and presentations at UC Berkeley and in the City of Berkeley</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>approximately 1967-1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 12</td>
<td><strong>Film festival materials 1971-1973, undated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 13</td>
<td><strong>Film publications and lists -- Materials and supplies 1968-1974, undated</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 14</td>
<td><strong>Film study centers newsletters and workshop 1968-1973, undated</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 15</td>
<td><strong>Yugoslav films [Winter 1967] 1967</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 16</td>
<td><strong>Summer 1967 film programs 1967</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 17</td>
<td><strong>Fall 1968 Brazilian film series 1968</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 18</td>
<td><strong>“Targets” -- Peter Bogdanovich Fall 1968 screening 1968</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 19</td>
<td><strong>Film studies course 1968</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 20</td>
<td><strong>Educational program materials 1968-1971, undated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 21</td>
<td><strong>Campus area screenings 1970</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 22</td>
<td><strong>French film week 1971</strong></td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 23</td>
<td><strong>Swedish film retrospective 1971</strong></td>
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| Box 1, Folder 24 | **Temple of the Wings screenings 1972**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 1, Folder 25 | **Danish film week 1973**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 1, Folder 26 | **Chinese film project 1971-1974, undated**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 1, Folder 27 | **Japanese film project 1974**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2 | **Series 4 -- Festivals and conferences 1969-1973, undated**  
**Physical Description:** 13 folders  
**Arrangement:**  
This series is arranged by date.  
**Scope and Contents:**  
The series contains Renan's papers on conferences he attended during his time as PFA director. |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | **Center for Participant Education, UC Berkeley, National Student Film Festival 1969**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | **Council on Foundations, Inc., annual conference 1970**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | **Other Ways conference Spring 1970**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | **L.A. Film Teachers' Association Conference 1970**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | **University Art Museum Spring 1971** |
| Box 2, Folder 6 | **Media Instructors of Northern California 1971**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 7 | **College Editors' Conference 1971**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | **Women's Film Festival 1972**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 9 | **National Association of Media Educators Conference 1972-1973**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 10 | **Regional Development of Film Centers and Services conference 1973**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 11 | **Regional Development conference -- Participants, agenda, documents 1973**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
| Box 2, Folder 12 | **Regional Development conference -- Finances 1973**  
**Physical Description:** 1 folder |
Box 2, Folder 13  
**Paper for National Conference on Teaching Resources of Film and Media 1972-1973**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2  
**Series 5 -- Correspondence 1968-1974, undated**  
Physical Description: 17 folders  
Arrangement  
This series is arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the recipient/sender. In some cases the correspondence is filed under an individual name and in others, it is filed under the organization. This type of name filing has been retained from Renan's original filing system.  
Scope and Contents  
The series contains correspondence regarding Renan's work in getting the Pacific Film Archive off the ground. Any correspondence directly related to PFA programming and development has been included in this series.

Box 2, Folder 14  
**Fundación Cinemateca Argentina 1970, undated**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 15  
**Camille Cook 1971-1974**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 16  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 17  
**Cine/Media 1972**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 18  
**Film commission 1972-1973, undated**  
Box 2, Folder 19  
**Tom Freudenheim: UAM/Film Archive 1968-1970**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 20  
**Japanese film programming 1971-1974**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 21  
**India 1971-1973**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 22  
**India National Film Archive 1970 1973-1974**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 23  
**International Film Seminars 1973**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 24  
**Henry Kaiser 1972**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 25  
**Dick Koler (Computer Image) 1970-1971**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 26  
**Media Study, Inc. -- Gerald O'Grady 1972**  
Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 2, Folder 27  
**Millennium Film Workshop -- Howard Guttenplan 1973**  
Physical Description: 1 folder
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Box 2, Folder 28</th>
<th>National Council of Teachers of English 1972</th>
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<td>Box 2, Folder 29</td>
<td>Randolf Pitts 1971</td>
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<td>Box 2, Folder 30</td>
<td>Milton Stern (UC Extension Dean) 1971-1972</td>
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</tbody>
</table>