San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Curatorial records

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San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
151 Third Street
San Francisco, California 94103
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http://www.sfmoma.org/
2015
Descriptive Summary

Title: San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Curatorial records
Dates: 1958-1978
Collection Number: ARCH.ADM.011
Creator/Collector: San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Extent: 2 linear feet (2 cartons)
Repository: San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: The Curatorial collection consists of materials relating to the daily duties of SFMOMA’s curators and curatorial assistants before the formal establishment of curatorial departments. Includes correspondence from several museum staff, most significantly from curator John Humphrey.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is available for use. Some materials are restricted for confidentiality or condition.

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Preferred Citation

Scope and Content of Collection
The Curatorial collection consists of materials relating specifically to the daily functions of the curators in the years leading up to the organization of a formal curatorial department. Documents the growth of the museum’s curatorial staff, and the evolving role of Curator John Humphrey. Humphrey’s correspondence reveals his active role in exhibitions and his decision to concentrate solely on photograph at the end of his career at the museum. In addition to Humphrey’s responsibilities, this series also documents the more general role of the curatorial assistants, and includes inquiries from the general public.

The collection is divided into two series, based on the original arrangement of the records. The Correspondence and Administrative series contains correspondence and materials related predominately to collection development, research requests, and the organization of exhibitions. The Photographs series contains photographs documenting artworks, artists, and installations.

Indexing Terms
Art appreciation—Study and teaching—California—San Francisco
Art museum curators
Art museums—Collection management—California—San Francisco
Art museums—Educational aspects
Art museums—Employees
Art museums and community—California—San Francisco
Museums—Curatorship
Humphrey, John
San Francisco Museum of Art
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art—Archives
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art—History—Sources
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art—Records and correspondence

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