Finding aid for the Album of Mexican and French cartes-de-visite, approximately 1861-1880

Beth Ann Guynn
Descriptive Summary
Title: Album of Mexican and French cartes-de-visite
Date (inclusive): between 1861 and 1880
Number: 2000.R.25
Physical Description: 0.5 Linear Feet (1 album)
Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles 90049-1688
reference@getty.edu
URL: http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref
(310) 440-7390
Abstract: The album of cartes-de-visite by mostly unidentified photographers, assembled by an unknown person during the time of the French intervention in Mexico by an unknown person, contains photographs of Pre-Columbian related statuary; portraits of 19th-century Mexican presidents, military, and political figures; images of indigenous people and “tipos” depicting various types of Mexican street vendors and professions; portraits of figures from the French intervention; portraits of Napoleon III and family; and portraits of the compiler’s family and friends.
Request Materials: Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the catalog record for this collection. Click here for the access policy.
Language: Collection is in French
Biographical / Historical
The unknown compiler of the album was likely someone who served in or was associated with the French army in Mexico during the time of the French intervention.
Conditions Governing Access
Open for use by qualified researchers.
Publication Rights
Contact Library Reproductions and Permissions.
Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa2000r25
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Acquired in 2000.
Processing Information
Digitized Material
The collection was digitized in 2010 and the images are available online: http://hdl.handle.net/10020/2000r25.
Scope and Content of Collection
The album of cartes-de-visite by mostly unidentified photographers (due in part to the fact that the versos of the cartes are not visible) appears to have been assembled by someone who likely served in or was associated with the French army in Mexico during the time of the French intervention. Included are 45 cartes-de-visite and one calling card. The following groups of images are present: photographs of pre-Columbian related statuary (5); portraits of 19th-century Mexican presidents, military, and political figures (8); images of indigenous people and “tipos” depicting various types of Mexican street vendors and professions (20); portraits of figures from the French intervention, including generals Ignacio Zaragoza and Jesús Ortega, known for their leadership in the defense of Puebla, and General Tomás Mejía, whose alignment with the French caused him to be executed with Maximilian (5); portraits of Napoleon III and family (3); and unidentified portraits, including family and friends of the album compiler (4).
Seven of the images are photographs of prints or drawings; others are second or third generation copy photographs from original cartes-de-visite, attesting to the popularity and wide dissemination of the Mexican images at the time the album was assembled.

The album has pebbled brown leather covers with a chased brass clasp. The covers and spine are embossed with a gothic design in high relief. The openings of the carte-de-viste mounts are surrounded by a gilt-stamped design with the initials J. H. centered below the design; four openings are empty. French captions are handwritten on many of the mounts in brown ink above and beneath the images. Throughout the album "aztèques" appears with the archaic spelling "astèques."

The three photographs of the French imperial family are by Émile Desmaisons. They are all blindstamped in the photograph: E. D. The photographer's imprint is visible on one verso: E. Desmaisons, 5 rue des Grands Augustins, Paris.

Copyright secured for England. One photograph is signed in the negative: E. Desmaisons, DEL.

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged in a single series: Series I: Album of Mexican and French cartes-de-visite, approximately 1861-1880.

**Subjects - Names**

Napoleon, III, 1808-1873 (Emperor of the French) -- Portraits
Desmaisons, Emilien, 1812-1880
González Ortega, Jesús, 1822-1881 -- Portraits
Mejía, Tomás, 1820-1867 -- Portraits
Zaragoza, Ignacio, 1829-1862 -- Portraits

**Subjects - Topics**

Generals -- Mexico -- Portraits
Indians of Mexico -- Portraits
Occupations -- Mexico

**Subjects - Places**

Mexico -- Antiquities
Mexico -- History -- European Intervention, 1861-1867

**Genres and Forms of Material**

Cartes-de-visite -- Mexico -- 19th century
Photograph albums -- Mexico -- 19th century
Albumen prints -- Mexico -- 19th century
Studio portraits -- Mexico -- 19th century
Photographs, Original

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**Box 1**

**Album of Mexican and French cartes-de-visite, between 1861 and 1880**

**Scope and Content Note**

The album related to the French intervention in Mexico contains 45 cartes-de-visite and one calling card.

**Arrangement**

In original order.

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**Box 1, page 1**

**Recto**


**Scope and Content Note**

Statuette of a female goddess with her arm resting on an eagle and with a bow, quiver, spear and shield resting on her lower body and the base.

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**Verso**

2000.R.25-1v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Idoles astèques**

**Scope and Content Note**

Three small terracotta figures.
2000.R.25-2r **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Idoles astèques**
Scope and Content Note
Three small terracotta figures.

Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative, upper left corner: 7. Copy photograph after Charnay?

2000.R.25-3r **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Princesse astèque**
Scope and Content Note
Female statuette holding a bow and shield.

2000.R.25-3v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Le curé Hidalgo, qui leva l'étendard de la révolte en 1811, contre les Espagnols**
Scope and Content Note
Reproduces a portrait of Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla. Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 92.R.8.

Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Antonio López de Santa Anna. For another copy of this image see Special Collections accession no. 92.R.8-19r.4.

2000.R.25-4v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Comontfort [sic]. Ex président**
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Ignacio Comonfort. For another copy of this image see Special Collections accession no. 92.R.8-5r.4.

Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Benito Juarez. Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.

2000.R.25-5v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Le général Sarragoza, défenseur de Puebla le 5 Mai 1862**
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Ignacio Zaragoza.


2000.R.25-6v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Le général Méjia, 1866**
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Tomás Mejía.

2000.R.25-7r **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Doblado, gouverneur de l'état de Guanajuato. Ex ministre**

2000.R.25-7v **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Tortilleras, ou fabricantes de tortilles (galettes de maïs)**

2000.R.25-8r **Photographer unknown, Mexique. Soldats**
Scope and Content Note

Scope and Content Note
Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.
2000.R.25-9r Photographer unknown, Mexique. Marchand de bananes et autres fruits
Scope and Content Note
Photograph of a clay(?) and cloth figurine.

2002.R.25-9v Photographer unknown, Mexicaine de la classe moyenne

2000.R.25-10r Photographer unknown, Aguador ou porteur d’eau de Mexico
Scope and Content Note
Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.

2000.R.25-10v Photographer unknown, Mexique. Marchande de poires cuites
Scope and Content Note
Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.

Scope and Content Note
Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.


2000.R.25-12r Photographer unknown, Mexique. Charbonnière indienne


Scope and Content Note
Image also found in Special Collections accession no. 93.R.20.

Scope and Content Note
Pencil annotation on mount: Cambery. Photograph of an etching.

2000.R.25-14r Photographer unknown, Mexique. Cestéro, ou fabricant de paniers


2999.R.25-15r Photographer unknown, Mexique. Sérénos ou gardes de nuit


2000.R.25-16v Photographer unknown, Mexique. Ollero, ou marchand de poterie

2000.R.25-17r Photographer unknown, Mexique. Maçon

2000.R.25-17v Photographer unknown, [Male Head]
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of Marat? Photograph after an etching.

2000.R.25-18r Photographer unknown, [Portrait of a Three-quarter-length Standing Male Figure]
Scope and Content Note
Pencil annotation on mount: Cambry. Photograph of an etching.
2000.R.25-18v **Photographer unknown, [Jean-Marie Roland de la Platière]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Pencil annotation on mount: Roland. Photograph of an etching.

2000.R.25-19r **Photographer unknown, Necker**  
Scope and Content Note  
Titled in negative. Photograph of an etching of Jacques Necker.

Scope and Content Note  
Pencil annotation on mount: Vergniaud. Photograph of an etching.

2000.R.25-20r **[Blank page]**

2000.R.25-21v **Desmaisons, Émile, [Eugénie, Empress of France]**  
Scope and Content Note  

Scope and Content Note  
Blind stamp in photo: E. D.

Scope and Content Note  
Blind stamp in photo: E. D. In negative: E. Desmaisons, DEL.

2000.R.25-23r **Photographer unknown, Grand-père, 1880**  
Scope and Content Note  
Written on verso in pencil. Portrait of a seated man.

2000.R.25-23v **[Blank page]**

2000.R.25-24r **Photographer unknown, [Seated Clergyman]**

2000.R.25-24v **Photographer unknown, [Two Young Boys, One Seated, One Standing]**

2000.R.25-25r **Engraved calling card for Madame Michel Roux**  
Scope and Content Note  
With engraved address; 27 rue Vaubecour; written in ink: Voeux de bonne année.


2000.R.25-26r **Photographer unknown, [Young Man Resting Hand on Cheek]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Printed on verso is a poem by Jean Sarrazin entitled "Jacques Inaudi."

2000.R.25-26 verso **[Blank page]**