
Emmabeth Nanol
Descriptive Summary

Title: Wolfgang Stoerchle papers
Date (inclusive): 1952-2007
Number: 2009.M.16
Creator/Collector: Stoerchle, Wolfgang
Physical Description: 5.17 Linear Feet (12 boxes)
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 archive of conceptual, video, and performance artist Wolfgang Stoerchle documents his brief career through video and sound recordings, correspondence, notes, clippings, and photographic materials.

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 material is in Description is in English

Biographical/Historical Note

Wolfgang Stoerchle was an important figure in the development of performance and video art in Southern California in the 1970s. Born in Germany, Stoerchle emigrated to Toronto, Canada with his family in 1959. In 1962 he and his brother Peter rode horseback through the United States for ten months to Los Angeles, where Stoerchle lived from 1963 to 1964. After attending the University of Oklahoma from 1964 to 1968, Stoerchle enrolled in the MFA program at the University of California, Santa Barbara. While there he began experimenting with performance and sound art. He performed throughout California with Miles Varner and Daniel Lentz in a group called California Time Machine. In 1970 Allan Kaprow recruited Stoerchle to teach in the Post-Studio Art program at the California Institute of the Arts. Encouraged by Nam June Paik, who was also teaching at CalArts during this time, Stoerchle began experimenting with video. Collectively, his video works show a complete dissection of the medium, isolating nearly every formal property of video and turning it towards often poignant efforts to capture and contain the body.

Stoerchle was included in a number of important exhibitions in the early 1970s, including 24 Young Artists at LACMA in 1971, the Pier 18 exhibition at MoMA, and a two-person exhibition with William Wegman at Sidney Janis gallery. He moved to New York in 1973 and shifted his concentration from the abstract and conceptual work that had garnered so much attention, to blunt depictions of sexuality and nudity. Stoerchle left New York by the middle of 1973. During the last three years of his life Stoerchle moved back and forth between Mexico City, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Santa Fe, where he lived with his second wife, Carol Lingham, whom he married in 1974. Stoerchle continued producing art during this time, primarily fiery abstract pencil drawings and ephemeral sculptures resembling primitive shrines and mounds. In the fall of 1975, he presented his final performance in John Baldessari’s studio. On March 14, 1976, Stoerchle died following injuries suffered in a car accident.

Access
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Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa2009m16

Acquisition Information
The archive was acquired from Carol Lingham in 2009.

Processing History
Vladimira Stefura processed and created a box list of the archive in June 2009. Later in 2009 and 2010 Emmabeth Nanol further processed the archive, devised the arrangement, and expanded the box list into a preliminary finding aid under the supervision of Andra Darlington.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The archive contains documentation of work produced by Stoerchle during his short career, as well as a small amount of personal material. A significant component of the archive is a set of half-inch open-reel tapes documenting Stoerchle's experiments with video. In addition to his well-known works, the videos also include documentation of some of Stoerchle's lesser-known works, such as a live performance with Viva, some of his more provocative performances, and a television "dinner" performance produced with Allan Kaprow, Emmett Williams, and Helene Winer. Also included are audiotapes of Stoerchle's sound works and a slide and sound installation. The archive contains a small number of works by other artists, including early video reels by Nam June Paik and William Wegman, and sound works made by Daniel Lentz in honor of Stoerchle.

Also included in the papers is a small selection of photographs of works Stoerchle produced as an undergraduate student at the University of Oklahoma, extensive photographic documentation of sculptures and performances he produced at UCSB, CalArts, and elsewhere in Los Angeles, and images of drawings and sculpture he produced in Santa Fe and Mexico. Stoerchle's childhood is represented by a few family photographs and images of drawings and sculptures he made in his youth.

Among the limited correspondence are letters received by Stoerchle, personal letters between Stoerchle and his wife, Carol Lingham, and letters to Lingham following Stoerchle's death, including some lengthy remembrances by friends. The archive also contains an extensive set of press clippings about Stoerchle during his lifetime. Much of the archive was assembled by Lingham after Stoerchle's death.

**Arrangement**


**Subjects - Names**

Stoerchle, Wolfgang

**Subjects - Topics**

Performance art -- California -- Los Angeles
Video art -- California -- Los Angeles

**Genres and Forms of Material**

Performance art -- 20th century
Video art -- 20th century
Videotapes
Sound recordings -- 20th century
Photographic prints -- 20th century
Photographs, Original
Correspondence -- 20th century

**Contributors**

Paik, Nam June, 1932-2006
Wegman, William
Williams, Emmett
Winer, Helene, 1946-
Kaprow, Allan
Lentz, Daniel, 1942-
Stoerchle, Wolfgang
Series I. Personal files, 1952-2007

Physical Description: 0.6 Linear Feet (2 boxes)

Scope and Content Note
This series contains correspondence, notes, marriage and death certificates, photocopies of childhood photographs, items relating to Stoerchle's car accident, and letters received by his widow, Carol Lingham, after his death. The materials were originally assembled by Lingham in a black binder, which was dismantled for conservation purposes.

Arrangement
Arranged chronologically.

Photographs, 1952-1975

Box 1, folder 1
Photocopies

Box 5
Originals

Box 1, folder 2
Legal documents, 1959-1976

Trek through America on horseback, 1962-1964

Scope and Content Note
Included are fake newspaper articles and several clippings from small-town newspapers related to Stoerchle's horseback trip across the United States.

Box 1, folder 3
Papers

Box 5
Color photographs

Portraits of Stoerchle, circa 1970

Box 1, folder 4
Black and white photographs

Box 5
Color photographs

Box 1, folder 5
Stoerchle's notes, 1971-1975

Scope and Content Note
Folder also contains Stoerchle's address book from 1971.

Box 1, folder 6
Correspondence, 1975-1996

Scope and Content Note
Includes letters to Carol Lingham years after Stoerchle's death.

Box 1, folder 7
Materials relating to Stoerchle's car accident, 1976

Lingham's notes, 1996-2007

Series II. Documentation of artworks, 1968-1975, undated

Physical Description: 2.71 Linear Feet (5 boxes)

Scope and Content Note
This series primarily contains photographic documentation of Stoerchle's artworks, from an early exhibition of paintings and sculpture to his final performance.

Arrangement
Arranged chronologically.

Paintings and sculpture, 1968

Scope and Content Note
Exhibition at University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Gallery.

Box 2, folder 1
Photographs

Box 6
Slides, negatives and transparencies

Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 1-3.

Box 2, folder 2
Balloon Water, 1969-1970

Photographs
box 6  Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 4.

**Gastronomics System, 1970**
Photographs
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 5-6.

**Plaster Pieces, 1970-1971**
Newspaper clippings
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 7-25.

**Gastronomics System, 1970**
Photographs
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 5-6.

**Plaster Pieces, 1970-1971**
Newspaper clippings
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 7-25.

**Plaster Drop events, 1970-1971**
Newspaper clippings
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 26-29.

**Ashley-Buckley-Stoerchle Sound III, 1970**
Photograph
Poster
Sound disc
Scope and Content Note
1 sound disc : 45 rpm. (2 copies)

**Budd-Lentz-Stoerchle, 1970**
Papers
Slides
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 30-31.

**Exchange of Clothes event, 1970**
Scope and Content Note
At Storke Plaza, University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Arm Wrestling, 1970**
Scope and Content Note
With Robert Morris at Butler Gallery, Santa Barbara.

**Exchange of Clothes event, 1970**
Scope and Content Note
At Storke Plaza, University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Plaster Drop events, 1970-1971**
Newspaper clippings
Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 26-29.

**Ashley-Buckley-Stoerchle Sound III, 1970**
Photograph
Poster
Sound disc
Scope and Content Note
1 sound disc : 45 rpm. (2 copies)
Video works, 1970-1972
Scope and Content Note
See also boxes 8-10 for related audiovisual materials.

Photographs

Slides, negatives and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 41-47.

Light Piece, 1972-1973
Scope and Content Note
At California Institute of the Arts.

Photographs

Slide and negatives
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 48-49.

Attempt Public Erection, 1972
Photographs

Negatives
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 50.

Pomona College performance, 1972
Photographs

Transparency
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 51.

Art as Illusion, 1972
Newspaper clippings

Slide
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 52.

Wolf on table - jumping off, 1972
Photographs

Negatives
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 53.

Last performance, 1975
Scope and Content Note
At John Baldessari studio.

Photographs

Slides and transparencies
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 54-56.

Paper Roll Burn, undated
Photographs
Series II. Documentation of artworks, 1968-1975, undated

box 6
**Slides and negatives**
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 57-59.

Miscellaneous, 1970, undated
**Papers**
**Negatives**
Scope and Content Note
In sleeves 60-61.

Stoerchle's original sketches, 1975, undated
**Photocopies**
**Originals**
**Mounted sketches**
Scope and Content Note
Contains 5 unframed original drawings and one handwritten note detailing the creation of these drawings.

Series III. Materials about Stoerchle, 1965-2006, undated

Physical Description: 0.44 Linear Feet (1 box)
Scope and Content Note
This series contains newspaper articles and clippings relating to Stoerchle's exhibitions, as well as other artists' works about Stoerchle, including a retrospective exhibition in 1996.
Arrangement
Arranged chronologically.

Box 3, folder 1
**Newspaper clippings, 1965-1972, undated**
Scope and Content Note
Folder includes newspaper reviews of Stoerchle's performances: Video Works at the Janis Gallery (1970-1971) and Art as Illusion at Pomona College Gallery (1972).

Box 3, folder 2
Wayne McCall, 1982
Box 3, folder 3
Daniel Lentz, 1983
Box 3, folder 4
Jerry Pfaffl, 1997-1999
Box 3, folder 5
Elizabeth Gilchrist, 1979-1998
Box 3, folder 6
Centre national d'art contemporain de Grenoble, 1996-1997
Box 3, folder 7
Nam June Paik, 2000-2006


Physical Description: 2.02 Linear Feet (4 boxes)
Scope and Content Note
The bulk of this series contains audio and video materials relating to Stoerchle's works, including the video artworks themselves, recordings of performances, and video from a retrospective exhibition organized after his death. Also included are audio recordings of Daniel Lentz's "Requiem of Wolfgang Stoerchle."
Arrangement
Arranged according to medium.

Box 7, item D1
**Sound recordings, 1976-2006, undated**
Scope and Content Note
1 compact disc, 4 3/4 in.

Daniel Lentz, "Requiem: In Memoriam Wolfgang Stoerchle," 1976
Scope and Content Note
1 sound cassette, 3 7/8 x 2 1/2 in.

"Stereo soundtrack for slide piece," undated
Audio recording
Scope and Content Note
1 sound tape reel, 7 in.

Slide
Scope and Content Note
In sleeve 62.

"Soundtrack for live performance," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 sound tape reel, 5 in.

Ashley, Buckley, Stoerchle, Mills College, Sound III, undated
Scope and Content Note

Daniel Lentz, After Images, 1981
Scope and Content Note
1 sound disc : 33 1/3 rpm. Contents: side 1. Slow Motion Mirror (4:20); Midnight White (3:10), Solar Cadence (4:46); side 2. Dancing on the Sun (12:11).

Video recordings, 1970-1972, undated

"Sue Turning 000-285, Walla Walla 285," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.

"Close up Sketching, Shoot with Different Sound Tracks, Scraping Things off the Wall," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.

"Empty The Ring Stuff #475, New drafting, New undressing," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.

"Hypnosis piece 11. Ultra, Humphrey, Peter," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.

"John's Outline (look up)," undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.

Untitled, undated
Scope and Content Note
1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 9, Item</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>undated</th>
<th>Scope and Content Note</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V7</td>
<td>&quot;A.T.E. No.1 Dinner Party,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>tape. 1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V9</td>
<td>&quot;Good tape (performance),&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>tape. 1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V10</td>
<td>&quot;Color (Penis),&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>tape. 1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V11</td>
<td>&quot;[...] movement [...] loft (Finding [...] ),&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Some text on the label is illegible.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V12</td>
<td>&quot;Ultra interview ( [...] - Writer),&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Some text on the label is illegible.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V14</td>
<td>&quot;Good tapes,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>tape. 1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V17</td>
<td>&quot;Pomona Performance Piece,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>tape. Numbered on label: &quot;3.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V18</td>
<td>Compilation, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in.</td>
<td>Contents: Running with light; Dirt blowing; Dirt through window; Box dropping; Girl sitting by ladder. Numbered on label: &quot;6.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box</td>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>V20</td>
<td>&quot;Video part for performance in Boston,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Numbered on label: &quot;8.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V24</td>
<td>&quot;Food Stuff,&quot;</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Contents: 1. sandwich; 2. apple; 3. lunch; 4. dinner; 5. eating a carrot (with face in the dark); 6. apple with flashlight vertical roll. Numbered on label: &quot;13.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V25</td>
<td>&quot;All Good Tape,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Numbered on label: &quot;14.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V26</td>
<td>&quot;use for audio &amp; visual com?,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Numbered on label: &quot;15.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V27</td>
<td>&quot;Wolf is Dead: performances and videotapes of Wolfgang Stoerchle,&quot;</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1 in. tape. &quot;Saturday, December 11, [1982], 8:00 pm, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum. Transfers made by Lentz/ Dunlap/ Erenburg 'Wolf is Dead.&quot; Title of exhibit. Also title of Requiem by Lentz&quot;--label.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V28</td>
<td>&quot;William Wegman, John Baldessari,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>V29</td>
<td>&quot;Hot Dogs for Gaugin,&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 videoreel, 1/2 in. tape. Short film by Martin Brest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scope and Content Note