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Collection number: MSS PHOTO 203

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Harry Gamboa, Jr. Photographs,
Date (inclusive): 1971-1995
Collection number: MSS PHOTO 203
Creator: Gamboa, Harry, Jr.
Extent: .25 linear ft. (93 black & white prints, 7 original Polaroid instant prints)
Repository: Stanford University. Libraries. Dept. of Special Collections and University Archives.

Abstract: The 93 B&W prints are unique in that they were hand-printed in 1995 by Willie Garcia along with Gamboa's supervision. Although several of these images have been printed elsewhere, the quality and tonality of these prints will not be reproduced by other photo lab techniques. Several of the negatives were lost. Seven of the 100 photographs are original Polaroid instant prints.

Language: English.

Access
None.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Harry Gamboa, Jr. Photographs. MSS PHOTO 203. Dept. of Special Collections, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, Calif.

Acquisition Information

Biography
Harry Gamboa Jr. was born in 1951, the first of five children born to Harry T. Gamboa and Carmen Gamboa, a working class Mexican American couple. He grew up in East Los Angeles California, an urban area tormented by poverty, violence and racial conflict. Despite these surroundings, the inadequacy of the East L.A. public schools and his parents' lack of education, Gamboa was encouraged to value education and did fairly well in school. As a teenager he was active in community organizations and politics. As a student at High School (graduated 1969) Gamboa was active in student government and as an organizer of various student-initiated reforms, most significantly the 1968 "East L.A. Blowouts" -a series of protests against the inferior conditions of public schools in poor, non-white areas.
Gamboa’s extra-curricular activities were not, however, limited to politics. Already a developing artist, it was at Garfield High that Gamboa met Gronk (Glugio Nicondra), Patssi (then Patsy) Valdez and Willie Herrón, three of his closest associates in his later career. After the “Blowouts,” for his final year of high school, Gamboa dropped out of the political scene in order to dedicate himself to his education. Thanks to these efforts and with the help of the Equal Opportunities Program (EOP) for disadvantaged minority students, Gamboa was able to attend California State University at Los Angeles. From this point his career as an artist - both solo and with Gronk, Valdez and Herrón in the art collective ASCO (Spanish for nausea) - took off.

Gamboa’s work as a writer, photographer, film-maker, performance artist and multi-media creator of “things” is diverse, but in all his efforts (including those as a member of ASCO) his focus has been to reveal the absurdity of urban life and to confront both the dominant white culture and various perspectives within Chicano culture, pointing to the pain and alienation caused by both. This is often achieved by altering the media of the art itself, as opposed to just the subject matter. Gamboa’s most significant works include mail art of the 1970s, ASCO’s “no movies,” the “urban opera” Ignore the Dents and Jetter’s jinx.

Gamboa has one son, Diego, born c. 1980, a product of his first marriage. In 1993 Gamboa married his second wife, Chicano muralist Barbara Carrasco, after seven years of romantic and professional involvement. Their daughter, Barbara Gamboa, was born in 1994.

Collection Scope and Content Summary
The 93 black and white prints are unique in that they were hand-printed in 1995 by Willie Garcia along with Gamboa’s supervision. Although several of these images have been printed elsewhere, the quality and tonality of these prints will not be reproduced by other photo lab techniques. Several of the negatives were lost. Seven of the 100 photographs are original Polaroid instant prints.

Access Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog. Mexican American arts.
Mexican Americans.
Photography.
Photoprints.
Photographers.

| Box 1, Item 1 | Antizona (Diego) / (photo by Daniel J. Martinez), 1987 |
| Box 1, Item 2 | Huevitos (Humberto Sandoval and Barbara Carrasco), 1994 |
| Box 1, Item 3 | John Valadez, 1986 |
| Box 1, Item 4 | Barbara Carrasco (during pregnancy) and Gamboa, 1994 |
| | Physical Description: [Polaroid] |
| Box 1, Item 5 | Undoings (Irma Garcia), 1994 |
| Box 1, Item 6 | Humberto Sandoval at OTIS, 1983 |
| Box 1, Item 7 | Billy Estrada, 1979 |
| Box 1, Item 8 | Sean Carrillo, 1983 |
| Box 1, Item 9 | Louis Carios Bemal, 1983 |
| Box 1, Item 10 | LA. Familia (Humberto Sandoval), 1993 |
| Box 1, Item 11 | Henry Gutierrez, 1993* |
| Box 1, Item 12 | Joe Medina, 1993* |
| Box 1, Item 13 | Evaporations (Paulina Sahagün), 1994 |
| Box 1, Item 14 | Eliminating the Sky (Anthony C. Sandoval), 1994 |
| Box 1, Item 15 | Jack Vargas, 1994* |
| Box 1, Item 16 | Gamboa and daughter Barbara / (photo by Barbara Carrasco) , 1995 |
| | Physical Description: Polaroid |
| Box 1, Item 17 | Roberto Bedoya, 1994* |
| Box 1, Item 18 | Undoings (Moises Corrales), 1994 |
| Box 1, Item 19 | LA. Familia (Barbz & Diego), 1993 |
| Box 1, Item 20 | Friday (Teddy Sandoval), 1978 |
| Box 1, Item 21 | Sons of Soul, 1978 |
Box 1, Item 22  TJ Hooker (TV series gang episode scene shot on location in ELA), 1987
Box 1, Item 23  3 LAPD Cops Arrest I Man, 1981
Box 1, Item 24  Culver City Girls, 1979
Box 1, Item 25  3 Boys/ UFW, 1979
Box 1, Item 26  Cesar Chavez, 1979
Box 1, Item 27  Ruby, Richard & Son, 1979
Box 1, Item 28  Rodolfo Acuña, Barbz, Edwatd James Olmos, (UCLA meeting related to student hunger strike) 1993
Box 1, Item 29  3 Boys/Skid Row, 1978
Box 1, Item 30  Organic vs. Inorganic, 1978
Box 1, Item 31  Odd Squad (ELA new wave music group), 1984
Box 1, Item 32  Molina & Roybal, 1989
Box 1, Item 33  Boy With Cotton Candy, 1979
Box 1, Item 34  Baby Barbie, Diego, & Barbz (Silverlake), 1994
Box 1, Item 35  America Tropical (SIQUEIROS mural, detail showing chewing gum on eyes), 1979
Box 1, Item 36  Children At Work Stuffing Pillows (ELA), 1979
Box 1, Item 37  Rudy Perez Jr. and Rudy Perez III, 1979
Box 1, Item 38  Miguel Perez, 1981
Box 1, Item 39  Arthur Marchand, 1977
Box 1, Item 40  Cesar Rosas, 1991
Box 1, Item 41  Octavio Paz, 1984
Box 1, Item 42  Sra. Pinhead, 1978
Box 1, Item 43  Raíces de Sangre (Treviño's movie premiere Golden Gate Theater/ELA), 1979
Box 1, Item 44  Francisco Gonzalez, 1978
Box 1, Item 45  Javier Perez, 1974
Box 1, Item 46  Carlos Montes, 1979
Box 1, Item 47  Military Police in LA., 1991
Box 1, Item 48  Street Preacher, 1985
Box 1, Item 49  Culture Clash, 1987
Box 1, Item 50  Whittier Quake (Diego), 1987
Box 1, Item 51  Girls in costume (ELA), 1977
Box 1, Item 52  Chilito, Vanessa, & Bellinda (Diego's FLORES cousins), 1977
Box 1, Item 53  Harry T. Gamboa Retirement Party (ELA),

  Physical Description: 1989

Box 1, Item 54  Rodolfo Perez, 1982
Box 1, Item 55  Dancers, 1982
Box 1, Item 56  Carlos Fuentes, 1984
Box 1, Item 57  Max Benavidez, Victor Valle, Tere Romo, Diego Gamboa, Barbara Carrasco at John Valadez exhibition reception, (late 1980s)

  Physical Description: polaroid

Box 1, Item 58  Undoings (Octavio Gaitan), 1994
Box 1, Item 59  Gamboa & Jose Montoya / (photo by Evangelina F. Gamboa), 1977
Box 1, Item 60  Patssi Valdez (Cover image, Regeneración), 1974
Box 1, Item 61  Gamboa in Mesa, AZ / (photo by Robert Buitron), 1983
Box 1, Item 62  Jetter's Jinx (Humberto Sandoval & Gronk), 1985
Box 1, Item 63  David Avalos visit to Gamboa class at CALARTS (also pictured Jody Zellen, Franklin Odel, Rick Salazar, and Lyle Ashton Hams), 1989
Box 1, Item 64  Zoot Suit Mural (Barara Carrasco & John Valadez), 1979
Box 1, Item 65  Void & Vain (Humberto Sandoval & HG) / (photo by Diane Gamboa), 1983
Box 1, Item 66  Imperfecto (Lorraine Ordaz, Humberto Sandoval, Debra Term, Sean Carnhlo), 1983
Box 1, Item 67  Venom vs Antidote (Diego & Apolina Vargas), 1994
Box 1, Item 68  Rene Yañez, Rio, Volanda Lopez, 1981
Box 1, Item 69  Undoings (Paulina Sahagún), 1994
Box 1, Item 70  Organic vs. Inorganic (Ricardo Gonzalves), 1994
Box 1, Item 71  Undoings (Kate Vozoff), 1994
Losers Of The Game, 1980

Physical Description: [Polaroid]

Asco81, 1981

Box 1, Item 74

Gronk, Humberto Sandoval, Willie Herron, Diego Garnboa, Gamboa dunng installation of ILLEGAL LANDSCAPE exhibit at CSULA, 1980

Physical Description: [Polaroid]

Undoings (Eddie Ayala), 1994

Box 1, Item 75

Yreina Cervantez, Frances Salome Espana, Ricardo Gonzalves, Barbara Carrasco, Maria Elena Gaitan, George Silva, Marcos Sanchez, Max Benavidez, and Diego Gamboa. UC Irvine after ANTIZONA performance

Physical Description: [Polaroid]

Undoings (Maria Elena Gaitan), 1994

Box 1, Item 77

Loner With A Gun (Luis Becerra), 1994

Box 1, Item 78

Angst For The Memones, 1994

Box 1, Item 79

Undoings (Max Benavidez), 1994

Box 1, Item 80

Daniel Villarreal, 1983

Box 1, Item 81

Undoings (Del Zamora), 1994

Box 1, Item 82

Man Loses His Pants During Arrest, 1978

Box 1, Item 83

Social Unwest (rug-O-War), 1995

Box 1, Item 84

Social Unwest (Dead on street), 1995

Box 1, Item 85

Betty & Pat, 1979

Box 1, Item 86

Max Benavidez In Chinatown, 1994

Box 1, Item 87

Club Limbo (Gamboa and Max Benavidz / (photo by Diego Gamboa), 1989

Box 1, Item 88

Chicano Artists (Gronk, Jerry Dreva, Patssi Valdez, Carlos Almaraz, John Valdez, Willie Herman, Gamboa), 1980

Box 1, Item 89

Mundo Meza, 1981

Box 1, Item 90

RobertBuitron, 1984

Box 1, Item 91

Gerardo Veiazquez, 1987

Box 1, Item 92

ASCO, 1975

Box 1, Item 93

Willie Garcia, 1994

Box 1, Item 94

Willie Herron With His Mural The Wall That Cracked Open, 1971

Box 1, Item 95

Richard Duardo, Barbz, Carlos Almaraz(CSULA), 1979

Box 1, Item 96

Max Benavidez, 1994

Box 1, Item 97

1975

Box 1, Item 98

Harry Gamboa Jr. wearing Chicano Power Button in East LA. / (photo by Sylvia Delgado), 1971

Physical Description: [Polaroid]

Knife Attack Victim On Downtown LA. Sidewalk, 1986

Box 1, Item 100