
Finding aid for the Rick Barton drawings and paintings LSC.2374

Finding aid prepared by Hannah Moshier and Jasmine Jones, 2019.

UCLA Library Special Collections

Online finding aid last updated 2020 April 27.

Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library

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URL: <https://www.library.ucla.edu/special-collections>

Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections

Title: Rick Barton drawings and paintings

Source: Evans, Henry Herman

Creator: Barton, Rick

Identifier/Call Number: LSC.2374

Physical Description: 11.25 Linear Feet(3 flat boxes, 3 oversize flat boxes, 1 map folder)(775 drawings, 4 paintings)

Date (inclusive): circa 1956-1964

Abstract: Rick Barton was a gay Beat artist who lived in San Francisco in the 1950s and 1960s. The collection is primarily comprised of drawings created by Barton, chiefly in pen and ink, in the late 1950s to early 1960s.

Portions of the collection stored off-site. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Language of Material: English .

Conditions Governing Access

Open for research. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Rick Barton drawings and paintings (Collection 2374). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Henry Evans, 1971.

Custodial History

Drawings were purchased from the artist by Henry Evans, printmaker and owner of Peregrine Press.

Processing Information

These materials were originally a part of the Collection of original works of art on paper (LSC.0099). Given the breadth and depth of drawings by Barton in Collection 0099, it was determined and recommended by LSC curator, Genie Guerard, in 2018 that the Rick Barton drawings comprise their own collection.

Container list and rehousing by Hannah Moshier in 2019, under the supervision of Jasmine Jones. Collection description created by Genie Guerard and Jasmine Jones in 2019.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [9272598](#)

Biographical History

Rick Barton was born in New York in 1928. He was an artist who claimed to have conducted a self-guided education at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the New York Public Library. While serving in the U.S. Navy in 1947, he traveled to China where he observed traditional line painting. He was most prolific in the gay San Francisco Beat subculture of the 1950s and 1960s. There he garnered a group of disciples who were drawn to his unique artistic style, which evidences an array of influences, including Chinese line painting, Renaissance woodcut illustrations, and Cubism. Barton drew his surroundings constantly, and was most attracted to subjects such as rooms, people, hands, cafés, churches and botanicals, which were represented in detailed and imagined perspectives. While he primarily lived in San Francisco, Barton spent time in Los Angeles, drawing spaces like Olvera Street, Bunker Hill, and other Los Angeles environs. Some of his drawings were printed by Henry Evans, who ran the Peregrine Press in San Francisco in the 1950s and 1960s, and who supported Barton by purchasing what is now the largest extant collection of his original drawings throughout those years. Barton passed in 1992.

Sources: The Morgan Library & Museum Associate Curator of Modern & Contemporary Drawings Rachel Federman and "Rick Barton," The Morgan Library & Museum, accessed October 2019, <https://www.themorgan.org/drawings/item/403453> .

Scope and Content

Collection is comprised of works of art on paper by artist Rick Barton. The drawings were primarily done in pen and ink, though, at least three of them, drawn in prison, appear to have been drawn in charcoal with burnt wood matches. Many of

the drawings were published by the Peregrine Press in the Press's limited edition books and print portfolios.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in chronological order.

Related Materials

[Peregrine Press and Henry H. Evans collection \(Press coll. Archives Peregrine\)](#). Available at UCLA. Clark (William Andrews) Memorial Library.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Peregrine Press

Beats (Persons) -- California -- San Francisco

Evans, Henry Herman

Barton, Rick -- Archives

box 1, folder 1	Drawings circa 1958 Physical Description: 6 items
box 1, folder 2	Drawings circa 1959 Physical Description: 58 items
box 1, folder 3-6	Drawings circa 1960 Physical Description: 158 items
box 2, folder 1	Drawings circa 1961 Physical Description: 221 items
box 2, folder 5-6, box 3, folder 1-4	Drawings circa 1962 Physical Description: 204 items
box 3, folder 5	Drawings undated Physical Description: 31 items
box 4, folder 1	Oversize drawings circa 1958 Physical Description: 8 items
box 4, folder 2	Oversize drawings circa 1959 Physical Description: 10 items
box 4, folder 3-4	Oversize drawings circa 1960 Physical Description: 26 items
box 4, folder 5, box 5, folder 1	Oversize drawings circa 1961 Physical Description: 23 items
box 5, folder 2-3	Oversize drawings circa 1962 Physical Description: 24 items
box 5, folder 4	Print circa 1964 Physical Description: 1 items
box 5, folder 5	Oversize drawings undated Physical Description: 4 items

folder 6	Oversize drawing circa 1961 Physical Description: 1 items
box 7	Painted by Rick Barton while drunk of Patricia Evans circa 1956 Physical Description: 1 items24.5 x 17 cm.
box 7	Portrait of Nancy Larson circa September 1958 Physical Description: 1 items
box 7	"Portrait of man with beard" circa September 1958 Physical Description: 1 items
box 7	"Abstract painting with figure" undated Physical Description: 1 items