Dan Curry papers, 1967-2008 LSC.2294

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Online finding aid last updated 28 August 2017.
Title: Dan Curry papers
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.2294
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 7.6 linear feet (12 boxes)
Date (bulk): Bulk, 1987-1991
Date (inclusive): 1967-2008
Abstract: Dan Curry, born Daniel F. Curry, is an Emmy Award-winning fine artist and filmmaker. He is best known --- and has won seven Emmy awards for --- his work as Visual Effects Producer of Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager, and Star Trek: Enterprise. This collection documents Curry’s work as visual effects producer of these series, as well as his work on other motion picture and television projects. The bulk of the collection dates from 1987 to 1992, and includes collected screenplays, montage storyboards, memos, recorded material, and Curry’s personal notes and hand-drawn illustrations.
Language of Materials: Materials entirely in English.
Physical Location: Stored off-site at SRLF. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance through our electronic paging system, using the "Request items" button.
Creator: Curry, Dan
Conditions Governing Access
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Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements
COLLECTION CONTAINS AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS: Audiovisual materials in this collection will require assessment and possible digitization for safe access. To review these audiovisual materials, you must notify the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk in advance of your visit.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Dan Curry papers (Collection 2294). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.
UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 8057851
Provenance/Source of Acquisition
This collection was donated by Daniel F. Curry and Ubolvan C. Curry in November 2015.
Processing Information
Processed by Sabrina Ponce in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT) under the supervision of Courtney Dean, 2016.
Biography/History
Dan Curry, born Daniel F. Curry, is an Emmy Award-winning fine artist and filmmaker. Born in New York City in 1946, he graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont with a major in Fine Arts and a minor in Theater. Upon completion of his degree, he joined the Peace Corps and served in Northeast Thailand building small dams and bridges. After his service, he stayed in Asia as a freelance artist where he accepted numerous film, production design, and architectural commissions, a highlight being a commission from the King of Thailand to be a production designer for the Royal Ball.
Upon his return to the United States, Curry worked for a time as a biomedical illustrator and a teacher of fine arts at a small college in New York before attending graduate school at Humboldt State University for a Master’s degree in Fine Arts. Upon completion of this degree in the late 1970s, Curry began work in the entertainment industry directing and supervising visual effects, title design, matte painting, and martial arts and weapons design among other elements of the filmmaking process. He is best known – and has won seven Emmy awards for – his work as Visual Effects Producer of Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager, and Star Trek: Enterprise. Additionally, he directed an episode of Star Trek: The Next Generation (1993), and occasionally acted in short films and an episode of Star Trek: Deep
Space Nine (1993). He continues to work on visual effects for various motion picture and television projects while maintaining an online gallery of his artwork.

**Scope and Content**

With material dating between 1967 and 2008, this collection documents Dan Curry’s work as visual effects producer of several Star Trek series, as well as his work on other motion picture and television projects. The bulk of the collection dates from 1987 to 1992, during which time Curry was first visual effects supervisor, then visual effects producer of Star Trek: The Next Generation. As a result, this collection’s strength lies in the screenplays, montage storyboards, and memos collected by Curry as well as his personal notes and hand-drawn illustrations pertaining to this series. The collection also contains similar, although a lesser amount of, material for Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager, and Star Trek: Enterprise. Most of the recorded material in the collection includes element reels, comp reels, and episode cuts of The Next Generation, but Voyager and Enterprise are also represented. Finally, the collection also consists of scripts, screenplays, and other records documenting Curry’s work on various film and television projects.

**Organization and Arrangement**

This collection is arranged in four series primarily by project type, and therein chronologically. Files were given the title of the specific Star Trek episode, motion picture, or television project to which their contents relate. The general arrangement reflects Dan Curry’s original order where present. The series and subseries of this collection are organized as follows:

**Series 1: Star Trek, circa 1987-2002**

Subseries 1.4: Star Trek: Enterprise, circa 2001-2004

Series 2: Star Trek VHS Tapes, circa 1967-2005
Series 3: Motion Picture Projects, circa 1988-1992
Series 4: Television Projects, 1990-2008


**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Curry, Dan -- Archives
Motion picture producers and directors--United States--Archives.
Television producers and directors--United States--Archives.

**Series 1: Star Trek 1987-2002**

**Scope and Content**

This series mostly contains scripts annotated by Curry and montage storyboards for several series of Star Trek. Curry also compiled copies of scripts, memos, hand-drawn screenplays, illustrations, and other personal notes on selected episodes into folders he labeled with these episodes’ titles. These folders are the highlight of the collection, as they document Curry’s creative thought process and the amount of work he put into producing the visual effects for these episodes. Where applicable, multiple folders were created for one file to preserve this arrangement.

**Organization and Arrangement**


**Subseries 1.1: Star Trek: The Next Generation 1987-1994**

Box 1, Folder 1

TNG: "Haven" 1987
Box 1, Folders 2-3
TNG: "Datalore" circa 1987
Box 1, Folder 4
TNG: "Too Short a Season" circa 1987
Box 1, Folder 5
TNG: "When the Bough Breaks" 1987
Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folders 7-8
TNG: "Coming of Age" circa 1987-1988

Scope and Content
Includes one diffusion transfer (Polaroid) print of the matte painting of the "Relva 7."
Also contains material on "Home Soil," as included by Dan Curry.

Box 2, Folder 1
Box 2, Folders 2-3
TNG: "The Arsenal of Freedom" circa 1988
Box 2, Folder 4
TNG: "We'll Always Have Paris" 1988
Box 2, Folder 5
TNG: "Symbiosis" circa 1988
Box 2, Folder 6
TNG: "Conspiracy" circa 1988
Box 3, Folders 1-2
TNG: "The Child" 1988
Box 3, Folder 3
TNG: "Elementary, Dear Data" 1988
Box 3, Folder 4
TNG: "Loud as a Whisper" 1988
Box 3, Folder 5
TNG: "Unnatural Selection" 1988
Box 3, Folder 6
TNG: "The Measure of a Man" 1988
Box 3, Folder 7
TNG: "Where Silence Has Lease" 1988

Scope and Content
Includes printed posts on a "Sci-Fi Fantasy Forum" discussing the episode. Praises of the visual and special effects were highlighted before receipt of the collection.

Box 4, Folder 1
TNG: "The Dauphin" 1988-1989
Box 4, Folder 2
Box 4, Folder 3
TNG: "Contagion" 1988-1989
Box 4, Folder 4
TNG: "High Regard" 1988-1989
Box 4, Folder 5
TNG: "Time to the Second" 1989
Box 4, Folder 6
TNG: "Pen Pals" 1989
Box 4, Folder 7
TNG: "Q Who?" 1989
Box 4, Folder 8
TNG: "The Royale" 1989

Scope and Content
Contains memos and one montage storyboard (Act 4 missing).

Box 5, Folder 1
TNG: "Samaritan Snare" 1989
Box 5, Folder 2
TNG: "Send in the Clones" 1989
Box 5, Folder 3
TNG: "Manhunt" 1989
Box 5, Folder 4
TNG: "The Emissary" 1989
Box 5, Folder 5
TNG: "Peak Performance" 1989
Box 5, Folder 6
TNG: "Shades of Gray" 1989
Box 5, Folder 7
TNG: Second Season Book O' Shows 1989
Box 6, Folder 1
TNG: "The Bonding" 1989
Box 6, Folders 2-3
TNG: "The Survivors" 1989
Box 6, Folder 4
TNG: "The Hunted" 1989
Box 6, Folder 5
TNG: "Captain's Holiday" 1990
Box 6, Folder 6
TNG: "Hollow Pursuits" 1990
Box 7, Folder 1
TNG: "Transfigurations" 1990
Box 7, Folders 2-3
TNG: "Family" 1990
Box 7, Folder 4
TNG: "Suddenly Human" 1990
Box 7, Folder 5
TNG: "Future Imperfect" 1990
Box 7, Folder 6
TNG: "Legacy" 1990
Box 7, Folder 7
TNG: "Devil's Due" 1990
Box 8, Folder 1
TNG: "The Wounded" 1990
Box 8, Folder 2
TNG: "The Loss" 1990
Box 8, Folder 3
Series 1: Star Trek 1987-2002


- Box 8, Folder 4: TNG: "Identity Crisis" 1991
- Box 8, Folder 5: TNG: "Clues" 1991
- Box 8, Folder 6: TNG: "Q Love" 1991
- Box 8, Folder 7: TNG: "In Theory" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 1: TNG: "Half a Life" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 2: TNG: "The Mind's Eye" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 3: TNG: "Redemption" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 4: TNG: "Darmok" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 5: TNG: "Ensign Ro" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 6: TNG: "Unification Part II" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 7: TNG: "Disaster" 1991
- Box 9, Folder 8: TNG: "The Masterpiece Society" 1991
- Box 10, Folder 1: TNG: "Power Play" 1991
- Box 10, Folder 2: TNG: "The First Duty" 1992
- Box 10, Folder 3: TNG: "The Perfect Mate" 1992
- Box 10, Folder 4: TNG: "All Good Things" 1994


- Box 10, Folder 5: DS9: "The Siege" 1993
- Box 10, Folder 6: DS9: "Call to Arms" circa 1997

Scope and Content
Also contains contemporaneous material on Star Trek: Voyager as grouped together by Dan Curry.

- Box 10, Folder 7: DS9: "Sacrifice of Angels" circa 1997


- Box 10, Folder 8: VOY: "Caretaker" circa 1994
- Box 10, Folder 9: VOY: "Innocence" 1995
- Box 10, Folder 10: VOY: "Workforce" 2000
- Box 11, Folder 1: VOY: Images of Voyager and Defiant (photocopies) undated

Subseries 1.4: Star Trek: Enterprise circa 2001-2004

- Box 11, Folder 2: ENT: "Broken Bow" 2001
- Box 11, Folder 3: ENT: "Impulse" circa 2004

Scope and Content
Consists of an application for an unspecified award for "Impulse" in the category of "Outstanding Visual Effects in a Television Series."


Scope and Content
Contains 90 VHS tapes of various Star Trek episodes as broadcast, office copies, element reels, comp reels, work prints, and other recorded material pertaining to the making and visual effects of Star Trek. Also includes a small amount of accompanying notes.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| Box 13 | Star Trek: The Original Series 1967  
Scope and Content  
Contains one tape of an episode titled "The Trouble with Tribbles." |
Scope and Content  
Contains sixty-four tapes. Includes a copy of the episode of TNG that Dan Curry directed, "Birthright, pt. 2," as broadcast in March 1993. |
| Box 15 | Star Trek: Voyager 1994-1999  
Scope and Content  
Contains six tapes. One tape titled "Director’s Raw Material For Reel" contains clips from Star Trek TNG, DS9, and Voyager. |
| Box 15 | Star Trek: Enterprise 2002-2005  
Scope and Content  
Contains sixteen tapes. |
| Box 15 | Assorted Recordings undated  
Scope and Content  
Contains two tapes containing Main Title Design Emmy submissions, and one tape titled "Creature Comforts." |
| Box 12, Folder 5 | VHS Tape Notes circa 1991, 1993  
Scope and Content  
Contains copies of notes found with two VHS tapes: "DRE #9 Cloud Tank" ("Dan & Ron Element Reel," 1993) and " Star Trek TNG #205 Smoke (Dry Ice) DRE-007 W/Window" (1991). |
| **Series 3: Motion Picture Projects circa 1988-1992** |
| Box 11, Folder 4 | Hot to Trot circa 1988  
The Blob circa 1988 |
| Box 11, Folders 5-6 | Hometown Films Logo circa 1988  
Thunder Strike circa 1990  
Moe's World 1990 |
| Box 11, Folder 7 | Stroke of Midnite 1990  
The Truman Show circa 1991  
Cool World circa 1992 |
| Box 11, Folder 8-9 | Correspondence: The American Film Institute 1990 |
| **Series 4: Television Projects 1990-2008** |
| Box 12, Folder 3 | The Flash 1990 |

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