Finding Aid for the Matsusaburo Hibi Papers, 1893-1972

Japanese American Research Project (JARP) Collection

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Collection number: 2010

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UCLA Library Special Collections staff

Los Angeles, CA

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Encoded by:
Caroline Cubé
Online finding aid edited by:
Josh Fiala, November 2008

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Matsusaburo Hibi Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1893-1972
Collection number: 2010
Creator: Hibi, Matsusaburo
Extent: 1 box (0.5 linear ft.) and 29 oversize boxes
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: This collection consists of correspondence, exhibition catalogs, a scrapbook, sketches, watercolors, drawings, oil paintings, and monotype prints by Issei artist Matsusaburo Hibi. Many of these materials relate to the time Hibi spent in the Tanforan Assembly Center (California) and the Central Utah Relocation Center in Topaz, Utah, during World War II. The collection also contains a portfolio of 50 scenes of the Central Utah Relocation Center drawn by Henry Fukuhara. There are English and Japanese materials in this collection.

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Language: English.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Matsusaburo Hibi Papers, Japanese American Research Project (Collection 2010). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4233210

Biography
Matsusaburo Hibi was born in 1886; a native of Shiga Prefecture, he attended Hsei University in Kyoto, Japan; came to the United States in 1906; studied at California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco, California, 1919-30; taught art and Japanese in Hayward, California, until the beginning of World War II; his family was interned in the Central Utah Relocation Center, Topaz, Utah; while in the camp, Hibi served as resident director of its art school, 1942-45; most of his artwork was exhibited in San Francisco, California; he was also known as George M. Hibi; died in 1947.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence, exhibition catalogs, a scrapbook, sketches, watercolors, drawings, oil paintings, and monotype prints by Issei artist Matsusaburo Hibi. Many of the materials in the collection relate to the time Hibi spent in the Tanforan Assembly Center (California) and the Central Utah Relocation Center in Topaz, Utah, during World War II. Of note are 42 oil paintings on canvas by Hibi painted at the Tanforan Assembly Center and the Central Utah Relocation Center, 1942-45. The collection also contains a portfolio containing 50 scenes of the Central Utah Relocation Center drawn by Henry Fukuhara.

Materials in this collection are in English and Japanese.

Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. Biographical data and materials, 1892-1908.
2. Correspondence between Hibi and his elder brother, Takesuke, November 1906-February 1931.
3. Materials relating to Hibi's career as an artist.
4. Materials relating to the Tanforan Assembly Center, California, and the Central Utah Relocation Center, Topaz, Utah.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Hibi, Matsusaburo--Archives.
Central Utah Relocation Center.
Tanforan Assembly Center (San Bruno, Calif.).
Japanese American Research Project (University of California, Los Angeles.
Artists--California--Archival resources.
Japanese Americans--Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945--Archival resources.
Oil paintings.
Drawings.
Fukuhara, Henry.

Related Material
# Hibi Papers 1893-1972

**Physical Description:** 29.5 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**


## Box 62, Folder 1

**Biographical materials.**

**Physical Description:** (16 items)

**Language of Material:** In Japanese.

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes personal resumés written in 1905, 1946 & 1962; a passport application dated 1905; and elementary and middle school records, 1893-ca. 1905.

## Box 62, Folder 2

**Conscription records. In Japanese.**

**Physical Description:** (5 items)

## Box 62, Folder 3

**A petition to become a cadet officer. 1905**

**Draft deferment petitions. 1907, 1908, 1909 & 1919**

**Personal correspondence from Matsusaburoo to his brother, Takesuke [characters], in Japan. November 1906-February 1931**

**Physical Description:** (62 letters)

**Language of Material:** In Japanese.

## Box 62, Folder 4

**Remittance receipts. Takesuke to Matsusaburoo. 1908 & 1910**

**Physical Description:** (2 pieces)

## Box 62, Folder 5

**Exhibition catalogues and invitations. 1925-1972**

**Physical Description:** (13 items)

## Box 62, Folder 6

**48th Annual Exhibition of the San Francisco Art Association. 1925**

**49th Annual Exhibition of the San Francisco Art Association.**

**50th Annual Exhibition, San Francisco Art Association. 1928**

**11th Annual Exhibition, Watercolors, Pastels, Drawings and Prints, Oakland Art Gallery. 1943**

**Oakland Art Gallery’s Annual Exhibition of Oil Paintings and Sculpture. 1944**

**9th Annual Drawing and Print Exhibition, San Francisco Art Association. 1945**

**10th Annual Drawing and Print Exhibition, San Francisco Art Association. 1946**

**32nd Annual Exhibition, The Society of American Etchers, Gravers, Lithographers, and Woodcutters. 1947**

**Memorial Exhibition of Oils and Graphics by George Hibi, Lucien Labaudt Art Gallery. 1962**

**Months of Waiting, 1942-1945: The California Historical Society Exhibition at Grand Hall Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles Music Center. 1972**

**Correspondence re his career as artist. 1931-1962**

**Physical Description:** (32 letters)

**Language of Material:** In English.

## Box 62, Folder 7-9

**Correspondence, documents and other materials re the Topaz Relocation Center Art School, Utah. 1943-1945**

**Physical Description:** (Approximately 120 items)

**Language of Material:** In English.
Box 62, Folder 10  Monotype prints by Hibi. Scenes of the Topaz Relocation Center, Utah. ca. 1943-1945
   Physical Description: (19 prints)

Box 62, Folder 11  A portfolio of 50 scenes of the relocation centers by Henry Fukuhara. n.d.
   Physical Description: (1 item)

Box 62, Folder 12  Miscellaneous items: Calligraphic writings of Hibi and a group photograph of Japanese artists (unidentified). n.d.
   Physical Description: (2 items)

Box 716  A name and address book of visitors, Topaz Art School, Topaz Relocation Center, Utah. n.d. (1943-1945)
   Physical Description: (1 book)

Box 716  A scrapbook containing mementos of life in the Tanforan Assembly Center, California, and the Topaz Relocation Center, Utah. 1942-1945
   Physical Description: (1 oversize scrapbook)

Box 717  One large portfolio.
   Physical Description: (31 x 23")

Box 717  Scenes of the Topaz Relocation Camp, Utah. n.d.
   Physical Description: (4 monotype prints)

Box 717  Scenes of the Tanforan Assembly Center and the Topaz Relocation Center. 1942-1945
   Physical Description: 29 pencil drawings and sketches.

Box 717  13 sketches in watercolor on paper. At Tanforan and Topaz. Oil paintings on canvas, painted at Tanforan, California and Topaz, Utah, 1942-1945. 1942-1945

Box 792  Mighty eucalyptus tree, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (16 x 20")

Box 792  Going for inoculation, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 790  From the grandstand, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 790  Children playing, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 786  To mess hall, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 871  Tanforan stables, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 786  Stable home, shower and latrine, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 770  Tanforan Assembly Center, Tanforan. 1942
   Physical Description: (24 x 20")
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>773</td>
<td><strong>Stables and watchtower, Tanforan. 1942</strong></td>
<td>(26 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>795</td>
<td><strong>Tanforan Assembly Center.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>795</td>
<td><strong>After shower, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(16 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>795</td>
<td><strong>Art school picnic, Topaz. August 1943</strong></td>
<td>(16 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>787</td>
<td><strong>WRA Camp under construction, Topaz. October 1942</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>787</td>
<td><strong>Gate House, Topaz. July 1945</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>791</td>
<td><strong>Sunset, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>791</td>
<td><strong>Camp at night, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>870</td>
<td><strong>“Untitled” [Woman crossing camp], Topaz. April 1945</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>785</td>
<td><strong>Untitled, Topaz. August 1945</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>870</td>
<td><strong>A sudden dust storm, Topaz. July 1945</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>785</td>
<td><strong>Untitled, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(20 x 16&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>789</td>
<td><strong>Watchtower, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(18 x 22&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>789</td>
<td><strong>Snow and fog in Topaz, Topaz. March 1945</strong></td>
<td>(22 x 18&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>773</td>
<td><strong>Looking at south, Topaz. 1945</strong></td>
<td>(22 x 18&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>771</td>
<td><strong>Auditorium, Topaz. March 1945</strong></td>
<td>(24 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>772</td>
<td><strong>Untitled, Topaz. July 1945</strong></td>
<td>(24 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>776</td>
<td><strong>“Sunset” [Men painting sunset at sunset], Topaz. [1945]</strong></td>
<td>(24 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>775</td>
<td><strong>A day in Topaz, Topaz. n.d.</strong></td>
<td>(24 x 20&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 774  Agricultural products of Topaz, Topaz. n.d.
        Physical Description: (20 x 24")

Box 777  A Woman, Topaz. 1944
        Physical Description: (26 x 22")

Box 778  Looking eastside from Block 16, Topaz. August 1945
        Physical Description: (26 x 22")

Box 779  A cold day, Topaz. n.d.
        Physical Description: (26 x 22")

Box 780  Summer, Topaz. June 1944
        Physical Description: (26 x 22")

Box 782  An Issei, Topaz. n.d.
        Physical Description: (22 x 26")

Box 768  Sunflower, Topaz. n.d.
        Physical Description: (22 x 26")

Box 783  “Land around Topaz.”
Box 768  “Near Topaz.”
        Physical Description: (2 items)

Box 794  “Rows of barracks.”
Box 783  “View of camp.”
Box 783  “Water towers.”
Box 783  “Water towers.”
Box 783  Residents of appointive staff, looking from Rec., Topaz. July 1945
        Physical Description: (20 x 16")

Box 788  Artists sketching, Tanforan, CA. c.1942
        Physical Description: (22 x 18")