Wah Chang papers, ca. 1928-2000, bulk, ca. 1950-2000

Finding aid prepared by Amanda Schapel, with assistance from Julie Graham; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

UCLA Library Special Collections
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Title: Wah Chang papers
Collection number: PASC 202
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 3.4 linear ft. (2 boxes and 6 flat boxes)
Date (bulk): Bulk, 1950-2000
Date (inclusive): ca. 1928-2000 (bulk, ca. 1950-2000)
Abstract: Collection consists of biographical scrapbooks and exhibit panels documenting the career of special effects and film pioneer, artist Wah Chang.
Language of Materials: Materials are in English.
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.
Creator: Chang, Wah

Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Wah Chang Papers (Collection PASC 202). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Biography
Wah Ming Chang was born 1917 in Honolulu and moved to San Francisco in the early 1920s. There he began exhibiting his creative work at the age of six. After the death of his mother in 1928, he came to live with Blanding Sloan and Mildred Taylor. In 1938, Chang began his career in film and special effects by building murals, sets, and animated puppets shown at the World's Fair in San Francisco. He joined Disney Studios' Effects and Model Department in 1939 and worked on projects such as Pinocchio, Fantasia, and Bambi. In 1941, he worked for George Pal Puppetoon Studio as head of the puppet department working on Army and Navy training films. Chang formed East-West Studios with Blanding Sloan in 1945 and produced The Way of Peace, an animated puppet film commissioned by the American Lutheran Church. He later formed Centaur Productions, working on television commercials and toy designs. Throughout the 1950s he freelanced and worked on motion picture projects such as the King and I, Can Can, Tom Thumb, The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm, and The Seven Faces of Dr. Lao, for which he received an Oscar nomination. Over the next several years he worked on major motion pictures, commercials for such companies as Dole Pineapple, Kellogg, and Kraft, and various television series such as The Outer Limits and Star Trek. Chang left Hollywood in the 1970s to pursue his interests in wildlife and sculpture.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of biographical scrapbooks and exhibit panels documenting the career of special effects and film pioneer, artist Wah Chang. Includes original and reproduced photographs, clippings and ephemera.

Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. Books About Chang
2. Clippings
3. Photographs
4. Scrapbooks
5. Exhibit Panels

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4669021
### Subjects and Indexing Terms
- Chang, Wah--Archives.
- Cinematography--Special effects--Archives.
- Photographs.

### Books about Chang.
- **Box 2, Folder 9**
  - Life and Sculpture of Wah Ming Chang (The).
- **Box 2, Folder 8**
  - Wah Ming Chang: Artist and Master of Special Effects.

### Clippings.
- **Box 5, Folder 5**
  - Assorted clippings and ephemera. ca. 1960s.
- **Box 5, Folder 2**
  - Cleopatra. no date.
- **Box 5, Folder 3**
  - Early Years. ca. 1920s.
- **Box 5, Folder 6**
  - Time Machine. ca. 1960s.
- **Box 5, Folder 4**
  - Tom Thumb. ca. 1950s.
- **Box 5, Folder 7**
  - Way of Peace (The). ca. 1940s.

### General note
- Clippings and ephemera.

### Photographs.
- **Box 1, Folder 1**
  - Miscellaneous photographs. no date.
  - General note
  - Seven (7) images.

### Scrapbooks.
- **Box 1, Folder 4**
  - Award-Winning Movie Years (The) (1 of 2). many no date, 1961.
  - General note
- **Box 1, Folder 5**
  - Award-Winning Movie Years (The) (2 of 2). many no date, 1961.
  - General note
- **Box 1, Folder 2**
  - Early Years (The). many no date, 1928, ca. 1940s, 1957.
  - General note
- **Box 1, Folder 7**
  - Movie and TV Commercials. no date.
  - General note
  - Reproductions and original clippings and photographs. Chang's work on a Hercules movie, the Sawyer View Naster 3 D Series, "Spartacus," a McHales Navy TV Show, and assorted commercial work including Schick, Kraft cheese, Pillsbury, and McDonald.
**Scrapbooks.**

**Box 1, Folder 6**

**Movie Years and Stage Productions (The). no date.**

**General note**


**Box 1, Folder 3**

**Movie Years and Toys (The). many no date, 1952.**

**General note**


**Box 2, Folder 1**

**Science Fiction and Fantasy (1 of 2). many no date 1960, 1966, 1995.**

**General note**

Reproductions and original clippings and photographs. Chang's work for Outer Limits, Star Trek, and Dinosaurs.

**Box 2, Folder 2**

**Science Fiction and Fantasy (2 of 2). [ca. 1960s], 2000.**

**General note**

Reproductions and original clippings and photographs. Chang's work for "Land of the Lost," a special effects award, and a biographical story.

**Exhibit Panels.**

**Box 3, Folder 3**

**Award Costume Designers of Films and Designs for Bronze Originals of California. ca. 2000.**

**General note**

Seven (7) images of awards and never-produced bent plywood chairs, and Three (3) photographs of designs for Bronze Originals of California exhibit.

**Box 8, Folder 3**

**Can Can and The King and I. ca. 2000.**

**General note**

Ten (10) images of Chang's work on Can Can, and six (6) photographs of Chang's work on The King and I.

**Box 5, Folder 1**

**Dennis the Menace. no date, [ca. 2000].**

**General note**

Two (2) images and one drawing of a sculpture designed by Chang.

**Box 6, Folder 3**

**Designed and Built for Star Trek. ca. 2000.**

**General note**

Eighteen (18) images and two (2) clippings documenting Chang's work on the television series Star Trek.

**Box 3, Folder 1**

**Dinosaurus and Masters of the World. ca. 2000.**

**General note**

Four (4) images each of Chang's work on the films Dinosaurs and Masters of the World.

**Box 6, Folder 2**

**Early Studies Age 17 to 18. ca. 2000.**

**General note**

Nine (9) drawings of Chang's early work.
Box 6, Folder 1  |  **Early Works Block Prints and Etchings Age 7 to 9. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Five (5) woodcuts, one (1) sketching, and two (2) clippings about Chang's very early work.

Box 4, Folder 1  |  **Jack the Giant Killer. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Eleven (11) images of Chang's work on the film and the background projection by animator David Pal.

Box 7, Folder 2  |  **M.G.M. The Time Machine Produced by George Pal. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Thank-you note and sixteen (16) images of Chang's work on the film.

Box 4, Folder 2  |  **M.G.M. Tom Thumb Produced by George Pal. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Nine (9) images of Chang's work on the film, including his "yawning man" figure.

Box 6, Folder 4  |  **Outer Limits. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Seventeen (17) images of Chang's work on the television series Outer Limits.

Box 4, Folder 4  |  **Props and Costumes. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Sixteen (16) images of Chang's prop and costume designs, including a tarantula, gorilla, elephant, alligator, dragon, raccoons, and others.

Box 4, Folder 5  |  **Props and Costumes. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Eleven (11) images of Chang's prop and costume designs, including Cleopatra headdresses, a Frankenstein figurine, masks, a giant razor, a gargoyle statue, and others.

Box 3, Folder 5  |  **Puppet Movies for the San Francisco Worlds Fair. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Ten (10) images.

Box 4, Folder 3  |  **Seven Faces of Doctor Lao and Around the World Under the Sea (The). ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Five (5) images each of Chang's work on the films, including a Jim Danforth sculpture and a giant eel head.

Box 3, Folder 2  |  **Television Commercials. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Thirteen (13) images of Chang's work for Del Monte, Pilsbury, Kraft, McDonald's, and others for Monterey Museum of Art: The Imaginative World of Wah Ming Chang.

Box 3, Folder 4  |  **Toy Designs. ca. 2000.**  
General note  
Thirteen (13) images of toys designed by Chang, including Teddy the Tenderfoot and Centaur animated peek-through Easter egg.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>General Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, Folder 1</td>
<td>Walt Disney Studios. ca. 2000.</td>
<td>General note</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter from Walt Disney and sixteen (16) images of Chang’s work for the studio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 2</td>
<td>Wanted Alive, Dinosaurs, Cesarean Section, and Alphabet Roll Call. ca. 2000.</td>
<td>General note</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seven (7) images and drawings of endangered species for Wanted Alive, seven (7) photographs of Chang’s work on Dinosaurs: The Terrible Lizards, 3 photographs relating to Cesarean Section, and 1 photograph of Chang’s work on the educational film Alphabet Roll Call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 1</td>
<td>Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm (The). ca. 2000.</td>
<td>General note</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reproduction of an LA Times page and thirteen (13) images and drawings of Chang's work on the film, including wax faces and armature for the elves, a clay model of a dragon, and a puppet of Buddy Hackett.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 4</td>
<td>Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm (The). ca. 2000.</td>
<td>General note</td>
<td></td>
<td>Eight (8) images with captions of Chang's work on the film, including the yawning boy.</td>
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</tbody>
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