Descriptive Summary

Languages: English

Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla 92093-0175

Title: Spruce Street Forum and Fresh Sound Records

Identifier/Call Number: MSS 0751

Physical Description: 1.6 Linear feet (4 archives boxes)

Date (inclusive): 1995-2013

Abstract: The collection consists of the records of Spruce Street Forum, an organization founded in 1995 by Bonnie Broderick Wright as a venue for experimental and avant-garde artists, writers, theorists and scholars to present their work. It contains artist files relating to performances and exhibitions, flyers, press clippings and administrative materials such as board meeting minutes and financial records. It also includes records for the Fresh Sound experimental music series, which began at Spruce Street Forum.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection consists of the records of Spruce Street Forum, an organization founded in 1995 by Bonnie Broderick Wright as a venue for experimental and avant-garde artists, writers, theorists and scholars to present their work. It contains artist files relating to performances and exhibitions, flyers, press clippings, photographs, and administrative materials such as board meeting minutes and financial records. It also includes records for the Fresh Sound experimental music series, which began at Spruce Street Forum. The bulk of the material is from the Spruce Street Forum and ranges in date from 1995 to 2002.

The papers are arranged in three series: 1) ARTIST FILES, 2) PUBLICITY FILES and 3) ADMINISTRATIVE FILES.

Historical Background

The Spruce Street Forum was a non-profit organization founded in 1995 by Bonnie Broderick Wright as a venue for artists from multiple disciplines to present their work. The organization made its home at 301 Spruce Street in the Balboa Park area of San Diego. The goals of the Spruce Street Forum as described in their early press releases were "to provide an environment for artistic innovation, to provide a venue for creative thought and on-going discussion, to encourage interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange, and to foster collaboration in the arts: music, text, visual."

As the Spruce Street Forum's director, Bonnie Broderick Wright (a former board member of Sushi Performance and Visual Art) identified a lack of gallery and performance space for San Diego area artists. She opened the venue on Spruce Street hoping to cultivate and promote interdisciplinary and multicultural art. The Spruce Street Forum eventually closed its doors on January 31, 2002. From the Forum, Wright, executive producer of Henceforth Records, continued as curator of her Fresh Sound music series, promoting experimental non-mainstream music at the Sushi Performance & Visual Arts space in downtown San Diego, then at The Loft at Wright's alma mater, University of California, San Diego. In 2013 Fresh Sound moved its location to Bread & Salt on Julian Avenue.

Acquisition Information


Preferred Citation

Spruce Street Forum and Fresh Sound Records, MSS 751. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.

Publication Rights

Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.

Restrictions

Photographic negatives are restricted.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Performance art -- California -- San Diego -- 21st century
Art -- California -- San Diego -- 20th century
Performance art -- California -- San Diego -- 20th century
Avant-garde (Music) -- California -- San Diego -- 21st century
Art -- California -- San Diego -- 21st century
Avant-garde (Music) -- California -- San Diego -- 20th century
ARTIST FILES

Scope and Content of Series

These files are arranged alphabetically by artist and contain materials relating to artist performances at the Spruce Street Forum, such as correspondence with the program director, artist statements and other related materials. Photographs and slides are housed together and are arranged alphabetically by artist's last name. Artists include Derek Bailey, Sarah K. Bean, Steven Feld, John Heward, Peter Liashkov, Matmos, and Sylvia Safdie.

Box 1, Folder 1
Bailey, Derek 2002 October
Box 1, Folder 2
Bean, Sarak K
Box 1, Folder 3
Callwood, Dennis
Box 1, Folder 4
Carson Exhibit 1999 September
Conditions Governing Access
Photographic negatives are restricted.
General
Original negatives located in ANC1/M751/1/1-15.

Box 1, Folder 5
Ellis, Lisle and Paul Plimley
Box 1, Folder 6
Ellis, Lisle, Larry Ochs and Donald Robinson - "What We Live"
Box 1, Folder 7
Eneidi, Marco, Peter Brotzman, and Jackson Krall
Box 1, Folder 8
Feld, Steven
Box 1, Folder 9
Heward, John
Box 1, Folder 10-11
Liashkov, Peter
Box 1, Folder 12
Matmos
Box 1, Folder 13
Ninh, Le Quan
Box 1, Folder 14-15
Safdie, Sylvia
Box 2, Folder 1
Safdie, Sylvia and John Heward
Slide
PUBLICITY FILES

Scope and Content of Series

The PUBLICITY FILES series is arranged chronologically and includes promotional materials for artist performances such as flyers, postcards and other ephemera; newspaper press clippings and some reviews.

Box 2, Folder 4
Spruce Street Forum flyers
Box 2, Folder 5
Spruce Street Forum & Fresh Sound flyers
Press clippings
Box 2, Folder 6-11
1995-2000
Box 3, Folder 1-4
2001-2004
Box 3, Folder 5-9
2009-2013
Box 3, Folder 10
Reviews 2001
ADMINISTRATIVE FILES

Scope and Contents of Series

This series contains administrative materials such as opening plans for the Spruce Street Forum, board meeting minutes, a history of performances, Spruce Street lease records, and ledgers of reservations and payment records. Also included are some biographical materials about the Forum founder and director, Bonnie Broderick Wright and her Fresh Sound experimental music series.
| Box 3, Folder 11 | Opening plans |
| Box 3, Folder 12-14 | Board meeting minutes ca. 2000-2003 |
| Box 3, Folder 15 | Fresh Sound - History of performances |
| Box 3, Folder 16 | Spruce Street lease records |
| Box 4, Folder 1 | Ledger of reservations/payment records |
| Box 4, Folder 3 | 1999-March 2001, Spring-Fall 2001 |
| | Fall-Winter 2002 |