Finding aid for the Theo Ehret photographs 7054

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USC Libraries Special Collections
2017 October
Doheny Memorial Library 206
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URL: http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: Theo Ehret photographs
creator: Ehret, Theo
Identifier/Call Number: 7054
Physical Description: 0.21 Linear Feet1 box
Date (inclusive): 1970-1985, undated
Abstract: Photographs taken by Theo Ehret, 1970-1985, undated. Subjects include Hollywood, downtown Los Angeles and its buildings and freeways, LAX, the Olympic Auditorium, Hollywood celebrities, and boxers and wrestlers. Theo Ehret (1920-2012) was the house photographer at the Grand Olympic Auditorium from the mid-1960s through the 1980s. Ehret photographed all aspects of the Auditorium’s boxing and wrestling matches. His photographs were reproduced on posters and programs, and published in local newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times and the Herald Examiner, and national and international publications.

Storage Unit: 1

Biographical / Historical
Theo Ehret (1920-2012) was the house photographer at the Grand Olympic Auditorium from the mid-1960s through the 1980s. Ehret photographed all aspects of the Auditorium’s boxing activities--press conferences, training regimens at local gyms, weigh-ins, portraits used to publicize the bouts, the fights themselves, and the crowds who attended. Ehret also covered the wrestling matches held at the Auditorium. In addition to being reproduced on posters and programs, Ehret’s photographs were also published in local newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times and the Herald Examiner, and national and international publications, including World Boxing, International Boxing, Inside Wrestling, and Wrestling Revue.

Ehret was born in Mannheim, Germany. He was drafted into the German Navy and spend time in a prisoner of war camp in Italy. He and his wife emigrated to the United States in the early 1950s, after he worked as a translator for General George S. Patton. After receiving his degree in photography from the New York School of Professional Photography, Theo and his wife moved to Los Angeles. He began working for a PR film, shooting for commercial clients, and in 1963 was able to set up his own studio in Echo Park.

Ehret’s skill as a chronicler of boxing and wrestling prompted the publication of "Exquisite Mayhem" by Taschen in 2001. Taschen would also use some of Ehret’s photographs of Muhammed Ali for their publication, "G.O.A.T.", and Ehret’s photographs were also included in "Street Credibility," an exhibition curated by Michael Kelly for MoCA in 2004.

Content Description

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