

*May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection  
Department of Anthropology  
Loyola University Chicago*

## **Guide to May Weber Collection Archives**

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August 2021

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## **Collection Overview**

- Repository: May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection, Mundelein Center 419, Loyola University Chicago (Lakeshore campus)
- Title: May Weber Collection Archives
- Date: 1970s – present
- Location: All materials held in Mundelein 419
- Extent: 42 boxes
- Creator: Catherine Nichols, Department of Anthropology, Loyola University Chicago
- Language: Collection is in English.
- Summary: The May Weber Collection Archives contain documents and miscellaneous materials given to Loyola University Chicago as part of the donation of Weber’s ethnographic art collection. The records pertain to documentation of some of objects held in the collection, the records of The May Weber Foundation, the May Weber Museum of Cultural Arts, and accretions of miscellaneous materials by Weber.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Acquisition Information**

This collection was donated to the Department of Anthropology, Loyola University Chicago in 2013.

### **Processing Information**

This collection is ongoing. Additions generated by Loyola faculty and students are processed as they are created.

Processed under the supervision of Catherine Nichols by student interns from 2014 through 2021.

### **Preferred Citation**

May Weber Collection Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

### **Restrictions**

No restrictions. Access to the May Weber Collection Archives requires an appointment.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

Contact May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection for terms of use.

## **Administrative History**

The May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection was established in 2014, following the gift of a collection of approximately 4600 objects to Loyola University Chicago in 2012. Upon inventory and physical transfer of the majority of materials from the home of May Weber and Gerald Hoffman, following Weber's death, Dr. Catherine Nichols was hired by the Department of Anthropology to assess the materials and select objects to form a research and teaching collection. The majority of these selections were made during 2014. In 2019 Hoffman passed away and a remaining approximately 400 objects, part of the original gift, were physically moved from the Weber/Hoffman home to the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA), where they were assessed and selected by Nichols. Disposition of the objects not selected was performed by Vice President of Cultural Affairs Pam Ambrose in 2014-15 and LUMA Collections and Events Manager Carlyne Robinson. A number of objects from Weber's gifts have been placed in Loyola buildings and facilities, including LUREC and the Cuneo Mansion. The May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection is housed in Mundelein 418. The adjacent room, Mundelein 419 functions as a research, teaching, and workspace, and holds the May Weber Collection Archives, as well as Weber's collection of publications related to the collection's contents.

## **Scope and Contents**

The May Weber Collection Archives contains correspondence, invoices, photographs, object documents, fiscal records, exhibit records, grant applications, and manuscript notes. The majority of the materials were created or retained by Weber in the course of her collecting activities, the development of exhibitions, and the operation of the May Weber Museum of Cultural Arts and The May Weber Foundation.

## **Arrangement**

This collection is arranged in 11 series: (1) Correspondence and Invoices, Alpha-Name File; (2) Object Inventory, Catalogue, Appraisal & Disposition Records; (3) Object Reference Articles and Information; (4) Records of The May Weber Museum of Cultural Arts; (5) May Weber Personal; (6) Interpretive Labels and Notes; (7) Oversize; (8) Records of The May Weber Foundation; (9) Records pertaining to LUC/LUMA; (10) Records of the May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection; (11) Deed of Gift & Disposition Records

## **Container Listing**

### **Series 1: Correspondence and Invoices, Alpha-Name File**

9 boxes (3.75 linear feet)

Box 1	A
	Ackley, David
	Art of the Past
	B
	Baker, Herbert
	Barker, John: Object Slips & Miscellaneous, Undated (1)
	Barker, John: Object Slips & Miscellaneous, Undated (2)

Box 2	Barker, John: Correspondence 1990-2000 Barker, John: Correspondence 2001-2011 Baruch Foundation Bortignons C Casa del Rio Gallery Chinalai Tribal Antiquities, Inc.
Box 3	Cortland-Leyten Gallery D Decoro Dawson, Doug E F Felix, Marc Leo
Box 4	Felix, Marc Leo Object Folders (tagged and untagged)
Box 5	Felix, Marc Leo Object Folders (untagged)
Box 6	G Grammet, Ivo Grove Gallery H Hurst Gallery I
Box 7	Imari J K Johnson, Harmer L M N Nomads O
Box 8	P Q R S Saito, Inc. Segy, Ladislas (1) Segy, Ladislas (2)
Box 9	Spink T U

V  
W  
Wright Gallery  
X  
Unknown

**Series 2: Object Inventory, Catalogue, Appraisal & Disposition Records**

2 boxes (1 linear foot)

- Box 10      MW Inventory (1)  
              MW Inventory (2)  
              MW Inventory (3)  
              MW Inventory 1988? (4)  
              MW Inventory (5)  
              MW Inventory (6)  
              MW Inventory (7)  
              Home Inventories  
              Appraisals  
              Hindman Auctioneers  
              Bizarre Bazaar
- Box 11      Objects not in collection  
              Photography of objects not in collection  
              Possibly in collection  
              In collection – needs association with object records  
              May Weber Museum of Cultural Arts displays  
              Object exhibit photography

**Series 3: Object Reference Articles and Information**

7 boxes (3 linear feet)

- Box 12      Reference – Maps  
              Segy, Ladislav publications  
              “Unity and Purpose in Human Lives” Dan P. McAdams  
              Excerpts from *Japanese Traditional Furniture*  
              Mexican mask essays, Janet Esser Brody  
              “Philippine Prehistory” Wilhelm G. Solheim II  
              excerpts from *The Great Migration* Hans-Joachim Diesner  
              excerpts from *Mirror for Man* Clyde Kluckhohn
- Box 13      excerpt from book on Japan  
              Kalimantan tourist guide  
              excerpt from *The Gods as we shape them* F. Sierksma  
              “I Am Not Myself: The Art of African Masquerade” Herbert Cole, ed.  
              *Crafts of Gujarat* Jasleen Dhmal, ed.  
              “Cloth as Metaphor: Nigerian Textiles from the Museum of Cultural History” Jean  
              Borgatti, ed.  
              excerpts from *Reflections of Reality in Japanese Art* Sherman E. Lee

excerpts from book on kosode (Japanese short-robe/kimono)  
excerpts on Borneo from *Expedition* 30 no. 1 (1988)  
*Ancient India and Ancient China: Trade and Religious Exchange AD 1-600* Xinru Liu

- Box 14      *Wayang Golek* Peter Buurman  
*Javanese Shadow Puppets* Ward Keeler  
*The Uses of the Past: Profiles of Former Societies* Herbert J. Muller  
*Nefertiti* Evelyn Wells  
*The Rise and Splendour of the Chinese Empire* René Grousset  
*Art and Australia* 13 no. 3 (1976)
- Box 15      *Woven Structures: A Guide to Oriental Rugs and Textile Analysis* Marla Mallett  
excerpts from *The Etruscans*  
*The Golden Trade of the Moors* E.W. Bovill  
*Ethiopian Processional Crosses* Eine Moore  
*A Short History of Chinese Art* Hugo Munsterberg
- Box 16      Reference – East Asia (1)  
Reference – East Asia (2)  
Reference – Southeast Asia  
Reference – Central Asia  
Reference – Middle East  
Reference – India  
Reference – Buddhism
- Box 17      Reference – Africa (1)  
Reference – Africa (2)  
Reference – Textiles (1)  
Reference – Textiles (2)  
Reference – Textiles (3)  
Reference – Masks
- Box 18      Reference – Egypt  
Reference – Europe/Mediterranean  
Reference – North America  
Reference – Central/Mesoamerica  
Reference – Oceania  
Reference – Miscellaneous

**Series 4: Records of The May Weber Museum of Cultural Arts**  
3 boxes (1.25 linear foot)

- Box 19      General Information  
List of Contacts  
Education/Outreach  
Conference on Ethnic Arts  
Floor plans  
Museum rental

General correspondence

- Box 20      Museum correspondence  
DePaul Art Museum  
Exhibit & Museum brochures & mailers  
Correspondence – associations  
Partner museum catalogues  
Maxwell Street  
AAM Accreditation & Publications  
Collections management
- Box 21      Newspaper and magazine articles about May Weber/MW Museum  
Newspaper and magazine articles retained by May Weber  
Association newsletters

**Series 5: May Weber Personal**

2 boxes (1 linear foot)

- Box 22      About & photos  
Personal  
Holiday greetings  
“The Psychoanalytic Process” by May Weber  
Thesis on Abdullah Mwinymoyo Bin Hassan  
May Weber travel  
Milner & Fawcett documents  
Mary & Gene and friends (1980)  
Art on paper
- Box 23      Museum brochures (1)  
Museum brochures (2)

**Series 6: Interpretive Labels and Notes**

- Box 24      Exhibition Schedules, Promotional Materials  
Exhibit Catalogues  
Exhibit – Beautiful Tradition (1988)  
Exhibit – Messages to God and Men (1989)  
Exhibit – To Market, To Market (1991)  
Exhibit – Art in Daily Life, Masks of Humanity (1993)  
Exhibit – Gods as We Shape Them (2006)  
Exhibit - Wayang: Art of Puppetry (2017)  
Labels (1) Textile Exhibit – Stories in Cloth (?)  
Labels (2) Textile Exhibit – Stories in Cloth (?)  
Labels (3) Textile Exhibit  
Labels (4) Textile Exhibit
- Box 25      Exhibit – Everyman Trader (1992) Labels  
Exhibit – Containers of Spirit and Substance (1992) Labels

Labels – Mexico & Central America  
Labels – The Enduring Maya  
Labels – Mexico – Folk Art  
Labels – The Folk Art of Mexico  
Labels – Miscellaneous Textiles  
Labels – Jewelry  
Labels – Asia  
Labels – Central Asia  
Labels – Oceania

Box 26      Labels – A Single Blade of Grass (Japan)  
Labels – Japan (1)  
Labels – Japan (2)  
Labels – The Gods as We Shape Them (1)  
Labels – The Gods as We Shape Them (2)

Box 27      Labels – Indonesia  
Labels – SE Asia  
Labels – Africa  
Labels – India (1)  
Labels – India (2)  
Lectures (?)  
Exhibit/Label – Miscellaneous

Box 28      Looseleaf May Weber object notes

Box 29      Spiral bound May Weber object notes

Box 30      Spiral bound May Weber object notes

Box 31      Spiral bound May Weber object notes

Box 32      Spiral bound May Weber object notes

**Series 7: Oversize**

1 box (.5 linear foot)

Box 33      Bortignons (Invoices)  
The World of Talavera (Ref)  
African Civilizations: Precolonial cities and states in tropical Africa (Ref)  
Tibetan Divination Paintings (Ref)  
Hethitisches Keilschrift-Lesebach (Ref)  
Transcript of clothing conference remarks (MW Museum)  
North America (Ref)

**Series 8: Records of The May Weber Foundation**

Box 34      Unprocessed records from The May Weber Foundation



- Box 35            Unprocessed records from The May Weber Foundation
- Box 36            Unprocessed records from The May Weber Foundation
- Box 37            Unprocessed records from The May Weber Foundation
- Box 38            Unprocessed records from The May Weber Foundation

**Series 9: Records pertaining to LUC/LUMA**

1 box (.5 linear foot)

- Box 39            Unprocessed records from LUMA

**Series 10: Records of the May Weber Ethnographic Study Collection**

1 box (.5 linear foot)

- Box 40            Object Selection
  - Collections Management Policy
  - LUC Audits
  - Instagram Collections Consult
  - Collections consults
  - Notes for educational talks
  - Cataloguing notes
  - Object-related correspondence
  - Collections processing correspondence
  - Rehousing information
  - Intern logs
  - “Masquerade” Pop-Up Exhibit (2014)
  - “Women’s Work” Exhibit (2017)
  - “Wayang” Exhibit (2017)
  - “East Asian Textiles” Digital Archives (2020)
  - N. Claudio exhibit simulation study
  - Miscellaneous

**Series 11: Deed of Gift & Disposition Records**

2 boxes (1 linear foot)

- Box 41            May Weber Foundation
  - Binding Pledge Agreement
  - Non-Appraised Books, Papers & Archives
  - Appraised Property
  - Binding Pledge Agreement
  - Non-Appraised Property
  - NMMA Gift Agreement
  - Tags – Unsorted
- Box 42            LUREC

Damen Center  
Baumhart  
LUMA Collection  
Library  
Ecology  
Mundelein  
Cuneo  
Lewis Towers  
Unsorted Records related to disposition of gift items