

Center for Creative Photography  
The University of Arizona

Finding aid for the  
Richard Avedon Miscellaneous Acquisitions Collection

AG 98

Richard Avedon Miscellaneous Acquisitions Collection  
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Description

Collection contains miscellaneous materials, 1938-2006 documenting the life and career of Richard Avedon (1923 – 2004, photographer. Each group of materials was collected from a separate source and is described individually as a subgroup.

Quantity: one linear foot.

Scope and Content Note

The collection is comprised of nine subgroups, each collected from a separate source. Among the materials are clippings, manuscripts, photographs, letters, an audiotape, tearsheets, an exhibition catalog, exhibition press packet and posters.

The first subgroup contains a photocopy of unpublished manuscript *Richard Avedon: A Study* by Robert Stephens, Visual Studies Workshop, 1978. Approximately one hundred pages, illustrated; with chronology, bibliography, and author index to bibliography.

The second subgroup contains an audiotape of an interview with Richard Avedon by Cokie Roberts of National Public Radio, ca. five minutes. Avedon discusses his exhibition, "In the American West," which opened in 1985. A synopsis of interview is included.

The third subgroup contains tearsheets from New York *Times* Sunday magazine, ca. 1983. The "Diors" (The Wizard, The Mouth, and Oliver) story.

Subgroup four contains the exhibition catalog *Richard Avedon 1979-1984: In the American West* [Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, September-Dezember 2001].

Subgroup five contains memorabilia from Avedon's childhood friend Florence C. Simon. Items include a snapshot showing Richard Avedon, Florence C. Simon and classmates in photography club, ca. 1938. This image is reproduced on page 104 in *Evidence*; a handwritten manuscript describing Florence Simon's friendship with Avedon (1 ½ pages); a page from album of autographs with Avedon's inscription to Simon, June 27, 1939; and a photocopy of "Photography: The Avedon Look," by Charles Michener in *Newsweek* (October 16, 1978), pp. 58-59.

Subgroup six consists of personal papers related to donor Florence Stern Daniels' friendship with Avedon, ca 1939-1943. Collection contains a hand written manuscript (2 pages), "Notes about Richard Avedon," describing her childhood friendship with Avedon, Lauren Bacall and others in Congregation Emanu-el, New York City, in the 1930s. It mentions socializing with Avedon and his practice of selling poems to the newspaper when he needed cash. Also included are letters from Avedon to Daniels, ca. 1940. (7 letters, typed and handwritten); original newspaper clippings of Avedon's poetry, ca. 1940s, (5 poems); original newspaper clippings of Avedon's poetry, ca.

1940s, (4 poems); black and white photographs of Avedon and Daniels, 1940 (2 snapshots); photographic greeting card made and signed by Avedon, "Hello There!" no date; identity card, Avedon "present upon the occasion of the visit of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to the New York World's Fair," 1939; and clippings from newspapers and magazines, 2005, relating to Avedon.

Subgroup seven contains an unframed, signed, two image poster in original tube, numbered #5056, from *In the American West* (1985). Left image is Juan Lobato, carney, Rocky Ford, Colorado, 8/23/80. The right image is Sandra Bennett, twelve year old, Rocky Ford, Colorado, 8/23/80.

Subgroup eight contains a press package for retrospective exhibition *Richard Avedon: Evidence, 1944-1994*, at the Whitney Museum of American Art, 1994.

Subgroup nine contains an inventory (one folder) of Richard Avedon photographs in the Photographic History collection at the National Museum of American History, 1996.

Subgroup ten contains two boxes of selected press clippings, photocopied sets of the press clippings, an exhibition catalog and magazines related to Richard Avedon's exhibition *In the American West*, all collected by the Amon Carter Museum, 14 September to 17 November 1985. Among the magazines is an issue of *Third Coast* containing a spoof of Avedon's style titled "More Faces of the West". There are approximately six sets of photocopied press clippings, one in an Acco® binder.

Subgroup eleven contains an audiovisual public television report about the Phoenix Art Museum's 1986 exhibition of Richard Avedon's *In the American West*, along with an interview of James Enyeart. Tape is titled: "In the American West: Photographs by Richard Avedon; Horizon 25 Sept 1986". Footage shows the installation in the Phoenix galleries, visitors in the gallery, and interviews with a woman photographed by Avedon. She is the young girl on the cover of the book and may have been a speaker at the opening of the exhibition in Phoenix. There are three copies of the report in three different audiovisual formats: ¾" videocassette, ½" videocassette and a DVD viewing copy made in 2006.

#### Restrictions

Photocopying of unpublished manuscripts is not permitted without the permission of the author. Duplication of the audiotape is not permitted; notes may be taken from it. See the Archivist for information.

#### Copyright

Materials acquired from a variety of different sources. See each file for documentation.

#### Provenance

Materials acquired from a variety of different sources.  
Subgroup One gift of Judith Golden, Tucson, Arizona, 1989.

Subgroup two, gift of National Public Radio, 1986.

Subgroup three, gift of Amy Rule, 1993.

Subgroup four, gift of Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, 2001.

Subgroup five, gift of Florence C. Simon, 2005.

Subgroup six, gift of Florence Stern Daniels, 2005,

Subgroup seven, gift of Judy M. Laviolette and Ted Jensen, 2006.

Subgroup eight, donor unknown.

Subgroup nine, gift of Shannon Thomas, Photographic History Collection, NMAH, 1996.

Subgroup ten, gift of the Amon Carter Museum, 1999.

Subgroup eleven, donor unknown.

#### Administrative Information

Container List

Box Folder

- 1 Subgroup One, 1978
  - 1 Manuscript: *Richard Avedon: A Study By Robert Stevens*
  - 2 Chronology for *Richard Avedon: A Study By Robert Stevens*
  - Bibliography for *Richard Avedon: A Study By Robert Stevens*
  - Author index for *Richard Avedon: A Study By Robert Stevens*
- Subgroup Two, 1985
  - 1 Audiotape of NPR interview with Avedon by Cokie Roberts
- Subgroup Three, 1983
  - 1 Tearsheets, *NY Times*, "The Diors"
- Subgroup Four, 2001
  - 1 Exhibition catalog  
*Richard Avedon 1979-1984: In the American West* [Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, September-Dezember 2001]
- Subgroup Five, 1938-2005
  - 1 Snapshot showing Richard Avedon, Florence C. Simon and classmates in photography club, ca. 1938. This image is reproduced on page 104 in *Evidence*.
  - 2 Autograph manuscript describing Florence Simon's friendship with Avedon (1 ½ pages)  
Page from album of autographs with Avedon's inscription to Simon, June 27, 1939  
Photocopy of "Photography: The Avedon Look," by Charles Michener in *Newsweek* (October 16, 1978), pp. 58-59
- Subgroup Six, 1940-2005
  - 1 Autograph manuscript, "Notes about Richard Avedon," February 2005, by Florence Stern Daniels. (2 pages)
  - 2 Letters from Avedon to Daniels, ca. 1940. (7 letters, typed and handwritten)
  - 3 Original newspaper clippings of Avedon's poetry, ca. 1940s. (5 poems)
  - 4 Original newspaper clippings of Avedon's poetry, ca. 1940s. (4 poems)
  - 5 Black and white photographs of Avedon and Daniels, 1940 (2 snapshots)
  - 6 Photographic greeting card made and signed by Avedon, "Hello There!" no date
  - 7 Identity card, Avedon "present upon the occasion of the visit of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to the New York World's Fair," 1939
  - 8 Clippings from newspapers and magazines, 2005-2006, relating to Avedon
  - 9 Clippings from newspapers and magazines, 2005, relating to Avedon
- Subgroup Seven, 1985
  - 4 Unframed, signed, two image poster in original tube, from *In the American West* (1985)
- Subgroup Eight, 1994
  - 1 Exhibition press package *Richard Avedon: Evidence, 1944-1994*. Whitney Museum of American Art, 1994
- Subgroup Nine, 1996
  - Inventory of Avedon photographs in the Photographic History collection at

The National Museum of American History, 1996

Subgroup Ten, 1985

- 2 1-6 Selected press clippings with sets of photocopies about *In the American West*,  
7 Exhibition Catalog, *In the American West*  
Magazines containing articles about the exhibition  
*Rolling Stone*, September 26, 1985  
*Sunday Times Magazine*, October 13, 1985  
*Texas Monthly*, September 1985  
*Third Coast*, October, 1985, with enclosed letter commenting on the article  
*Vanity Fair*, September, 1985
- 3 Sets of photocopied clippings about *In the American West*, one set in Acco® binder  
compiled by the Amon Carter Museum. September 14-November 17, 1985, and  
original clippings.
- 4 Subgroup Eleven, 1986  
Phoenix Art Museum exhibition, *In the American West*  
¾" videocassette  
½" videocassette  
DVD viewing copy