Finding Aid for John Pitman Weber Papers MS.2008.7

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Summary Information

Repository	Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies
Title	John Pitman Weber Papers
Date	1971-2007
Extent	3.0 Linear feet
Location note	Oversized artwork in this collection (four posters) is stored separately in ILS Julian Samora Library flat files.
Language	Multiple languages

Language of Materials note Materials mostly in English, with select pieces in Spanish.

Preferred Citation note

Researchers wishing to cite materials from this collection may use the following acknowledgement: [title of item], John Pitman Weber Papers, Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.

Biographical/Historical note

John Pitman Weber is an artist, writer, and Professor Emeritus, Elmhurst College. Weber graduated from Harvard University in 1964, studied in Paris at the Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux Arts and studied printmaking at Atelier 17, Paris. He received his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1968. As co-founder of the Chicago Public Art Group, he was involved in many of the social movements in Chicago claiming relevancy for minorities, peace and justice. He has exhibited and written extensively on public art and is co-author, along with Eva and James Cockcroft, of the book, "Toward A People's Art." His paintings, murals, mosaics, carvings, and collaborative public projects have been created and exhibited internationally. His writings on art have appeared in publications such as Art Journal and New Art Examiner. Since the early 1980s, he has had solo exhibitions almost annually and has led numerous collaborative public art workshops and projects. His art is in collections internationally and can also be found at various Chicago locations including the Sabin School, Beth-Ann Senior Housing, and the Aids Foundation in the South Loop. Items in this collection underscore his accomplishments both as a writer and as a mural artist, and highlight his work and concerns for community, peace, and social justice.

Scope and Contents note

This collection includes writings and exhibition materials by and about John Pitman Weber primarily related to public art, peace, and social justice activism. Also includes materials related to Mexican-American and Puerto Rican artists working in Chicago such as Carlos Cortez and the groups MARCH and MIRA. Includes materials related to organizations such as LADO-Chicago (Latin American Defense Organization) and "Artists Call" (Artists Call Against U.S. Intervention in Central America). Materials document events such as Humbolt Park neighborhood protests in reaction to a proposed demolition of the mural, "Breaking the Chains" at 1456 N. Rockwell Ave. in 1978. Includes copies and some originals of published writings by Weber. Also includes a few original brochures by the Chicago Mural Group and the Chicago Public Art Group; originals and photocopies of exhibition flyers, cards, catalogs as well as artist statements explaining the social and political impetus behind the exhibits. Publications that feature Weber's work are also included, e.g. the publication titled, "Cry for Justice". Also includes artwork: black and white reproductions of Carlos Cortez's prints and four posters.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Art of Social Conscience. (1991: Valparaiso, Ind.)
- Artistic Observers in Latin America: The Cultural Vantage Point. (1999: Whitewater, Wis.)
- Canción Festiva Para Ser Llorada. (2007: Chicago, Ill.)
- Chicago Public Art Group.
- Frames of Reference: Places of Habitation. (2001: Chicago, Ill.)
- John Pitman Weber. (1994: Glen Ellyn, Ill.)
- The Whole World is Still Watching. (1988: Chicago, Ill.)

Genre(s)

- Printed ephemera--United States--Catalogs
- Printed ephemera--United States--Pictorial works

Geographic Name(s)

- Humboldt Park
- Pilsen

Personal Name(s)

- Carlos Cortez Koyokuikatl, 1923-2005
- Weber, John Pitman, b. 1942

Subject(s)

- Art exhibitions--Illinois--Chicago
- Art exhibitions--Indiana--Elmhurst
- Art, American--20th century
- Hispanic American art--Illinois--Chicago--20th Century
- Mural painting and decoration, American--Illinois--Chicago--20th century
- Public art--Illinois--Chicago
- Puerto Ricans--Illinois--Chicago
- Social movements--Illinois--Chicago--History--20th century--Anecdotes