

Center for Creative Photography

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Finding aid for the  
Robert Balcomb Collection, n.d.

AG 180

**Robert Balcomb Collection, n.d.**

**AG 180**

**Creator**

Balcomb, Robert (1926- )

**Abstract**

Papers, technical notes, and photographs of Robert "Sam" Balcomb (b. 11 March 1926), photographer and student of William Mortensen from 1956-1957. Photographs were transferred to the CCP fine print collection.

**Quantity/ Extent**

3 linear feet

**Language of Materials**

English

**Biographical Note**

Robert Balcomb was born in 1926 and is a graduate of the American Academy of Art, Chicago, The University of New Mexico, and The University of Northern Colorado. He is well known for having studied with the pre-eminent photographer William Mortensen from 1956-1957.

**Scope and Content Note**

The Robert Balcomb Collection is made up of three series including papers, photographic materials, and artifacts. Series one, papers, contains correspondence, an agreement letter regarding Mortensen materials, a script for a Mortensen film, articles on Mortensen, and metalchrome and pigment process information.

Series two contains photographic materials such as "Mortensen Pigment Samples and Notes", which are samples given to Balcomb by Myrdith Mortensen, as well as two CDs of "Mortensen Pigment Notes", which are digital copies of original samples and annotations from Balcomb.

Series three contains a Rolleicord camera given to Balcomb by Mortensen in Laguna Beach, California, in 1956. [Note: film winder is not functional. Inscription on verso "x sync, m bulb" was written by Balcomb.]

## **Arrangement**

- Series 1: Papers
- Series 2: Photographic Materials
- Series 3: Artifacts

## **Names and Subject Terms**

- Balcomb, Robert, 1926-
- Mortensen, William, 1897-1965
- Photography

## **Restrictions**

### **Conditions Governing Access**

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

## **Provenance**

Gift of Robert Balcomb in 2000 and 2003.

## **Related Materials**

CCP has several archival collections containing materials documenting the life and career of William Mortensen. Researchers are invited to consult:

William Mortensen Archive (AG147)

William Mortensen & George Dunham Collection (AG43)

William Mortensen Miscellaneous Acquisitions Collection (AG191)

In addition, CCP has collections acquired from a number of Mortensen's students:

Robert Balcomb (AG180)

Anson Beman (AG185)

Richard Bennet (AG191)

R. H. Cochran, Jr. (AG191)

Ralph D. Hosenpud (AG227)

Ben Maxey (AG112)

Grey Silva (AG134)

CCP also has collections related to other photographers from the Pictorialist tradition:

Paul Anderson (AG40)

Aubrey Bodine (AG139)

Adolf Fassbender (AG168)

**Preferred Citation**

Robert Balcomb Collection, n.d. AG 180. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

**Processing Information**

Collection processed and finding aid updated in June 2016 by Meghan Jordan in June 2016.

## Container List

### Series 1: Papers

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
1	1	Correspondence, 1969-ca. 1975
	2	Agreement Regarding Mortensen
	3	Script for Mortensen Film
	4	Metalchrome and Pigment Process (Mortensen Method) 1956
	5	Miscellaneous Letters & Papers
	6	Miscellaneous Articles on Mortensen

### Series 2: Photographic Materials

<u>Box</u>	
2	NDV Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NPM Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NB Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials Two DVDs of Pigment Print Information
3	CSB Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NG Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NMG Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NPM Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials NMS Labeled Pigment Print Process Materials
4	Photograph of Typography for "Photography of Robert Balcomb" signage Portrait of Jayne Mansfield by Balcomb

### Series 3: Artifacts

<u>Box</u>	
1	Rolleicord Camera