

## FINDING AID FOR THE

# **RICHARD AVEDON COLLECTION AG 89**

Center for Creative Photography  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0103

*For further information about the archives at the Center for Creative Photography, please contact the Archivist: phone 520-621-6273; fax 520-621-9444*

## **DESCRIPTION**

Papers, photographic materials, publications, and memorabilia, 1947-1989, of Richard Avedon (1923-2004), photographer. Includes correspondence, clippings, contact sheets, engraver's prints, books, and other materials documenting his career.

The collection is active.

15 linear feet

## **PROVENANCE**

The collection was acquired from Richard Avedon beginning in 1989.

## **RESTRICTIONS**

### **Copyright**

Copyright is held by the Richard Avedon Foundation. No copying of photographic materials is permitted without approval.

### **Access**

Correspondence less than twenty-five years old may not be read without permission of the author.

## **CHRONOLOGY**

[From press release issued by CCP in 1989.]

\* = Mr. Avedon's publications

- 1923 Born, New York City
- 1929-41 Attended P.S. 6, De Witt Clinton High School, and Columbia University
- 1937-40 Co-editor, with James Baldwin, of The Magpie, De Witt Clinton High School literary magazine
- 1940 Poet Laureate of New York City High Schools
- 1942-1944 Served in the U.S. Merchant Marines
- 1944-1950 Studied with Alexey Brodovitch at the Design Laboratory, New School for Social Research, New York
- 1945-65 Staff photographer for Harper's Bazaar
- 1947-84 Photographed the French Collections in Paris for Harper's Bazaar and Vogue
- 1950 Awarded the Highest Achievement Medal, Art Directors' Show, New York
- 1952-53 Theatre Arts, editor and photographer
- 1957 Visual consultant for the film, Funny Face, based on Avedon's career
- 1959\* Observations, photographs by Richard Avedon, text by Truman Capote, Simon and Schuster, Inc.
- 1962 Exhibition, "Richard Avedon," Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- 1963 Photographed the Civil Rights Movement in the South
- 1964\* Nothing Personal, photographs by Richard Avedon, text by James Baldwin, Atheneum
- 1966 Staff photographer for Vogue
- 1967 Conducted Master Class in Photography at the Avedon Studio
- 1969 Photographed the Anti-War Movement across America, including the Chicago 7 during Chicago Conspiracy Trial
- 1970 Exhibition, "Richard Avedon," Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 1971 Photographed in Vietnam, including the Mission Council

- 1973\* Alice in Wonderland: The Forming of a Company, The Making of a Play, photographs by Richard Avedon, text by Doon Arbus, E.P. Dutton
- 1974 Exhibition, "Jacob Israel Avedon," The Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1975 Exhibition, "Richard Avedon," Marlborough Gallery, New York
- 1976\* Portraits photographs by Richard Avedon, Farrar, Straus & Giroux
- "The Family," Rolling Stone magazine, October 21, special Bicentennial issue. Received National Magazine Award for Visual Excellence
- Citation of Dedication to Fashion Photography, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York
- 1978\* Exhibition, "Avedon: Photographs 1947-1977," fashion retrospective at Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
- Avedon: Photographs 1947-1977 by Richard Avedon, Farrar, Straus & Giroux
- President's Fellow, Rhode Island School of Design
- 1980 Exhibition, "Avedon: Retrospective 1946-1980," University Art Museum, Berkeley, California
- Chancellor's Citation, University of California, Berkeley, California
- 1982 Named to Hall of Fame, Art Director's Club, New York
- 1985\* Exhibition, "In the American West," Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas. American tour included: Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Art Institute of Chicago; Phoenix Art Museum; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; The High Museum, Atlanta
- In the American West 1979-1984, photographs by Richard Avedon, Harry N. Abrams, Inc.
- Named Photographer of the Year, American Society of Magazine Photographers
- Received the Maine Photographic Workshop Nikon Award for the Best Photographic Book of the Year
- Named Commercial Television Director of the Year by Adweek magazine

Given the Eastman Kodak Award for Excellence as Commercial Television  
Director of the Year

- 1987 Harvard University, Certificate of Recognition, Visiting Artist 1986-87
- 1989 Given Lifetime Achievement Award, Council of Fashion Designers of America  
(CFDA)  
Enters into archival agreement with CCP.
- 2004 Dies, San Antonio, Texas

## **OUTLINE OF THE COLLECTION**

Note: The acquisition of this collection will extend over several years. Materials will not be completely organized and described until the collection is complete. Until then, each acquisition will be described separately unless it fits into one of the following major series.

Biographical materials

Correspondence

Publications

Projects

Photographic materials

Photographic equipment

## **BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIALS**

AG 89: "Release of the Avedon Archive to the Center for Creative  
Photography." (six 11x14" b/w photographs taken on March 9, 1989)

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

AG 89: Letter from Allen Ginsberg to Ted Hartwell, February 19, 1970

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

See following list of titles.

### **Magazines**

- AG 89: *Egoiste* 9 (1985)  
*Egoiste* 10 (1987)  
*Council of Fashion Designers of America Awards* (1988)  
*Harper's Bazaar* (September 1962)  
" " (November 1964)  
*Rolling Stone* no. 523 (April 7, 1988) (2 copies)

### **Exhibition catalogs and ephemera**

- AG 89: Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 1970  
Marlborough Gallery, New York City, 1975  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, 1978  
University Art Museum, Berkeley, California, 1980  
Amon Carter Museum, Forth Worth, Texas, 1985

## **PROJECTS**

### **In the American West**

- AG 89: Transcription of panel discussion at the Amon Carter Museum, September 14, 1985 with Richard Avedon, Laura Wilson, Ruedi Hofmann, David Liittschwager, and the people photographed by Avedon (61 pages). Includes 85 slides in pages and a five-page list of captions for the slides.
- AG 89: Clippings: A chronological arrangement of newspaper, magazine, and miscellaneous articles and notices relating to this project. Collected by the Avedon Studio. Photocopies prepared by CCP staff. Originals discarded. See attached alphabetic index.  
Box 1: November 4, 1984 - spring 1986  
Box 2: spring 1986 - March 4, 1988

AG 89: Papers and miscellaneous correspondence

**Twyla Tharpe: Dance (1981)**

AG 89: Proof prints, 6x8" (15)  
Reproduction prints, 11x14" (23)  
Enlarged contact sheets (7)  
Engraver's prints (8)

**Richard Avedon: Photographs 1947-1977**

AG 89: Printer's mechanicals (oversize box)

AG 89: "Templates -- Fashion Show -- 1st Room" (oversize box)

**The Mike Nichols and Suzy Parker sittings (1962)**

Harper's Bazaar (September 1962) contained twenty-two photographs from this project.

AG 89: Photocopies of contact sheets from 35mm and 2 1/4" negatives with cover sheet providing information on the project.

Section A: Tests and rehearsals

Section B: Lighting tests

Section C: Some rehearsals

Section D: Two sittings at Maxim's

Section E: Sitting inside the limousine

Section F: First sitting of the 'Walk on the Streets'

Section G: Second sitting of the 'Walk on the Streets'

Section H: Sitting of 'The Secluded Lunch'

Section I: Sitting for 'The Press Conference'

Section J: Photographs of a kiosk of magazines

Section K: 'American Hospital' sitting

Section L: Contacts of the final 'Fashion Show'

Section M: Mike Nichols fighting with the paparazzi

Section N: Suzy Parker

Section O: First sitting in the Bois de Boulogne

Section P: Final sitting photographed in the Bois de Boulogne

Section Q: Paparazzi surprize

AG 89: Notebook with captions for the story sections as outlined above.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS**

### **Contact Sheets**

AG 89: The Mike Nichols and Suzy Parker Sittings, Paris 1962.

Box 1: 57 sheets

Box 2: 46 sheets

AG 89: Duke and Duchess of Windsor Sitting, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Suite 28A, New York City, April 16, 1957.

Box 1: 12 sheets

### **Engraver's prints and miscellaneous printer's proofs**

AG 89: Portrait of Martin Luther King III (1988) made for Rolling Stone no. 523 (April 7, 1988), p. 65.

Double portrait of Richard Avedon and James Baldwin (1964) made for Harper's Bazaar 98:3036 (November 1964), p. 177.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT**

AG 89: Louis Vuitton case adapted for carrying camera equipment. Includes handwritten identification tag.