


2018

COLLECTION 0159: Philip Shen Material, 1931-2004

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COLLECTION 159: Philip Shen Material, 1931-2004

Administrative Information

Title:

Philip Shen Material, 1931-2004

Collection Identifier:

CFT00159

Creators:

Shen, Philip

Size:

31 Boxes

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182
archives@fuller.edu

Provenance:

The gift of Mrs. Shen and son Kairos Shen

Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law

Language:

English

Processing:

Adam Gossman

Finding Aid Revisions:

Andrew Wong, August 2018

Biography

Dr. Philip Shen (b. June 17, 1931- d. August 5, 2004) was Professor of Religion and Philosophy and Dean of the University of Hong Kong (China). He joined the Chung Chi College in 1962, and was appointed College Head in 1990 and 1994. Dr. Shen served as Dean of General Education from 1977 to 1990. He immigrated to California in 1994.

Dr. Shen worked as the consultant of the Chinese (HK) Origami Society since 1991. His origami work was exhibited in the United Kingdom, United States, Hong Kong, Japan, and Singapore. He also wrote and taught on the subject.

“Origami to me is a pursuit of perfection. As a craft, it aims to fold a designed model ‘just right,’ As an art, it seeks to create designs of good models that should be useful, fun, or simply beautiful. A really good model could be so nearly perfect that it would be impossible to improve upon it. A perfect model is a clear exemplification of an eternal idea. The idea, once discovered and well encoded in a model, will remain forever available. Even though the paper that embodies it may eventually disintegrate, it will still be there as long as there are paper-folders, and paper, to actualize and enjoy it. Paper-folding thus offers the closest experience of perfection in a life of daily routine,” Dr. Philip Shen, British Origami Society, December 2004.

The Philip Shen Collection is a resource on Dr. Shen’s classes, writings, and scholarship. It also contains a large collection of Shen’s origami.

Scope and Content

The Philip Shen collection contains artistic works, clippings, diaries, correspondence, and audio/visual material. Records include research notes and instruction materials from his employment at the University of Hong Kong. A large portion of the collection consists of Dr. Shen’s origami and related writings. Dates range from 1931-2004.

Subjects:

- Artists—China
- Origami
- Theology

Arrangement

This collection is organized into 31 boxes consisting of 7 series as follows:

Series 1. Personal (Boxes 1-2)

Box 1 includes Dr. Shen's diplomas from high school through Ph. D., personal scrapbook of news articles, material on his 70th birthday celebration and memorials after his death, etc. Box 2 is photograph material.

Series 2. Ph. D. Thesis and Notes on L. S. Thornton's Christology (Boxes 3-4)

Box 3 contains Shen's Ph. D. dissertation material. Box 4 contains Shen's notes on L. S. Thornton's "Christology." Notes are kept as Shen preserved them.

Series 3. Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera. (Boxes 5-11)

Series 4. Correspondence (Boxes 12-13)

Series 5. Annotated Books (Boxes 14-16)

Series 5 consists of a small collection of books with Dr. Shen's annotations. Box 16 contains a small collection of material referring to the Beijing protest and conflict, which Hong Kong students supported.

Series 6. Origami (Boxes 17-29)

A collection of Dr. Shen's origami folds, models and writings and research on Origami. These items are kept as he preserved them.

Series 7 Audio / Visual Material

Box Inventory

Series 1: Personal

Box	Name	Notes
1	1. Personal Material	Sensitive material of Biographical reference.
2	2. Photographic Material	Photos and negatives.

Series 2: Ph. D. Thesis and Notes

Box	Name	Notes
3	1. Ph. D. Thesis	
4	2. Notes	

Series 3: Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera

Box	Name	Notes
5	1. Published / Unpublished Writing	.
6	2. Additional Published / Unpublished Writing and Diaries.	
7	3. Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera- Education, Politics, et cetera.	
8	4. Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera- Philosophy	
9	5. Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera- Theology	
10	6. Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, et cetera- Additional Class Notes	
11	7. Reference and Miscellaneoua	

Series 4: Correspondence

Box	Name	Notes
12	1. Correspondence 1	
13	2. Correspondence 2	

Series 5: Annotated Books

Box	Name	Notes
14	1. Annotated Books 1	
15	2. Annotated Books 2	
16	3. Beijing	

Series 6: Origami

Box	Name	Notes
17	1. Origami 1	
18	2. Origami 2	
19	3. Origami 3	
20	4. Origami Models 1	
21	5. Origami Models 2	
22	6. Origami Models 3	
23	7. Origami Models 4	
24	8. Origami Models 5	
25	9. "Works in Progress" and "Experimental Folds"	
26	10. "Earlier Works" and "Stars and Crosses"	

Box	Name	Notes
27	11. Undated Origami	
28	12. Printed Materials	
29	13. Origami and Miscellaneous Notes	

Series 7: Audio / Visual Material

Box	Name	Notes
30	1. Audio Cassette Tapes	
31	2. VHS / DVD	