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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.ABRAHAMA

Title Abraham, Alton. Collection of Sun Ra

Date 1822-2008

Size 156 linear feet (146 boxes, 1 oversize folder)

Repository Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Alton Abraham (1927-1999), entrepreneur and hospital technician, was a longtime friend and business associate of Sun Ra (1914-1993), the influential jazz composer and musician. Alton Abraham collected manuscripts, business records, printed ephemera, artifacts, photographs, audio and video recordings, and other documents of his work with Sun Ra. The collection contains textual, graphic, and audio-visual records of the work of Sun Ra and his collaborators, as well as professional and personal papers of Alton Abraham. The collection spans 1822-2008, with material concentrated in the late 1950s-1980s.

Acknowledgments

The Alton Abraham Collections of Sun Ra was processed and preserved as part of the "Uncovering New Chicago Archives Project," funded with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Information on Use

Access

Series VIII: Subseries 2 and 3 do not include access copies for material in this series. Researchers must consult with staff before requesting material from this series.

Series XII contains personal financial records restricted for 50 years, and academic and medical records restricted for 80 years.

The remainder of the collection is open for research.

Citation
Biographical Note

Sun Ra was born Herman Poole Blount on May 22, 1914 in Birmingham Alabama and was regarded as a skilled pianist and composer by his early teenage years. Although Blount based his musical activities in Birmingham until 1945, his big band toured extensively, playing Chicago in 1934 where he registered with the local musicians union under the name Sonny Blount. Blount read extensively, researching mystical and occult practices, ancient culture, biblical history, and contemporary developments in science and space exploration. During 1942-1943 he was imprisoned for draft resistance prior to being released with a 4-F classification.

In the winter of 1946 Blount migrated to Chicago, settling near Washington Park. Although regarded as eccentric by some, Blount was a respected and studied musician and was regularly employed as a pianist, composer, and arranger in the vibrant south side music scene. During the early 1950s he began rehearsing his own groups, ultimately leading to the 1955 creation of the Arkestra, the large ensemble he directed until his death in 1993. In October 1952 Blount legally changed his name to "Le Sony'r Ra" at the Circuit Court of Cook County, with "Sun Ra" serving thereafter as an abbreviated version of his new name.

Alton Abraham was born in Chicago on May 5, 1927. He served in the U.S Military in Okinawa from 1945-1947, and upon returning to Chicago in 1947 graduated from Du Sable High School, followed by Wilson Junior College in 1950. In 1952 he was certified as an x-ray technician at Provident Hospital. Blount and Abraham became acquainted in 1951, sharing interests in mysticism, the occult, science, numerology, and ancient history.

Along with Abraham’s brother Artis, the men founded El Saturn Research in 1957, which would record and distribute albums by the Arkestra as well as the vocal and R&B groups rehearsed by Sun Ra during the late 1950s.

Additionally, Ra and Abraham organized Thmei Research, an organization dedicated to "subjects cosmic, spiritual, philosophical, religious, historical, scientific, economical, etc." Thmei also provided financing for El Saturn’s earliest releases and issued a newsletter and book catalog. The earliest El Saturn recordings are singles dating from 1955 and 1956, including the Cosmic Rays "Dreaming" b/w "Daddy's Gonna Tell You No Lie." Some of the Arkestra's earliest studio recordings were released as Jazz By Sun Ra (1956) on Transition Records, and Super Sonic Jazz (1957) on Saturn Records.

In 1961 Sun Ra left Chicago for Montreal with members of the Arkestra including Marshall Allen and John Gilmore. Lacking sustained employment in Montreal, the group relocated
to New York City where further difficulty finding work encouraged communal living arrangements. While Sun Ra would never again reside in Chicago, Abraham continued to manage some of the Arkestra's business engagements and the Saturn Record label in Chicago. By the late 1960s Sun Ra began giving performances on college campuses and appeared on the cover of Rolling Stone. During these years, recordings on ESP Records such as The Heliocentric Worlds of Sun Ra Vols. 1 and 2 (1965, 1966), added to the growing catalog of Sun Ra recordings available through Saturn Records such as The Magic City (1966) and Atlantis (1969). In 1967 Abraham, along with Sun Ra, James Bryant, and Almeter Hayden, incorporated Infinity, Inc. in the State of Illinois with the intention of it serving as an umbrella organization for Sun Ra's activities. The following year Sun Ra and members of the Arkestra would move into a large home in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia, commuting regularly to New York City for performances. In 1972 Ra and Abraham published two volumes of Sun Ra's poetry, The Immeasurable Equation, and Extensions Out: The Immeasurable Equation Vol. 2, some of which had previously appeared on the back cover of Saturn Records.

Opportunities for international performance expanded significantly during the 1970s and Arkestra recordings became more widely available following a 1972 agreement with Impulse Records, who reissued The Magic City and Atlantis in 1973. While Sun Ra would continue sending recordings to Abraham in Chicago through the late 1970s, such as The Soul Vibrations of Man (1977) and Taking a Chance on Chances (1977), he also began independently pressing Saturn records in Philadelphia, relying on the assistance of Arkestra members. Similarly, as performance opportunities expanded throughout the 1970s Arkestra trumpeter Danny Thompson increasingly took on the responsibilities of de facto business and tour manager.

Following Sun Ra's death in Birmingham 1993, Abraham became involved with the reissue and rerelease of out-of-print Sun Ra recordings. In addition to his activities with Sun Ra, Abraham was employed as an x-ray technician, and independently pursued his interests in spirituality, history, science, and technology. Alton Abraham died June 6, 1999 in Chicago.

**Scope Note**

Throughout his long friendship and business association with Sun Ra, Alton Abraham collected manuscripts, business records, printed ephemera, artifacts, photographs, audio and video recordings, and other documents. The collection contains textual, graphic, and audio-visual records of the work of Sun Ra and members of the Arkestra, as well as professional and personal papers of Alton Abraham. The collection spans 1822-2008, with material concentrated in the late 1950s-1980s.

This collection also contains material of research value in the subjects of audio and film recording, independent music production and distribution, African-American communities in Chicago, radical politics, health sciences, book collecting, race theories, spirituality and the occult.
There is considerable duplication of materials, particularly printed ephemera, across the collection. Copies of the same item duplicated in multiple series often document different aspects of Sun Ra and Alton Abraham’s endeavors.

The collection is arranged in twelve series:

Series I: Biographical, contains writings about Sun Ra, including interviews, critical essays, articles, and obituaries. Also included in this series are a small number of biographical writings about John Gilmore.

Series II: Performance, contains textual and graphic documents of Sun Ra performances from 1966-1989, as well as performances by members of the Arkestra and other associated musicians from 1993-1998. Materials include clippings, broadsides, handbills, programs, press releases, set lists, and tour itineraries.

Series III: Recording, contains textual and graphic documents of recordings by Sun Ra, members of the Arkestra, and other associated musicians from 1955-1995. Materials include discographies, catalogs, clippings, press releases, handbills, broadsides, advertising copy, radio playlists, drafts of track listings and liner notes, and production notes.

Series IV: Music Manuscripts, contains Sun Ra’s original works and arrangements of standards. Also included are music manuscripts prepared by others, including Alton Abraham. Materials in this series include arrangements, compositions, sketches, lyrics, notes and fragmentary music notations. Many of the manuscripts are undated, but generally range from the 1960s-1980s.

Series V: Verse, Prose and Notes, contains manuscripts, proofs, broadsides, pamphlets, notebooks and books by Sun Ra. It also includes notes, fragmentary works, and a small number of works by Alton Abraham and unidentified writers. Most items are undated, but generally span the 1950s-1980s.

Series VI: Business Records, contains records of the business operations of Saturn Records and other endeavors managed by Alton Abraham in collaboration with Sun Ra and others. The bulk of this material was kept by Alton Abraham, though some material may have been collected from Sun Ra, John Gilmore and others. Materials date from 1939-1998, but mainly document business activities from the late 1950s through the mid-1990s. Material in this series includes legal agreements, business forms and stationery, financial records, ephemera, instructional books and pamphlets, correspondence and notebooks.
Series VII: Alton Abraham, documents Abraham's education, employment, personal life, and interests in areas such as spirituality, the supernatural, science and technology, politics, history, and music. There is also some material related to Abraham's friends, associates and family members. Materials in this series include publications, ephemera, educational and instructional materials, correspondence, notes, sheet music, songbooks and manuscripts. This series spans 1822-1993, with material concentrated in the 1940s-1980s.

Series VIII: Audio-Visual, contains photographs, audio recordings, and film and video recordings. Included are photographs of Sun Ra and the Arkestra, filmstrips and videocassettes, audio cassette tapes, reel tapes, and vinyl records. Many items are undated, spanning the late 1950s-1990s.

Series IX: Art and Artifacts, contains items related to Sun Ra, Saturn Records, and music in general; as well as personal items that belonged to Alton Abraham. In the first category are sample album jackets; proofs and layouts of album covers, catalogs and advertisements; drawings, sketches and paintings; photographs of artworks; musical instruments and equipment; metal stampers for vinyl records; printing blocks and office supplies. In the second category are decorative ornaments and personal items such as a wallet and a briefcase.

Some items are matted or framed for display. Most items are undated but generally span the late 1950s-1980s.

Series X: Oversize, consists of large-format materials transferred from previous series.

Series XI: Restricted, consists of personal financial records, academic records, medical records, and identification and registration documents, all transferred from Series VII.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

Browse finding aids by topic.

Chicago Jazz Archive

Subject Headings
- Abraham, Alton
- Sun Ra
- University of Chicago. Chicago Jazz Archive
- El Saturn Records
- Jazz
• Jazz musicians

INVENTORY

Series I: Biographical

This series contains biographical writings about Sun Ra, including interviews, critical essays, articles, and obituaries. Other biographical information includes a 1975 biographical statement, a postcard from the Hyde Park Art Center's "Pathways to Unknown Worlds" exhibition, a list of members of the Arkestra, and a map of Sun Ra’s gravesite. Also included in this series are a small number of biographical writings about John Gilmore. Most of the writings in this series are in the form of clippings, photocopies, or sample copies of publications. This series is organized chronologically from 1966-2007, with undated material at the end of the series.

Autobiographical writings by Sun Ra are in Series V: Subseries 1. Discographies are in Series III: Subseries 2. Oversize materials, consisting of newspaper clippings, a scrapbook, a Buzzard comic book, and a poster for the Hyde Park Art Center’s 2006 symposium "Sun Ra: The Astro Black and Other Solar Myths," have all been transferred to Series X: Subseries 1.

Box 1
Folder 1
"Homage to Sun Ra," Change, 1966

Box 1
Folder 2
"Spiritual Voices of Black America," Liberator, 1966

Box 1
Folder 3
"The New Jazz," Newsweek, 1966

Box 1
Folder 4
Henry Dumas, "An Interview with Sun Ra," Hiram Poetry Review, 1967

Box 1
Folder 5
Tam Fiofori, "The Illusion of Sun Ra," Liberator, 1967

Box 1
Folder 6
"Sun Ra," Jazz on Record, 1968

Box 1
Folder 7

Box 1
Folder 8
Harriet Choice, "Rah, rah...sunny Mr. Ra," Chicago Tribune, 1972

Box 1
Folder 9
Ray Townley, "Sun Ra," Down Beat, 1973

Box 1
Folder 10
   Tom Bingham, "The Many Worlds of Sun Ra," Audio, 1975
Box 1
Folder 11
   Harvey Pekar, "Sun Ra;" Vladimir Simosko, "John Gilmore," Coda, 1975
Box 1
Folder 12
   Biographical statement, 1975
Box 1
Folder 13
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Folder 14
Box 1
Folder 15
   J.C. Thomas, "Sun Ra's Space Probe," Down Beat, 1978
Box 1
Folder 16
   Mark C. Gridley, "Bill Evans, Sun Ra, and Cecil Taylor," Jazz Styles, 1978
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Box 1
Folder 18
   Michael Hopkins, "Lord of the Saturnian Rings: Sun Ra Disco," The Spectrum, 1978
Box 1
Folder 19
   Charles White, "The People are the Instrument: Interview with Sun Ra," Lightworks, 1979
Box 1
Folder 20
   David Miller, "Sun Ra," Real Times, 1979
Box 1
Folder 21
   "Une porte s'oeuvre," Les Tubes de l'Été, circa 1970s
Box 1
Folder 22
Box 1
Folder 23
Box 1
Folder 24
   "International Jazz Critics Poll," Down Beat, 1982
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Folder 25
  "Sun Ra," New Musical Express, 1982
Box 1
Folder 26
  "Sun Ra," Stop, 1982
Box 1
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Folder 28
  "Interplanetair entertainment met ceremoniemeester Sun Ra!" Travers, 1983
Box 1
Folder 29
  "Sun Ra," Nancy Jazz Pulsations, 1983
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Folder 31
Box 1
Folder 32
  Art Sato, "John Gilmore," Be-Bop and Beyond, 1986
Box 1
Folder 33
  Jim Macnie, "The Original Brother from Another Planet," The New Paper, 1986
Box 1
Folder 34
  "The 52nd Annual Down Beat Reader's Poll," Down Beat, 1987
Box 1
Folder 35
  "Sun Ra," Jazz: The Essential Companion, 1987
Box 1
Folder 36
  Bob Doerschuk, "Sun Ra: Jazz from Another Planet," Keyboard, 1987
Box 1
Folder 37
  "Big Band," Down Beat, 1988
Box 1
Folder 38
  Owen McNally, "Sun Ra: The high priest of avant-garde jazz," Hartford Courant, 1988
Box 1
Folder 39
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Folder 40
"Quotations from the Prime Minister of Saturn," 1988
Box 1
Folder 41
  Ira Steingroot, "Sun Ra's Magical Kingdom," Reality Hackers, 1988
Box 1
Folder 42
  Sun Ra Omniverse Arkestra, 1990
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Folder 43
  "All Over the Universe with Sun Ra," Record Exchange Music Monitor, 1990
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Folder 44
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Box 1
Folder 46
  Art Lange, "The First Evidence of Life on Saturn," Pulse! 1992
Box 1
Folder 47
  "Sun Ra, avant-garde jazz musician," Chicago Tribune, 1993
Box 1
Folder 48
  Russell Woessner, "Joyful Memorial Tribute to Sun Ra with the Intergalactic Arkestra," City Paper, 1993
Box 1
Folder 49
  John Corbett, "Inherit the Sun," Down Beat, 1993
Box 1
Folder 50
  Robert Campbell, "Sun Ra: Supersonic Sounds from Saturn," Goldmine, 1993
Box 1
Folder 51
  Scott Yanow, "Sun Ra," Jazziz, 1993
Box 2
Folder 1
Box 2
Folder 2
  "Sun Ra," Life, 1994
Box 2
Folder 3
Box 2
Folder 4
John Farris, "Space is the Place," undated
Box 2
Folder 5
Tam Fiofori, "The Space Age Music of Sun Ra... 'Between Two Worlds'," undated
Box 2
Folder 6
Tam Fiofori, "Sun Ra's Space Odyssey," undated
Box 2
Folder 7
Jim Macnie, "Sun Ra is the Heaviest Man in this Galaxy," undated
Box 2
Folder 8
Jim Macnie, "Space is the Place," undated
Box 2
Folder 9
Harvey Pekar and R. Crumb, "Ridin' the Dog," undated
Box 2
Folder 10
Bret Primack, "Captain Angelic: Sun Ra," Down Beat, undated
Box 2
Folder 11
Bryan Sale, "Sun Ra," Be-Bop and Beyond, undated
Box 2
Folder 12
Michael Shore, "Sun Ra," undated
Box 2
Folder 13
David Sprague, "Sun Ra Not of this Earth," undated
Box 2
Folder 14
Neil Tesser, "Sun Ra's wild orbit cooks hot dish," undated
Box 2
Folder 15
Rich Theis, "Sun Ra," undated
Box 2
Folder 16
"Astro Black Mythology," Forces in Motion, undated
Box 2
Folder 17
"The Free, New Jazz of Sun Ra," undated
Box 2
Folder 18
"Sun Ra," undated
Box 2
Folder 19
"Sun Ra," Jazz Pianists, undated
Box 2
Folder 20
"Sun Ra celestiali suoni del futuro," undated
Box 2
Folder 21
"Sun Ra and his Solar Astro-Infinity Arkestra," undated
Box 2
Folder 22
List of Arkestra members, undated
Box 2
Folder 23
Map of Sun Ra’s gravesite, undated
Box 2
Folder 24
The Jazz Store Catalog, undated
Box 2
Folder 25
Clippings, circa 1960s-1990s

Series II: Performance

This series contains textual and graphic documents Sun Ra performances from 1966-1989, as well as performances by members of the Arkestra and other associated musicians from 1993-1998. Also included is material documenting the film Space is the Place. Materials include clippings, broadsides, handbills, programs, press releases, set lists, and tour itineraries. This series is chronologically by performance date. Performance dates are given as identified on the items. Undated items are at the end of the series.

Oversize broadsides, newspaper clippings, and posters (including several large-format posters for concerts and the film Space is the Place), been transferred to Series X; Subseries 2. Photographs, audio recordings, and film and video recordings of performances are in Series VIII. Some material in this series is duplicated in Series VI.

Box 3
Folder 1
Tompkins Square Amphitheater, New York, 14 July 1966
Box 3
Folder 2
Slugs', New York, 1967
Box 3
Folder 3
University of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, California, 11 April 1969
Box 3
Folder 4
London and Paris, 1970
Box 3
Folder 5
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 2 February 1971

Box 3
Folder 6
Alhambra Theater, San Francisco, 13 November 1972

Box 3
Folder 7
The East, 29 December 1972

Box 3
Folder 8
Auditorium Theater, Chicago, 21 April 1973

Box 3
Folder 9
Black Music Conference, Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, April 1973

Box 3
Folder 10
Mexico tour, 1973-1974

Box 3
Folder 11
Keystone Korner, San Francisco, 30 October-10 November 1974

Box 3
Folder 12
Ruthie's Inn, Berkeley, California, 30 November-1 December 1974

Box 3
Folder 13
San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, 19 April 1975

Box 3
Folder 14
Maryjane, Sacramento, California, 3 May 1975

Box 3
Folder 15
Unidentified festival, 17 July 1976

Box 3
Folder 16

Box 3
Folder 17
Jazz Marathon, Brussels, 1-3 June 1979

Box 3
Folder 18
Carnegie Hall, New York, 20 September 1979

Box 3
Folder 19
Ann Arbor Jazz Festival, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 28-30 September, 1979

Box 3
Folder 20
Glasgow International Folk Festival, Glasgow, Scotland, July- August 1982
Box 3
Folder 21
   Bluebird, Bloomington, Indiana, 11 October 1982
Box 3
Folder 22
Box 3
Folder 23
   European tour, March 1984
Box 3
Folder 24
   The Old Waldorf, San Francisco, 4 April 1984
Box 3
Folder 25
   University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1 October 1985
Box 3
Folder 26
   Joe Segal's Jazz Showcase, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, 1-6 October, 1985
Box 3
Folder 27
   Seattle, 7 January 1986
Box 3
Folder 28
   Grendel's Lair, Philadelphia, 4 August 1986
Box 3
Folder 29
   Club Lingerie, Los Angeles, 24 September 1986
Box 3
Folder 30
   Sweet Basil, New York, 30 June-5 July 1987
Box 3
Folder 31
   Center Fest, North Carolina, 18-25 September 1987
Box 3
Folder 32
   Harmonie Park, Detroit, Michigan, 17 October 1987
Box 3
Folder 33
   Bastille Days, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 15 July 1988
Box 3
Folder 34
   Club Quattro, Japan, 8 August 1988
Box 3
Folder 35
   Chicago Old Style Jazz Festival, Chicago, 31 August-4 September 1988
Box 3
Folder 36
Staller Center, New York, 28 February 1989

Box 3

Folder 37
Koncepts Cultural Gallery, Oakland, California, 7-8 April 1989

Box 3

Folder 38
Sant’Anna Arresi Jazz Festival, Sardinia, Italy, August-September 1989

Box 3

Folder 39
D.C. Space, Washington, D.C., circa 1980s

Box 3

Folder 40
Presidential Jazz Weekend, Philadelphia, 12-15 February 1993

Box 3

Folder 41
First Congregational Church, Washington, D.C.

Box 3

Folder 42
Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum, Philadelphia, 18 October 1993

Box 3

Folder 43
Fez, New York, 4 January 1998

Box 3

Folder 44
Community Education Center, Philadelphia, 18 January 1998

Box 3

Folder 45
Jake and Oliver’s, Philadelphia, 14 February 1998

Box 3

Folder 46
West Warwick, Rhode Island, 15 July 1998

Box 3

Folder 47
Bright Monuments Festival, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 18 July 1998

Box 3

Folder 48
Vermont Jazz Festival, Brattleboro, Vermont, 19 July 1998

Box 3

Folder 49

Box 3

Folder 50
Budland, Chicago, undated

Box 3

Folder 51
Series III: Recording

This series contains textual and graphic documents of audio recordings by Sun Ra and members of the Arkestra from 1955-1995. This series is organized into two subseries:

Subseries 1: Production and Promotion, is organized chronologically by item date or by recording release date. Item dates sometimes differ from release dates. Undated items are at the end of the series. Materials include catalogs, clippings, press releases, handbills, broadsides, advertising copy, radio playlists, drafts of track listings and liner notes, and production notes.

Subseries 2: Discographies, is organized chronologically by document date. This subseries contains discographies compiled by researchers of Sun Ra's work, as well as by Alton Abraham. Discographies are in the form of notes, lists, photocopied articles and printouts of computer files.

Oversize broadsides and posters, as well as a binder for the discography by Tilman Stahl, have been transferred to Series X: Subseries 3. Audio and audio-visual recordings are in Series VIII. Sample album jackets and other material related to album cover design are in Series IX. Some material in this series is duplicated in Series VI.

Subseries 1: Production and Promotion

Box 4
Folder 1

Box 4
Folder 2
circa 1955-1960s
- Fate in a Pleasant Mood
- Rocket Number Nine
- Super-Sonic Jazz
- Jazz in Silhouette
- Other Planes of There
- Secrets of the Sun
- When Sun Comes Out
- The Magic City
- Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow
• When Angels Speak of Love
• Lady with the Golden Stockings
• Angels and Demons at Play
• Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy
• We Travel the Space Ways

Box 4
Folder 3
Jazz by Sun Ra, 1956

Box 4
Folder 4
Super-Sonic Jazz, 1956

Box 4
Folder 5
Jazz in Silhouette, 1959

Box 4
Folder 6
Space Loneliness, 1960

Box 4
Folder 7
The Heliocentric World of Sun Ra, Vol. I, 1965

Box 4
Folder 8
The Magic City, 1966

Box 4
Folder 9
1966
• Other Planes of There
• Sun Ra and His Solar Arkestra Visit Planet Earth

Box 4
Folder 10
1967
• Strange Strings
• The Magic City
• Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow
• When Angels Speak of Love
• The Nubians Plutonia
• ‘We Travel the Space Ways’
• Interstellar Low Ways
• ‘Cosmic Tone for Mental Therapy’

Box 4
Folder 11
Nuits de la Fondation Maeght, 1971

Box 4
Folder 12
Space is the Place, 1972

Box 4
Folder 13
   Astro Black, 1973

Box 4

Folder 14
   Lanquidity, 1978

Box 4

Folder 15
   The Other Side of the Sun, 1979

Box 4

Folder 16
   John Cage Meets Sun Ra, 1979

Box 4

Folder 17
   1995
      • Love in Outer Space
      • Pleiades
      • Friendly Galaxy
      • Live at the Hackney Empire
      • A Quiet Place in the Universe

Box 4

Folder 18
   Undated
      • When Sun Comes Out, Vol. I
      • When Sun Comes Out, Vol. II
      • When Sun Comes Out, Vol. III
      • Super-Sonic Jazz
      • Jazz in Silhouette
      • Music from Tomorrow’s World
      • Flights over Jupiter
      • Rocket to Outer Space
      • Planet Earth
      • Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy
      • Neptunal Horizons

Box 4

Folder 19
   Undated
      • The Magic City
      • Space is the Place
      • Discipline 27-11

Box 4

Folder 20
   Undated
      • "Baritone Retinue"
      • "Soul Vibrations"
      • "Taking a Chance"
      • "Continuation"
Box 4  
Folder 21  
Undated  
- "Blues at Midnight"  
- "Sunology"  
- "Soft Talk"

Subseries 2: Discographies

Box 4  
Folder 22  
Alton Abraham, El Saturn Records discographies, circa 1970s

Box 4  
Folder 23  
Tilman Stahl, "Sun Ra Materialen/Sun Ra Material," discography, 1983

Box 4  
Folder 24  
Discographies, circa 1980s

Box 4  
Folder 25  

Box 4  
Folder 26-27  
"Sun Ra Discography," Robert L. Campbell, 1993

Series IV: Music Manuscripts

This series contains manuscripts of Sun Ra's music writing. Also included are music manuscripts prepared by others, and copies of original manuscripts. There are arrangements, compositions, sketches, lyrics, notes and fragmentary music notations. Peripheral material of Sun Ra and Alton Abraham, such as correspondence and notes, is also retained with the manuscripts, though it is not always related. Most manuscripts are undated, but generally range from the 1960s-1980s.

This series is organized into two subseries:

Subseries 1: Sun Ra Manuscripts, contains Sun Ra's manuscripts of his own music, as well as his arrangements of jazz standards. There are holograph manuscripts as well as copies that Sun Ra used to document copyright. Also included are untitled and fragmentary works, and a notebook containing a variety of Sun Ra's music writings.

Subseries 2: Manuscripts by Others, includes compositions by Alton Abraham, Walter Dunn, Ruth Lewis, Faith McBride, and unidentified composers. Some manuscripts may represent versions of Sun Ra's works that were transcribed by others, or works on which Sun Ra collaborated with others. Included are later manuscripts of songs recorded in the late 1950s by the Chicago R&B performer Yochanan. Materials are organized by size.

Manuscripts consisting primarily of lyrics and other verse writings are in Series V.
Subseries 1: Sun Ra Manuscripts

Box 5
Folder 1
"21st Century,"

Box 5
Folder 2
"Barbizon"

Box 5
Folder 3
"City in the Clouds"

Box 5
Folder 4
"Coordination"

Box 5
Folder 5
"Cosmos-Sun-Day"

Box 5
Folder 6
"Discipline #1"

Box 5
Folder 7
"Discipline 99"

Box 5
Folder 8
"Hi Spook"

Box 5
Folder 9
"I'm Gonna Unmask the Batman"

Box 5
Folder 10
"Loco"

Box 5
Folder 11
"Love in Outer Space"

Box 5
Folder 12
"Opus 5"

Box 5
Folder 13
"Opus Springtime"

Box 5
Folder 14
"Saturn"

Box 5
Folder 15
"Space Loneliness"

Box 5
Folder 16
"Star Time"

Box 5
Folder 17
"Who in the World Do You Love?"

Box 5
Folder 18
"Wrappin' It Up"

Box 5
Folder 19
"Yeah Man!"

Box 6
Folder 1
Manuscripts
• "Astro-Black"
• "Astro-Black Mythology"
• "Cosmo-Celebration"

Box 6
Folder 2
Manuscripts
• "Can You Take It?"
• "Keep Smilin'"
• "New Horizons"
• "Stratosphere"

Box 6
Folder 3
Manuscripts
• "Door of the Cosmos"
• "I Kiss Your Hand Madam"
• "Travel the Spaceways"

Box 6
Folder 4
Manuscripts
• "Akasoinying"
• "D3"
• "Deep Purple"
• "Intragalactic Thing"
• "Pan Astro"
• "Sunology"
• "TNR 1980#2"

Box 6
Folder 5
Manuscripts
• "January 23, 1971"
• "March 16, 1985"

Box 6
Folder 6
  Untitled manuscripts

Box 7
Folder 1
  "83 Comet"

Box 7
Folder 2
  "Astro Black" [Item on loan through April 2024. Please see staff for more information.]

Box 7
Folder 3
  "Hidden Spheres" [Item on loan through April 2024. Please see staff for more information.]

Box 7
Folder 4
  Manuscripts
    • "Discipline 33"
    • "Sea of Sounds"
    • "Space is the Place"

Box 7
Folder 5
  "The Cosmo-Fire"

Box 7
Folder 6
  "Rocket Number Nine"

Box 7
Folder 7
  "Magic City" [Item on loan through April 2024. Please see staff for more information.]

Box 8
Folder 1
  "Atlantis"

Box 8
Folder 2
  "True love is never lost..."

Box 8
Folder 3
  "Frisco Fog"

Box 8
Folder 4
  "Let's Go Slumming"
"Running a Temperature"

Box 9
Folder 1
   "At Sundown"

Box 9
Folder 2
   "Blue Lou"

Box 9
Folder 3
   "Can this Be Love?"

Box 9
Folder 4
   "Dream of You"

Box 9
Folder 5
   "Four or Five Times"

Box 9
Folder 6
   "Frisco Fog"

Box 9
Folder 7
   "Gone with the Wind"

Box 9
Folder 8
   "I'll Get By"

Box 9
Folder 9
   "I'll Never Be the Same"

Box 9
Folder 10
   "I'll String Along with You"

Box 9
Folder 11
   "Little John"

Box 9
Folder 12
   "Might Lak' a Rose"

Box 9
Folder 13
   "Queer Notions"

Box 9
Folder 14
   "Slippery Horn"

Box 9
Folder 15
   "Yard Dog Mazurka"
Box 9
Folder 16
Manuscripts
• "Chicago Daze"
• "Le Heimt Noel"

Box 9
Folder 17
Manuscripts
• "Chloe"
• "What Is this Thing Called Swing?"

Box 9
Folder 18
Manuscripts
• "Diane"
• "Rugcutters Stomp"

Box 9
Folder 19
Manuscripts
• "Bye Bye Blackbird"
• "Keep Smiling"
• "Say It Isn’t So"

Box 9
Folder 20
Manuscripts
• "Happy as the Day Is Long"
• "That Old Feeling"

Box 9
Folder 21
Manuscripts
• "Body and Soul"
• "Lime House Blues"
• "Linger Awhile"
• "Willow Weep for Me"

Box 9
Folder 22
Manuscripts
• "Alone Together"
• "My Funny Valentine"
• "Rainbowville"

Box 9
Folder 23
Fakebook and sheet music fragments

Subseries 2: Manuscripts by Others

Box 10
Folder 1
Manuscripts
• "Domesticated Love"
• "Get Your Shoes on for Savannah"
• "Gonna Fall in Love with You"
• "Lonely Me"
• "No Kind of Love Have I"
• "Old Dreams, Sad Dreams"
• "Sad and Lonely"
• "Summer Job"
• "Umbally-Yah!"

Box 10
Folder 2
Manuscripts
• "Get Your Shoes on for Savannah"
• "Lonely Me"
• "Summer Job"
• "Um Bali-Bali"

Box 10
Folder 3
Manuscripts
• "Domesticated Love"
• "Every Hour"
• "Get Your Shoes on for Savannah"
• "Gonna Fall in Love with You"
• "Muck Muck (Maat Maat)"
• "Old Dreams, Sad Dreams"
• "Sad and Lonely"
• "Summer Job"
• "Umbally-Yah!"

Box 10
Folder 4
Manuscripts
• "Hot Skillet Mama"
• "Muck Muck (Maat Maat)"

Box 10
Folder 5
"Two of a Kind"

Box 10
Folder 6
"From sunset to darkness..."

Box 10
Folder 7
Music notebook

Box 10
Folder 8
Unidentified works

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Box 10
Folder 9
Recorder music

Series V: Verse, Prose and Notes

This series contains manuscripts, proofs, broadsides, pamphlets, notebooks and books by Sun Ra. It also includes notes, fragmentary works, and a small number of works by Alton Abraham and unidentified writers. Most items are undated, but generally span the 1950s-1980s. Correspondence of Sun Ra is retained with many of his writings. This series is organized alphabetically by title, subject or format.

One distinctive group of material is a collection of notebooks kept by Sun Ra and Alton Abraham. These contain a variety of content such as numerological figures, sketches, notes, and drafts of verse and prose. This series also contains several files related to The Immeasurable Equation, two volumes of Sun Ra’s verse: This material includes manuscripts, proofs, sample copies and cover stock. There are other verse compilations including the unpublished The Magic Lie. Also of note are circa 1950s-1960s typescripts and broadsides in which Sun Ra articulated his beliefs during a formative part of his career. An unusual item is Sun Ra’s application to an arts program operated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Oversize proof sheets of pages of the Immeasurable Equation have been transferred to Series X: Subseries 4. Written music, including music with lyrics, is in Series IV.

Box 10
Folder 10
"Comments and Poetry by Sun Ra," circa 1960s-1970s

Box 11
Folder 1
"The Differences," 1973

Box 11
Folder 2
Egyptian alphabet, circa 1980s

Box 11
Folder 3
"Everyday events bear witness..." undated

Box 11
Folder 4
"Flight to Mars," undated

Box 11
Folder 5
"Gather together our dispersion..." undated

Box 11
Folder 6
"I do not remember being born..." undated

Box 11
Folder 7-10
The Immeasurable Equation, circa 1971-1972

Box 11
Folder 11-18
The Immeasurable Equation, 1972

Box 11
Folder 19
The Immeasurable Equation, 1972, 1985

Box 12
Folder 1-5
The Immeasurable Equation, Extensions Out: The Immeasurable Equation, volume 2, 1972

Box 12
Folder 6
"In the beginning..." circa 1968-1972

Box 12
Folder 7-8

Box 13
Folder 1

Box 13
Folder 2
"Jesus Gave You a Peace of His Mind," undated

Box 13
Folder 3
"Jesus Said, 'Let the Negro Bury the Negro'," undated

Box 13
Folder 4
The Magic Lie, undated

Box 13
Folder 5
"Music: The Space Language," undated

Box 13
Folder 6
Letterhead, Sun Ra, with handwritten notes, undated

Box 13
Folder 7
NASA program application, undated

Box 13
Folder 8
"The Neglected Plane of Wisdom," circa 1960s

Box 13
Folder 9-13
Notebooks, circa 1960s-1970s

Box 14
Notebook, circa 1963-1965
Box 14
Folder 1-4
  Writings and sketches transferred from notebook, circa 1963-1965

Box 15
Folder 1
  "Oh Terrible Knower (Noah)," circa 1970s-1980s

Box 15
Folder 2
  "Safari," undated

Box 15
Folder 3
  "Solomon," undated

Box 15
Folder 4
  Statements by Sun Ra, 1970

Box 15
Folder 5
  "Sun Ra Live at the Black Music Conference 4/73 at Amherst College," circa 1973

Box 15
Folder 6
  "Think a Prayer," 1974

Box 15
Folder 7
  "Thought Flash," "Tone Pictures," undated

Box 15
Folder 8
  "The Tower of Babel," undated

Box 15
Folder 9
  "A Treatise on Rebirth," undated

Box 15
Folder 10
  Prose and verse, circa 1950s
  • "Satan Is the God Of the Spooks, Negroes Are the Children of The Devil"
  • "Negroes Are Not Men"
  • "The Negro Is a Burden to the White Man!"
  • "Message to the Spook"
  • "Lucifer Means Light Bearer"
  • "Spo De O De...Hoc Way..."
  • "The Great Whore"
  • "Job in the Land of Uz Means Negroes in the Land of Us (U.S.)"
  • "There's a Nigger in the Woodpile"
  • "Basic Truths"
  • "Logic"
  • "Humpty Dumpty"
  • "United States at the Crossroads"
• "The Reach for a Better World: Light for the Gentiles"
• "What Must Negroes Do to Be Saved?"
• "Language of the Gods"
• "The True Way to Life"
• "The Light Is/Let there Be Light!"
• "Days of Vengeance!"
• "Mes is Mesh..."
• "The Way of the Cross"
• "There Are Two Ethiopias"
• "The God of Israel"
• "The Stumbling Block"
• "I Don't Give a Hoot"
• "Why Don't You Turn Again?"
• "Big Brother Left You Holding the Bag!"
• "Moms & Pops"
• "The Poor Little Rich One: The Princes of this World"
• "Neptune is Rex...The Ruler with the Iron Fork"
• "Johnny One Note"
• "A Nigger is a Mess/Jeremiah 19"
• "Nam-Myoho-Renge-Kyo (The Hokekyo and the Daimoku)"
• "Genesis 3:22..."
• "Egypt..."
• "The Truth about Jesus"
• "I Have Set Before You Life and Death -- Choose Life"
• "Solution to the Negro Problem"
• "Wake Up! Wake Up! Wake Up!"
• "The Bible Was Not Written for Negroes!"
• "The End"

Box 15
Folder 11
Verse collection, undated
• Index
• "The Sound Meaning"
• "The Spontaneous Love"
• "Different"
• "To Some Destination"
• "The Lightning Realities"
• "Thoth"
• "The Farther"
• "The Glory of Shame"
• "Invisibility"
• "Hands"
• "Twin Vibrations"
• "To whom do I speak today?"
• "Concerning that Which Is Called Life and Death"
Folder 12
Verse and prose collection, undated
- "The Crate Create"
- "Sun-day"
- "The Invisible Giants"
- "When You Meet a Man"
- "The Sun Is There!"
- "The Spontaneous Love"
- "The Order of the Ardor"
- "To Outer Unseen Worlds"
- "The earth man and the air/spirit man..."
- "The Enwrit"
- "Equality:parallelism"
- "I/We"
- "Ignorance"
- "The Tone of Abstract Love"
- "Confrontations"
- "The Melody of the Air"
- "The Thick Darkness"
- "Of the Myth"
- "Different"
- "Parallels"
- "Figure"
- "The Curse-Blueprint"
- "For Being"
- "Fabricate"
- "Essence/Energy"
- "The Outer Darkness"
- "The No Point"
- "Angelic Brothers"
- "The Name Sound"
- "I Have Forgotten"
- "After That"
- "Words"

Box 15
Folder 13
Verse, undated
- "Brothers of the Sun"
- "The Tradition Creator"
- "The Outer Beyond"
- "The Inned Inning"
- "I Have Forgotten"
- "The Irresistible Thought"
- "If I Told You"
- "The Skilled Way"
- "Tomorrow's Vibrations"
• "The Confusion of Words"
• "The Damning"
• "Prophecy"
• "Alter Is"
• "The Pure Sound"
• "The Spiral Way"
• "The Equal and the Opposite"
• "Of Notness"
• "The Garden of Eatened"
• "Invisibility"
• "Of the Day that Died"
• "The Brass Herald"
• "Preface"
• "Love and Hate"
• "The Shadow of the Fire"
• "Borders of Nowhere"
• "The Soul Dealer"
• "Unremembered Dreams"
• "Truth:Bad:Good"
• "Victory Dual"
• "The Endless Universe"
• "The Place of Searching I"
• "On Solar Planes"
• "The Differences"
• "The Unknown State"
• "Of the Cosmic-Blueprints"
• "Wisdom-Ignorance"
• "We Hold this Myth to Be Potential"
• "Memory Says"
• "Some Tomorrow"
• "The Potential"
• "The Curtain Call"
• "The Spontaneous Love"
• "Other Planes of There"
• "The Flesh"
• "By Golly!"
• "Thing in Itself"
• "Fragments of the Alter-Future"
• "The Ridiculous I"
• "To Some Destination"
• "Never is the Future"
• "Word World"
• "Nothing Is"
• "Energies"
• "The Bound Eternity"
• "The Outer Darkness"
• "The Garden of Eden"
• "The Fire and the Dry Weeds"
• "The Wasters"
• "Would I For All that Were"
• "Be - Earthed"
• "The Glory of Shame"
• "On the Bypass"
• "Self Radiation"
• "Beyond the Truths"
• "Yon Man"
• "On the Edge of the Thin Between"
• "The Endless Universe"
• "The No Point"
• "Birds without Wings"
• "Detour"
• "Whereeness"
• "The Endless Realm"
• "Intergalactic Master"
• "Cosmos Evolution"
• "The Cosmic-Myth"
• "The Outer Bridge"
• "Planes of Nature"
• "Twice Told"

**Box 15**

**Folder 14**
Verse, undated
• "Cosmic Equation"
• "The Narrow Way"
• "Of the Realm of Vision"
• "Children"
• "Though Fragments"
• "According to Nature's Law"
• "They're Peepin' In"

**Box 15**

**Folder 15**
Verse, undated
• "Of Light Things"
• "Spirals"
• "The On Rays"
• "Someone Else and Others"
• "The Limited Mind"

**Series VI: Business Records**
This series contains records of the business operations of Saturn Records and other endeavors managed by Alton Abraham in collaboration with Sun Ra and others. The bulk of this material
was kept by Alton Abraham, though he may have collected some items from Sun Ra, John Gilmore and others.

Alton Abraham’s businesses operated under many different names and iterations. Business names are given as documented on items. Files are organized chronologically, with undated material at the end of the series. Materials date from 1939-1998, but relate mainly to business activities from the late 1950s through the mid-1990s. In addition to material related to the management of Sun Ra and members of the Arkestra, this series also documents Abraham’s involvement with other performers and work as a dealer in occult books.

Material in this series includes legal agreements on matters such as recording, performance, record distribution and promotion; business forms and stationery; financial records, such as statements, invoices, reports, and receipts; ephemera, such as catalogs, broadsides, handbills, pamphlets, brochures and other promotional material; and instructional books and pamphlets related to music recording and production. General correspondence includes business mail, promotional material, customer orders and fan mail. Also included are notebooks kept by Alton Abraham: these contain a variety of content, including contact lists; draft promotional copy; notes on recordings and performances; and notes on personal matters.

Oversize financial records, correspondence, publicity material, notes and blank legal forms have been transferred to Series X: Subseries 5. Additional materials related to Abraham’s hobbies and entrepreneurial interests are in Series VII. Additional documents of Sun Ra performances and recordings are in Series II and III.

**Box 16**
**Folder 1**
F.H Goldsmith and V.G. Geisel, Techniques of Recording: A Practical Hand-Book on Recording, monograph, 1939

**Box 16**
**Folder 2**
Leroy Hughbanks, You Can Make Records, 1945

**Box 16**
**Folder 3**

**Box 16**
**Folder 4**
Financial records, 1956-1957

**Box 16**
**Folder 5**
"Down Beat Promotions for Profit," portfolio, 1956-1957

**Box 16**
**Folder 6-7**
Financial records, 1956-1966

**Box 16**
**Folder 8-9**
Financial records, 1956-1971
Box 16
Folder 10
   Record distribution, draft agreement, 1957
Box 16
Folder 11
   Account book, 1957
Box 16
Folder 12
   Wurlitzer organs, promotional material, 1958
Box 17
Folder 1
   Notebook, 1958-1959
Box 17
Folder 2
   Central Show Printing Company, brochure, 1959
Box 17
Folder 3-4
   Music performance trust funds, forms and reports, 1959-1965
Box 17
Folder 5
   Music recording and production, correspondence, circa 1959-1968
Box 17
Folder 6
   Financial records, 1950s
Box 17
Folder 7
   Saturn Records, promotional correspondence and ephemera, circa 1950s-1960s
Box 17
Folder 8
   Stereo and recording equipment, promotional material, circa 1950s-1960s
Box 17
Folder 9
   Saturn Records, draft recording contracts, circa 1950s-1960s
Box 17
Folder 10
   General correspondence, 1960
Box 17
Folder 11
   Record distribution, correspondence, 1960
Box 18
Folder 1
   Fletcher Myatt, correspondence, 1960
Box 18
Folder 2
   Saturn Records, sample contracts and promotional material, 1960
Box 18  
Folder 3  
Notes, circa 1960-1969  

Box 18  
Folder 4-5  
Notebooks, 1961  

Box 18  
Folder 6  
General correspondence, 1961-1963  

Box 18  
Folder 7  
Come Back, Africa screening at Doc Films, University of Chicago, correspondence, 1962  

Box 18  
Folder 8  
McLin Ensemble, program, 1962  

Box 18  
Folder 9  
"Down Beat Promotions for Profit," portfolio, 1962  

Box 18  
Folder 10  
Saturn Records, "From the World of Saturn Records," catalogs, circa 1963  

Box 18  
Folder 11  
Down Beat magazines, 1963-1969  

Box 18  
Folder 12  
General correspondence, 1964-1965  

Box 18  
Folder 13  
Ruth Lewis, resume and photograph, 1965  

Box 18  
Folder 14  
Playboy Theater, program, 1965  

Box 18  
Folder 15  
Financial ledger, 1965-1967  

Box 18  
Folder 16  
"Jazz by Sun Ra," advertisement reprint, 1966  

Box 18  
Folder 17-19  
General correspondence, 1966  

Box 19  
Folder 1  
Notes, 1966-1970  

Box 19
Folder 2
   El Saturn Records, "Strange Strings," catalog, circa 1966
Box 19
Folder 3-4
   General correspondence, 1967
Box 19
Folder 5
   Walter Thiers, correspondence, 1967
Box 19
Folder 6
   Recording contract forms and notes, 1967
Box 19
Folder 7
   Jazz magazine, 1967
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Folder 8
   Record mailing list, 1967
Box 19
Folder 9
   John Taggart, correspondence, 1967
Box 19
Folder 10
   Record distributors catalogs, circa 1967
Box 19
Folder 11
   El Saturn Records, catalogs, circa 1967
Box 19
Folder 12
   Copyright forms, circa 1967
Box 19
Folder 13
   Saturn "II" Research, Dimpna B. Clarin, correspondence and promotional material, circa 1967-1968
Box 19
Folder 14
   LZMC Inc., promotional correspondence, circa 1967-1968
Box 19
Folder 15
   LZMC Inc., promotional photographs, circa 1967-1968
   • Lu Elliott
   • Woody Guenther and the Cheaters
   • Lacey James
   • Ruby and the Romantics
   • George Smith
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Folder 16
General correspondence, 1968

Box 19
Folder 17
Atra Productions, announcement and letterhead, 1968

Box 19
Folder 18
Hellas Café, handbill, circa 1968

Box 19
Folder 19
Atra Productions, Lacy Gibson, promotional material, circa 1968

Box 19
Folder 20
Lena McLin, promotional material, circa 1968

Box 19
Folder 21
Saturn Research Foundation, book catalogs and letterhead, circa 1968

Box 20
Folder 1
Saturn Research Foundation, book catalogs and letterhead, circa 1968

Box 20
Folder 2
Playboy marketing portfolio, circa 1968

Box 20
Folder 3
Filming rights agreement drafts and correspondence, circa 1968

Box 20
Folder 4
General correspondence, 1968-1969

Box 20
Folder 5
Notebook, 1969

Box 20
Folder 6
Tam Fiofori, correspondence, 1969

Box 20
Folder 7
General correspondence, circa 1969

Box 20
Folder 8
Billy Mitchell (Mitchell W. Boisseau) and Duo Records, recording agreement, 1969

Box 20
Folder 9
Music performance trust funds, agreements, 1969

Box 20
Folder 10
Saturn Records Research, sales representative solicitations, circa 1969
Box 20
Folder 11
   Financial records, circa 1960s
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Folder 12
   General correspondence, circa 1960s
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Folder 13
   Notebook, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 1
   Clippings, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 2
   "Saturn’s Fan Club," postcards, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 3-4
   El Saturn Research, invoice pads, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 4
   El Saturn Records, letterhead, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 5
   Enterplanetary Koncepts, legal forms, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 6
   Saturn Research Foundation, book catalogs, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 7
   Saturn Records Research, letterhead, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 8-9
   El Saturn Research, invoice forms, circa 1960s
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Folder 10
   El Saturn Records, "Good News From...El Saturn Records," postcards, circa 1960s
Box 21
Folder 11
   Legal forms, circa 1960s
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Folder 12
   Sonny's Stereo Village, catalogs, circa 1960s
Box 22
Folder 1
   Atra Productions, broadside, circa 1960s-1970s
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Folder 2
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Folder 3
   Saturn Records Research, Maeght Foundation recording agreement, 1970
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   Film equipment and production, promotional material, 1971
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Folder 1
   General correspondence, 1971
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Folder 3
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Folder 4
   American Federation of Musicians, correspondence, 1971-1975
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Folder 5-6
   General correspondence, 1972
Box 23
Folder 7
   Legal correspondence and agreements, 1972
Box 23
Folder 8
Poetry of America, correspondence, circa 1972
Box 23
Folder 9
General correspondence, 1973
Box 24
Folder 1
General correspondence, 1973
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Folder 6
Notebook, circa 1973
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Folder 7
Mailing book, 1974
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Movie Maker magazine, 1974
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Folder 1
Dimpna B. Clarin, program, 1975
Box 25
Folder 2
General correspondence, 1975
Box 25
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Student Activities Programming, magazine, 1976
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Folder 5-6
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Notebook, 1976-1979
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  Notebook, 1976-1980
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Folder 9
  General correspondence, 1977
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Folder 1
  General correspondence, 1977
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  Record orders, 1978
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  Jefferson 42, magazine, 1978
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  General correspondence, 1978
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  Jazz Echo, newsletter, 1979
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Folder 8
  Jazz Forum, magazine, 1979
Box 26
Folder 9
  Navy Pier performance contract, 1979
Box 26
Folder 10-11
  General correspondence, 1979
Box 26
Folder 12
  El Saturn Research, "Hot Hits Fresh from the Sun..." broadside, circa 1970s
Box 26
Folder 13
  Saturn Records Research, announcement, circa 1970s
Box 26
Folder 14
  Symac Productions, Johnnie Walker announcement, circa 1970s
Box 26
Folder 15
  Recording agreements, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 1
   Financial records, circa 1970s
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Folder 2
   Keystone Printed Specialties Co., Inc., product samples, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 3
   Notes, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 4-5
   Notebooks, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 6
   Legal forms, circa 1970s
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Folder 7
   Financial records, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 8
   Farfisa electric organ, instruction manual, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 9-10
   Audio recording equipment, promotional material, circa 1970s
Box 27
Folder 11
   Saturn Records Research, catalog of Sun Ra albums, circa 1970s-1980s
Box 27
Folder 12
   Notebook, 1980
Box 27
Folder 13
   John Gilmore, correspondence, 1980
Box 28
Folder 1
   Otis Rush, European tour itinerary, 1980
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   Notebook, 1980-1982
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   Pierre Fablet, correspondence, 1981
Box 28
Folder 6
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Box 28
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   General correspondence, 1985
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   Enterplanetary Koncepts, contract with Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, 1986
Box 29
Folder 3
   General correspondence, 1986-1987
Box 29
Folder 4
   International Jazz Federation, membership application and magazine, 1987
Box 29
Folder 5
   Notebooks, 1988
Box 29
Folder 6
   General correspondence, 1988
Box 29
Folder 7
Mitchell W. Boisseau, resume, photograph and clippings, circa 1980s

Box 29
Folder 8
El Saturn Research, Sun Ra recordings broadside, circa 1980s

Box 29
Folder 9-15
Notebooks, circa 1980s

Box 30
Folder 1-2
Notebooks, circa 1980s

Box 30
Folder 3
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Box 30
Folder 4
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Box 30
Folder 5
Enterplanetary Koncepts, draft agreement, circa 1980s-1990s

Box 30
Folder 6
Notes, circa 1980s-1990s

Box 30
Folder 7
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Folder 8
Audio recording, promotional material and notes, circa 1980s-1990s

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Folder 9
Clippings, circa 1980s-1990s

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Box 30
Folder 11
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Folder 12
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Box 30
Folder 13
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Folder 14
John Szwed, correspondence, 1991
Box 30
Folder 15
  General correspondence, 1992
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Folder 1
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Box 31
Folder 2-4
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Box 31
Folder 5
  David Henderson, correspondence, 1993
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  Hartmut Geerken, correspondence, 1995
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Box 31
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Box 32
Folder 1
  Evidence Music, royalty statement, 1996
Box 32
Folder 2
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Box 32
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Folder 5-6
  General correspondence, circa 1990s
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Box 32
Folder 11
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Folder 14
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Folder 1
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  LP center labels, order forms, undated
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Folder 3
  Allied Record Distributing Company, agreement forms, undated
Box 33
Folder 4
  Legal agreement mimeograph stencil, undated
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Folder 5
  El Saturn Research, invoice forms, undated
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Folder 6
  El Saturn Research, Alton Abraham business cards, undated
Box 33
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Folder 8
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Box 33
Folder 9
Series VII: Alton Abraham

This series documents Alton Abraham's education, employment, personal life, and outside interests. There is also some material related to Abraham's friends, associates and family members. This series is organized into six subseries.

Subseries 1: Spirituality and the Supernatural, contains books, periodicals and print ephemera reflecting Alton Abraham's interest in subjects such as religion, Egyptology, the occult, alternative medicine, extraterrestrials, and the afterlife. These materials span the years 1822-1988. This subseries is organized by format: There is a section of hardcover books; a section of paperback books; a section of periodicals; and a section of print ephemera. Each section is further organized alphabetically by author or organization.

Subseries 2: Science and Technology, contains material related to Abraham's lifelong interest in these subjects, as well as records of his education and employment in technical fields. Abraham collected material on a multitude of topics, such as nutrition, chemistry, psychology, communications technology, electronic surveillance, photography, agriculture, aerospace, and many more. Included are publications, printed ephemera, technical specifications, correspondence and notes. Files are organized chronologically from the 1920s-1993; undated materials are included at the end of the subseries.

Subseries 3: Politics and Society, contains publications and print ephemera on topics such as black nationalism, radical leftism, African society, and minority social issues. Files are organized chronologically from 1962-1992, with undated materials at the end of the subseries.


Subseries 5: Knights of Music, is a small collection of material documenting this African-American men's choral group, to which Alton Abraham belonged in the early 1950s. This subseries contains some of the group's concert programs and business records, as well as Abraham's certificate of membership and collection of choral music songbooks. This subseries also contains some related material that documents other unique aspects of African-American culture in mid-20th century Chicago: An invitation to the 1950 "Queen of May" frolic hosted by the Sepians, and an elaborate program for a performance of the Mildred B. Haessler Ballet Group. Material in this subseries dates from 1887-1953, but is concentrated in the early 1950s.
Subseries 6: Entrepreneurship, consists of correspondence, publications and printed ephemera dating from the 1960s-1980s. The majority of this material is direct marketing correspondence promoting pyramid capital schemes and other spurious business opportunities. Also included are correspondence and publications from the Bureau of Land Management, catalogs and correspondence from manufacturing concerns, and typescript excerpts of J.D. Borthwick’s Three Years in California.

Subseries 7: Correspondence, Notes and Ephemera, contains material collected by Alton Abraham and his friends and family. Included are materials related to travel, book collecting, automobiles, employment, education, and civic affairs. This subseries also contains several files of notes and correspondence on a variety of personal subjects. Files are organized chronologically from 1929-1978, with undated material at the end of the subseries.

Oversize publications, clippings, sheet music and ephemera have been transferred to Series X: Subseries 6; among these items are several large-format posters and radical publications. Artifactual objects, such as decorative ornaments and other personal items, are in Series IX. Restricted materials, consisting of personal financial records, academic records, medical records, and identification and registration documents, have been transferred to Series XII.

**Subseries 1: Spirituality and the Supernatural**

- **Box 34**
  - **Folder 1**
    - Avalon, Arthur, Hymn to Kāli Karpūrādi-Stotra, 1965
  - **Box 34**
    - **Folder 2**
      - Belzoni, G., Narrative of the Operations and Recent Discoveries in Egypt and Nubia, Vol. II, 1822
  - **Box 34**
    - **Folder 3**
      - Besant, Annie, Thought Power: Its Control and Culture, 1953
  - **Box 34**
    - **Folder 4**
      - Blavatsky, H.P., The Key to Theosophy, 1889
  - **Box 34**
    - **Folder 5**
      - Burroughs, Joseph Birkbeck, Titan, Son of Saturn, 1921
  - **Box 35**
    - **Folder 1**
      - Curtiss, Harriette Augusta and F. Homer Curtiss, The Voice of Isis, 1935
  - **Box 35**
    - **Folder 2**
      - DeClaremont, Lewis, The Ancient’s Book of Magic, undated
  - **Box 35**
    - **Folder 3**
      - Francis, J.R., The Encyclopedia of Death and Life in the Spirit- World, 1900
Box 35
Folder 4
   Haddock, Frank Channing, The Personal Atmosphere, 1908
Box 36
Folder 1
   Hall, Trowbridge, Egypt in Silhouette, 1928
Box 36
Folder 2
   Irving, Washington, Mahomet and his Successors, 1849
Box 36
Folder 3
Box 36
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Box 36
Folder 5
   Meyer, Rev. Fulgence, The Seraphic Highway, 1925
Box 37
Folder 1
   Parsons, Albert Ross, New Light from the Great Pyramid, 1893
Box 37
Folder 2
Box 38
Folder 1
Box 38
Folder 2
   Priestley, Richard, Nimrod: A Discourse on Certain Passages of History and Fable, Vol. IV, 1829
Box 39
Folder 1
   Proctor, Richard A., Other Worlds than Ours, 1902
Box 39
Folder 2
   Reed, Lucas A., Astronomy and the Bible, 1919
Box 39
Folder 3
   Speer, Robert E., Race and Race Relations, 1924
Box 39
Folder 4
   Spivey, Thomas Sawyer, Lavius Egyptus, 1904
Box 40
Folder 1
   Stockham, Alice B., Tokology: A Book for Every Woman, 1889
Box 40
Folder 2
   Unwin, T. Fisher, The Mystics, Ascetics, and Saints of India, 1905
Box 40
Folder 3
   Volney, C.F., The Ruins, 1920
Box 41
Folder 1
   Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, You May Survive Armageddon into God’s New World, 1955
Box 41
Folder 2
   Wood, Ernest, Concentration, 1949
Box 41
Folder 3
   Woodroffe, Sir John, The World as Power, Power as Matter, 1923
Box 41
Folder 4
Box 42
Folder 1
   Besant, Annie, Theosophy and Christianity, 1941
Box 42
Folder 2
   Boots, Gypsy and Thorwald Bosie, Turn On-Turn Off, 1972
Box 42
Folder 3
   Cayce, Edgar E., Atlantis: Fact or Fiction?, 1962
Box 42
Folder 4
   Copen, Bruce, How Radiesthesia Can Help You, 1968
Box 42
Folder 5
   Fox, Emmet, Find and Use Your Inner Power, undated
Box 42
Folder 6
   Heline, Corinne, Healing and Regeneration through Color, 1943
Box 42
Folder 7
   Heline, Corinne, Healing and Regeneration through Music, 1943
Box 42
Folder 8
   McCain, Betty, Abortion and Karma, 1960
Box 42
Folder 9
McDonald, John, The Magic Story: The Message of a Master, 1952

Box 42
Folder 10
Moser, Robert E., Mental and Astral Projection, 1974

Box 42
Folder 11
Namikoshi, Tokuiro, Japanese Finger-Pressure Therapy, 1972

Box 42
Folder 12
Platoff, Raphael P., The Light for Tomorrow: H3, undated

Box 42
Folder 13
Quinn, Pete, Policy Pete’s Dream Book, 1965

Box 42
Folder 14
Raleigh, Dr. A.S., The Hermetic Art: An Introduction to the Art of Alchemy, 1919

Box 42
Folder 15
Rogers, J.A., 100 Amazing Facts About the Negro (with complete proof), 1957

Box 42
Folder 16
Rogers, L.W., The Forces We Generate, 1924

Box 42
Folder 17
Rogers, L.W., Gods in the Making, 1925

Box 42
Folder 18
Rogers, L.W., The Purpose of Life, 1945

Box 42
Folder 19
Rogers, L.W., Soul Powers and Possibilities, 1925

Box 42
Folder 20
Rogers, L.W., Self Development and Power, 1910

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Folder 1
Saxmann, Robert Beatty, Rebirth, Transmigration and Reincarnation, 1937

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Scharder, Dr. M.F., Sacred Wisdom of the Ancients!, 1959

Box 43
Folder 3
Shay, Joseph M., Out of Body Consciousness, 1972
Psychic Dimensions, 1974
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Science of Mind, 1981
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The Truth Seeker, 1955-1956
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Abraham, Adam A., 1983
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Box 46
Folder 7
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Folder 8
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Folder 9
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Box 46
Folder 10
Nubian Islaamic Hebrews, undated

Box 46
Folder 11
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Folder 13
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  Stewart, Kilton, undated

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  Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, 1969

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  Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, 1976

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  • "The Evil Eye" undated
  • "Everyman’s History of the Jews," undated
  • "Indexed Synopsis," undated
  • "The Law of Attraction and the Science of Self-Knowledge," undated
  • "The Number of the Beast," undated
  • "The Seven Portals," undated
  • "Topical Helps to the American Standard Bible," 1911
  • "The Truth about Jesus," undated

Subseries 2: Science and Technology

Box 47
Folder 1
  Battle Creek Food Company, "Healthful Living," pamphlet, circa 1920s

Box 47
Folder 2
  United States War Department, Detector Set AN/PRS-1, manual, 1944

Box 47
Folder 3
  American Institute of Engineering and Technology, Drafting: The Language of Industry, volume 2, textbook, circa 1940s-1950s

Box 47
Folder 4
  Chicago City Junior College, An Introduction to College Chemistry in the Laboratory, textbook, circa 1949

Box 47
Folder 5
  Chemistry course, lecture notes, 1949

Box 47
Folder 6
  Psychology course, lecture notes and examination, 1949

Box 47
Folder 7
X-ray technical instruction, lecture notes, syllabus and readings, 1950-1959
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Folder 8
X-ray equipment, manuals, circa 1950-1959
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Folder 11
Boy Scouts of America, catalog, 1956
Box 47
Folder 12
Laboratory equipment and supplies, catalogs, circa 1950s-1970
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Folder 13
American Society of X-Ray Technicians, newsletter, 1960
Box 47
Folder 14
Mössbauer spectroscopy, conference proceedings, technical specifications and reprint, 1963-1967
Box 47
Folder 15
Technical sketches, 1964
Box 47
Folder 16
Electronic Technician, magazine, 1966
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Lance Antenna Corporation, brochure, 1966
Box 48
Folder 2-3
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Folder 5
Radio Electronics, magazine, 1966
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Folder 6
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Folder 7
Nova-Tech aviation equipment, correspondence, circa 1966
Box 48
Folder 8
  Surveillance and security equipment, correspondence, 1966-1970
Box 48
Folder 9
  Hydrogen generator, operating instructions, 1967
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Folder 10
  Motorola Semiconductor Products, manuals and catalog, 1967
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Folder 11
  New York University, Summer Workshop in Television and Radio, bulletin, 1967
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Folder 12
  Metal detectors, correspondence, circa 1967
Box 48
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Folder 14
  Indiana Botanic Gardens, Inc., catalog, 1969
Box 48
Folder 15
  Joseph D. Cooper, Nikon F Nikkormat Pocket Companion, manual, 1969
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Folder 17
  NSEC, cryogenic accessories, specifications, circa 1960s
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  Pyrotechnics operating instructions, circa 1960s
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  Space Travel: A Golden Stamp Book, circa 1960s
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Folder 1
  Telephone equipment, catalog and clipping, circa 1960s
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  Metalworking supplies and equipment, catalogs, circa 1960s-1976
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Olivetti Logos 27-1 calculator, specifications, circa 1970

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Folder 5
Occidental Institute of Chinese Studies, acupuncture, correspondence, 1973

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Folder 6
Nutrition and diet, correspondence, 1973-1974

Box 49
Folder 7
Science and Mechanics, magazine, 1974

Box 49
Folder 8
Scott R. French, The Big Brother Game, monograph, 1975

Box 49
Folder 9
Surveillance equipment, brochures and correspondence, circa 1975

Box 49
Folder 10
Rapid Electroplating Process, Inc., correspondence, 1979

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Folder 11
Newsweek, magazine, 1979

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Folder 12
Holography, correspondence, circa 1979-1980

Box 49
Folder 13
Photograph equipment catalogs, circa 1970s

Box 49
Folder 14
Panasonic Satellite Products, catalog, 1986

Box 49
Folder 15
Gero Vita International, brochure, circa 1987

Box 49
Folder 16
Chicago Academy of Sciences, "Science and Art: Creativity and Motivation," conference program and correspondence, 1993

Box 49
Folder 17
Electronics courses, correspondence, undated

Box 49
Folder 18
IBM Field Engineering Education, Selectric I/O Printer, guide, undated
Box 49
Folder 19
Castolite Company, correspondence, undated
Box 49
Folder 20
Medical procedures, notes, undated
Box 49
Folder 21
Nutritional values of foods, photocopied list, undated
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Folder 22
Garth W. Boericke, "Homeopathy," pamphlet, undated

Subseries 3: Politics and Society
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Folder 1
Mary O’Hanlon, Racial Myths, pamphlet, 1946
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Folder 3
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Folder 4
The Real Great Society, conference proceedings and clippings, 1967
Box 50
Folder 5
Black Poets Reading, brochure, 1970
Box 50
Folder 6
Institute of Positive Education, Black Books Bulletin, 1973
Box 50
Folder 7
South West Africa People’s Organization of Namibia (SWAPO), Namibia News, periodicals, 1973
Box 50
Folder 8
Southern Africa, periodical, 1974
Box 50
Folder 9
Plain Truth: A Magazine of Understanding, 1975
Box 50
Folder 10
Herbert J. Hansell, memorandum for the secretary of state on the president’s power to give notice of termination of US-ROC mutual defense treaty, photocopy, 1978

Box 50
Folder 11-13
Overthrow, periodicals, 1983-1986

Box 50
Folder 14
Griot: A Journal of Native Consciousness, 1992

Box 50
Folder 15
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, brochure, undated

Box 50
Folder 16
Richard Clagett, "Public Sale of Negroes," reproduction broadside, undated

Subseries 4: Music Instruction

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Sheet music, 1923-1962

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Folder 18
Music workbook, 1946

Box 50
Folder 19
Mickey Baker’s Complete Course in Jazz Guitar, book 1, 1955

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Box 50
Folder 21
Mel Bay, Tenor Banjo Chords in Photo-Diagram Form, instruction book, 1961

Box 50
Folder 22
Charles F. Morrison, Jr., Generalized Instrumentation for Research and Teaching, primer, 1964

Box 51
Folder 1
Authentic Guitar Sounds of Peter Paul and Mary, songbook, 1967

Box 51
Folder 2

Box 51
Folder 3
Tommy J. Fry, "Triptych," score, 1971
Box 51
Folder 4
  B.B. King Songbook: Black and Blue, 1971
Box 51
Folder 5
  Kenneth Stanton, Introduction to Jazz Theory, 1976
Box 51
Folder 6
  The Buddy Holly Story, songbook, 1978
Box 51
Folder 7
  Maurice J. Summerfield, The Jazz Guitar, monograph, 1978
Box 51
Folder 8
  Country Superstars, songbook, 1980
Box 51
Folder 9
  The Jack Butler Piano Course, part 2, 1980
Box 51
Folder 10
  Beatles, songbook, 1982

Subseries 5: Knights of Music

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Folder 11
  "The Gately Song," score, circa 1950
Box 51
Folder 12
  Sepians "Queen of May" frolic, invitation, 1950
Box 51
Folder 13
  Financial records, notes and business card, circa 1950s
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Folder 14
  Mildred B. Haessler Ballet Group, program, 1948
Box 51
Folder 15
  Concert programs, 1951-1952
Box 51
Folder 16
  Certificate of membership, 1953
Box 51
Folder 17-18
  Choral music songbooks, 1887-1952
Box 52
Folder 1
Choral music songbooks, 1887-1952

Subseries 6: Entrepreneurship

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   Nationwide Plastics Company, plastic manufacturing manuals, 1962
Box 52
Folder 3
   Bureau of Land Management, correspondence, 1966-1970
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Folder 4
   Bureau of Land Management, Our Public Lands, periodicals, 1967-1968
Box 52
Folder 5
   Amway pamphlets and order form, circa 1970
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Folder 6
   Sri Lanka State Trading Corporation, correspondence and catalog, 1974
Box 52
Folder 8-13
   Business opportunities, correspondence, circa 1960s-1980s

Subseries 7: Correspondence, Notes and Ephemera

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Folder 1
   Limited Editions Club, 1929-1941 catalogue, 1940
Box 54
Folder 2
   Diplomas, certifications and registrations, 1947-circa 1980s
Box 54
Folder 3
   A.O. Knoll, correspondence, 1952-1958
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Folder 4
   Madalynn Friedman, notes, 1959
Box 54
Folder 5
   Fiat 1800 manual, 1950s
Box 54
Folder 6
Correspondence, circa 1950s-1990s

Box 54
Folder 7
  Chicago Transit Authority, accident report, 1960

Box 54
Folder 8
  Adam Everett Abraham, vocabulary list, 1965

Box 54
Folder 9
  United States Civil Service Commission, employment application and pamphlet, 1966-1967

Box 54
Folder 10-11
  Automobiles, financial records, publicity material, forms and notes, circa 1960s-1980s

Box 54
Folder 12-13
  Notebooks, circa 1960s-1980s

Box 55
Folder 1-2
  Travel ephemera and correspondence, circa 1960s-1990s

Box 55
Folder 3
  Chicago Public Library, bulletin, 1969

Box 55
Folder 4
  Clippings, circa 1960s-1990s

Box 55
Folder 5
  Ohio St. Matthew University, correspondence, 1970

Box 55
Folder 6
  Parke-Bernet Galleries, automobile auction catalog, 1970

Box 55
Folder 7
  CPA review course schedule, 1976

Box 55
Folder 8
  Notebook, 1978

Box 55
Folder 9
  Horoscope, notes, 1987

Box 55
Folder 10
  Citroën CX brochure, 1987

Box 55
Folder 11
Series VIII: Audio-Visual

This series contains photographs, audio recordings, and film and video recordings. Materials are organized by format into three subseries:

Subseries 1: Photographs, contains prints, contact sheets, transparencies and negatives. There are also photocopies and printed scans of photographs. Most photographs are in black and white, though some are in color. Many photographs are undated, but generally span the 1940s-1990s. Photographs of Sun Ra and the Arkestra include portraits, photographs of live performances, candid snapshots, and publicity stills for Space is the Place. Also included are photographs of Alton Abraham, photographs of travel in Egypt in elsewhere, and photographs of other performers. There are many unidentified photographs, particularly negatives.

Subseries 2: Film and Video, contains filmstrips and videocassette tapes. Most items are unidentified and undated, but generally date from the 1970s-1990s. Also included is an empty canister and box shipped in 1961.

Subseries 3: Audio, contains cassette tapes, reel tapes, and vinyl records. Included are recordings by Sun Ra and other performers, as well as test pressings and unidentified recordings. Inserts, correspondence and other accompanying material is found with some recordings. Materials span 1964-1999.

Text and graphic documents of Sun Ra performances and recordings are in Series II and III.

Subseries 1: Photographs

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Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s-1980s

Box 56
Folder 2
Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s-1980s

Box 56
Folder 3
Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s-1980s

Box 56
Folder 4
Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s-1980s

Box 56
Folder 5
Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s, 2002
Box 56
Folder 6
Sun Ra and other performers, circa 1960s
Box 56
Folder 7
Sun Ra and other performers, circa 1960s
Box 56
Folder 8
Sun Ra and other performers, circa 1960s-1970s
Box 56
Folder 9
Sun Ra and other performers, Space is the Place, circa 1972-1974
Box 56
Folder 10
Sun Ra, 1973
Box 56
Folder 11
Sun Ra and Arkestra, Mexico, circa 1973-1974
Box 56
Folder 12
Sun Ra and Arkestra by Mike Harris, 1975
Box 56
Folder 13
Sun Ra and Arkestra, Chicago Old Style Jazz Festival, 1978
Box 56
Folder 14
Sun Ra, circa 1993
Box 57
Folder 1
Sun Ra, Schwarz, 1998
Box 57
Folder 2
Sun Ra and Arkestra, Chicago Old Style Jazz Festival, undated
Box 57
Folder 3
Sun Ra and Arkestra, undated
Box 57
Folder 4
Alton Abraham and friends, DuSable High School prom, circa 1940s
Box 57
Folder 5
Alton Abraham, undated
Box 57
Folder 6
The Fabulous Chicago Links, circa 1960s
Box 57
Folder 7
   The Visitors, circa 1960s
Box 57
Folder 8
   Lacy Gibson, circa 1960s
Box 57
Folder 9
   National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Image Awards, 1972
Box 57
Folder 10
   Dimpna B. Clarin and others, circa 1970s
Box 57
Folder 11
   Egypt, circa 1977-1978
Box 57
Folder 12
   Egypt, circa 1977-1978
Box 57
Folder 13
   Travel and outdoor scenes, 1975
Box 57
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   Travel and outdoor scenes, 1978
Box 57
Folder 15
   Travel and outdoor scenes, circa 1978
Box 57
Folder 16
   Travel and outdoor scenes, 1970s
Box 57
Folder 17
   Travel and outdoor scenes, 1988
Box 57
Folder 18
   Travel and outdoor scenes, undated
Box 58
Folder 1
   Travel and outdoor scenes, undated
Box 58
Folder 2
   Apollo mission, circa 1969
Box 58
Folder 3
Unidentified, 1962

Box 58
Folder 4
Unidentified, undated

Box 58
Folder 5
Unidentified, undated

Box 58
Folder 6
Notes, 1966

Box 59
Item 1: Sun Ra, New York, circa 1965

Box 59
Item 2: Sun Ra, Chicago, circa 1958

Box 60
Folder 1
Sun Ra and Arkestra in performance, by Harlan Robinson, undated

Box 60
Folder 2
Sun Ra and Arkestra, circa 1950s-1970s

Box 60
Folder 3
Dimpna B. Clarin, circa 1960s-1970s

Box 60
Folder 4
Wilson Junior College graduates, 1950

Box 60
Folder 5
Great Sphinx and pyramid, undated

Box 60
Folder 6
Landscape, undated

Box 61
Unidentified, circa 1960s-2000

Subseries 2: Film and Video

Box 62
"Sun Ra: Calling Planet Earth," two videocassettes, 1986

Box 62
Filmstrip fragment, undated

Box 63
8-millimeter films, 13 rolls, circa 1970s

Box 64
Film box and canister, undated

Box 65
"Sun Ra aux Halles," 16-millimeter film, 1970
Subseries 3: Audio

**Box 66**
Dimpna B. Clarin, "Sarung Banghi" / "Kagandahan Mo," Saturn 783, 45 rpm records, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Dimpna B. Clarin, "Hain Na Ang Panumpa?" / "Ave Maria," Saturn SR-4276/4277, 45 rpm records, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Cosmic Rays with Le Sun Ra and Arkestra, "Bye Bye" / "Somebody's In Love", Saturn 222, 45 rpm record, circa 1955

**Box 66**
Walt Dunn, "When You're in Love this Way,“ / "Perfidious Lover," Repeto 4233/4235, 45 rpm records, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Walt Dunn and the Metros, "Christina, Eugena, Marie," / "I'll Close My Heart," Repeto 4232/4235, 45 rpm records, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Lacy Gibson, "The Sky is Crying" / "She's My Baby," Saturn 436, 45 rpm records and inserts, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
The Qualities, "It's Christmastime" / "Happy New Year to You," Saturn M08W4052/M08W4053, 45 rpm records, circa 1956

**Box 66**
Sun Ra and his Arkestra, "A Blue One," / "Orbitration in Blue," Saturn SRA-9991/9992, 45 rpm record, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Sun Ra and his Astro-Intergalactic Infinity Arkestra, "The Perfect Man," Saturn ES537B, 45 rpm record, circa 1960s

**Box 66**
Sun Ra with NU Sounds, "Chicago USA"/ "Spaceship Lullaby," Stopsmiling 24, 45 rpm record, 2003

**Box 66**
Uptights Band, "Devil's on the Run" / "Mirrors Don't Ever Lie," Uptight 001, 45 rpm record, circa 1974

**Box 66**
Yochanan Yochanan, "Muck Muck (Matt Matt)" / "Hot Skillet Momma," Saturn 4236/4237, 45 rpm record, circa 1960

**Box 67**
Cosmic Rays with Le Sun Ra and Arkestra, "Bye Bye" / "Somebody's In Love", Saturn 222, 45 rpm record, circa 1955

**Box 67**
Little Mack, "Tell Her to Come on Home" / "I'm Making Believe," Saturn 144M, 45 rpm record, circa 1962
The Qualities, "It's Christmastime" / "Happy New Year to You," Saturn M08W4052/M08W4053, 45 rpm record, circa 1956

**Box 67**
Sun-Ra and his Arkistra, "Soft Talk" / "Super Blonde," Saturn Z-1111, 45 rpm record, circa 1956

**Box 68**
Sun Ra and his Astro-Solar Infinity Arkestra, "Blues on Planet Mars" / "Saturn Moon," Saturn 911AR, 45 rpm record, circa 1968

**Box 68**
Yochanan Yochanan, "Muck Muck (Matt Matt)" / "Hot Skillet Momma," Saturn 4236/4237, 45 rpm record, circa 1960

**Box 68**
"Medicine for a Nightmare," test pressing, circa 1958

**Box 68**
"Blue Set," test pressing, circa 1959

**Box 69**
American Jazz and Blues History, Vol. 111 Sun Ra The Cosmos, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
American Jazz and Blues History, Vol. 112 Sun Ra Cosmic Chaos, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival 1972, Atlantic SD 2-502, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1972

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Myth Science Arkestra, Angels and Demons at Play, Saturn SR-9956-2-P, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Sun Ra, Astro Black, Impulse ABC Records AS-9255, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1973

**Box 69**
Sun Ra, Atlantis, Impulse ABC Records AS-9239, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1973

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Outer Space Arkestra, Celestial Love, Saturn C-1984-SG-9, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Myth Science Arkestra, Cosmos for Mental Therapy, Thoth KH-2772, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Astro Intergalactic Infinity Arkestra, Discipline 27-II, Saturn 538, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1973

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Arkestra, Dreams Come True, Saturn 485, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Sun Ra and his Myth-Science Arkestra, Fate in a Pleasant Mood, Saturn SR 9956-2, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

**Box 69**
Sun Ra, The Heliocentric Worlds of Sun Ra, ESP-Disk 1014, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1965
Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Astro-Infinity Arkestra, Holiday for Soul Dance, Saturn SR-508, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Myth Science Arkestra, Interstellar Low Ways, Saturn SR-9956-2, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, Magic City, Saturn B-711, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Astro-Infinity Arkestra, My Brother the Wind, Saturn SR-1970, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and Astro-Intergalactic-Infinity Arkestra, Nature's God, Thoth 1272, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Astro-Solar Infinity Arkestra, The Night of the Purple Moon, Infinity IR 1972, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Astro-Solar Infinity Arkestra, The Night of the Purple Moon, Saturn IR 1972, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1974

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Myth-Science Arkestra, The Nubians of Plutonia, Saturn SR-9956-11, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, Other Planes of There, Saturn KH 98766, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, Planet Earth, Saturn 9956-11, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, Secrets of the Sun, Saturn FG-9954, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Astro-Infinity Arkestra, Strange Strange, Saturn KH-5472, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Myth Science Arkestra, Sun Song, Gravure Universelle GY 30002, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1971

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Arkestra, Super-Sonic Sounds, Impulse ABC Records AS-9271, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1974

Box 69  
Sun Ra and his Blue Universe Arkestra, Universe in Blue, Saturn ESR 5000, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 69  
Sun Ra and His Myth-Science Arkestra, When Sun Comes Out, Saturn 2066, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated
Box 70
Anal Magic and Reverend Dwight Frizzell, Beyond the Black Crack, Cavern Custom 6104-12, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1975

Box 70
Count Basie and his Orchestra, Pop Goes the Basie, Reprise R 6153, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Bhagwan Sree Adi Sankaracharya, Bhaja Govindam, Odeon Moce-2001, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1967

Box 70
Brown, Rev. T.E., Progressive Baptist Male Chorus, U-28182, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
George Cates and his Orchestra, Coral 61618, undated

Box 70
Dimpna B. Clarin / The Habagat Singers, Saturn 282, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Philip Cohran and the Artistic Heritage Ensemble, Zulu Records 0004, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Philip Cohran and the Artistic Heritage Ensemble, The Malcolm X Memorial, Zulu Records, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1970

Box 70
The Columbia World Library of Folk and Primitive Music, Southern Italy and the Islands, Columbia KL 5174, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Miles Davis, The Original Quintet (First Recording), Prestige PR 7254, 33 1/3 rpm record, 1962

Box 70
Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Ebenezer’s Singing Choirs, 744, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Gil Fuller and the Monterey Jazz Festival Orchestra, Night Flight, Pacific Jazz PJ-10101, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Erroll Garner, Erroll!, Mercury MG 36069, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Lucy Gibson, I Wish I Had a Wishing Ring, Saturn 528, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Normal Granz, Jazz at the Philharmonic, Disc Asch Recordings D455 V17, undated

Box 70
Ernest Hare/Charles Hart and Elliott Shaw, "Gone, but not Forgotten" / "Swanee River Moon," Brunswick 2141, undated

Box 70
Hyde Park Seventh Day Adventist Youth Choir, Oldney K. Rucker Director, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated
Box 70
Curtis Jones, "Cool Playing Blues" / "Wrong Blues," Parrot 782, undated

Box 70
Louis Jordan, "The Chicks I Pick Are Slender and Tender and Tall" / "What's the Use of Getting Sober (When You Gonna Get Drunk Again)," Decca 23629, undated

Box 70
Mismillah Kahn, The Magic Shehnai of Mismillah Kahn, Odeon MOAE 122, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Gene Krupa and his Orchestra, "Let's Get Away From it All" / "Just a Little Bit South of North Carolina," Okeh 6130 (29976), undated

Box 70
Lightnin' Hopkins, Talkin' Some Sense, Jewel Records 5001, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Jay McShann, "Hootie Boogie" / "Garfield Avenue Blues," Mercury, 8002, undated

Box 70
Prince's Dance Orchestra / Yerkes Jazairima Orchestra, "Dardanella" / Wild Flower Waltz," Columbia 2851, undated

Box 70
The Savannah Syncopations, "Jackass Blues" / "Deep Henderson," Brunswick 3245, undated

Box 70
The Shilo Chancel Choir and the St. Mary's Sr. Choir, The Holy City: Parts 1 and 2, Saturn 222, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
The Shilo Chancel Choir and the St. Mary's Sr. Choir, The Holy City: Parts 3 and 4, Saturn 333, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
The Shilo Chancel Choir and the St. Mary's Sr. Choir, The Holy City: Parts 3 and 4, Saturn 333, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Silver Echo, "Sinner Man" "Land of Fadeless Day," Manor 1011, undated

Box 70
Victor Minstrel Company with Orchestra, "Tennessee Minstrels, No. 24" / Arthur Pryor's Band, "College Overture," Victor Record 35264, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 70
Victor Minstrel Company with Orchestra, "Florida Minstrels, No. 25" / Ada Jones and Len Spencer, "A Race for a Wife," Victor Record 35267, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Box 71
Fats Waller, '34/'35, RCA Victor LPV 516 (RPRM-7949), 33 1/3 rpm record, 1965

Box 71
Fats Waller, Fractious Fingering, RCA Victor LPV 537 (TPRM-5099), 33 1/3 rpm record, 1967

Box 71
Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra, "I Found a Four Leaf Clover" / "Two Little Ruby Rings," Victor 18950, undated
Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra, "I'm Bringing a Red-Red Rose" / "Making Whoopee!" Columbia 1683, undated

W.W. Williams, Back Diamond Rattler, Supreme Blues Records SR-1001, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Sonny Boy Williamson, Down and Out Blues, Chess 9508, 33 1/3 rpm record, undated

Test pressing, ASD-9276, undated

Test pressing, ASD-9288, undated

Test pressing, ASD-9289, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9290, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9293, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9294, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD-9295-B-2, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD 9295-B-2, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD 9295-B-2, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9296, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9296, 1974

Test pressing, ASD-9297-A-1, ASD-9297-B-2, 1974

Jus Tu, Oriskhemqtua, cassette tape and correspondence, 1993

Nat King Cole, The Unforgettable Nat King Cole, cassette tape, 1991
Series IX: Art and Artifacts

Materials in this series fall into two broad categories: Art and artifacts related to Sun Ra, Saturn Records, and music in general; and personal items that belonged to Alton Abraham. In the first category are sample album jackets; proofs and layouts of album covers, catalogs and advertisements; drawings, sketches and paintings; photographs of artworks; musical instruments and equipment; metal stampers for vinyl records; printing blocks and office supplies. In the second category are decorative ornaments and personal items such as a wallet and a briefcase.

Some items are matted or framed for display. These are organized together at the beginning of the series and arranged by size and format. The remaining items in the series are arranged by size. Most items are undated but generally span the late 1950s-1980s.

This series includes a wealth of material documenting the process of designing and producing album covers for Sun Ra recordings. For some albums, there is original artwork, layout designs, album cover proofs, and sample album jackets. There are some alternate album cover artwork that was not used, and some for unreleased or possibly hypothetical recordings. Also included are several job files compiled by printing companies that produced packaging for reissued Sun Ra records in the 1970s and 1980s. These files consist of negatives, proofs and job specifications. Another unusual group of materials consists of thousands of record labels for Sun Ra albums. There is also artwork and layout material for albums by Lacy Gibson and Lena McLin. Names
of performers and recordings are as given on the artwork or artifact. Artist names are given when identified on items; many artworks with no attributed artist are probably by Sun Ra.

**Box 76**
- Angels and Demons at Play, album jacket, framed

**Box 76**
- Discipline 27-II, album jacket, framed

**Box 77**
- Fate in a Pleasant Mood, album jacket, framed

**Box 77**
- Interstellar Low Ways, album jacket, framed

**Box 78**
- Jazz in Silhouette, album jacket, framed

**Box 78**
- Jazz in Silhouette, album jacket, framed

**Box 79**
- Monorails and Satellites, album jacket, framed

**Box 79**
- Sound Sun Pleasure!!, album jacket, framed

**Box 80**
- Sun Ra, album jacket, framed

**Box 80**
- Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, album jacket, framed

**Box 81**
- Super-Sonic Jazz, album jacket, framed

**Box 81**
- Super-Sonic Jazz, album jacket, framed

**Box 82**
- A Tonal View of Times Tomorrow, album jacket, framed

**Box 82**
- We Travel the Space Ways, album jacket, framed

**Box 83**
- Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, framed

**Box 84**
- Claude Dangerfield, Music from Tomorrow's World, album cover artwork, framed

**Box 85**
- Evans, Jazz in Silhouette, artwork, framed

**Box 86**

**Folder 1**
- James Bryant, Sun Ra and his Arkestra, album cover artwork, matted

**Box 86**

**Folder 2**
- James Bryant, Sun Ra and his Arkestra, album cover artwork, matted

**Box 86**

**Folder 3**
- James Bryant, Sun Ra and his Arkestra, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 4
James Bryant, Sun Ra and his Arkestra, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 5
LeRoy Butler, Discipline 27-II, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 6
Claude Dangerfield, Rocket Number Nine, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 7
Claude Dangerfield, Super-Sonic Jazz, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 8
Claude Dangerfield, Super-Sonic Jazz, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 9
Claude Dangerfield, When Sun Comes Out, album cover artwork, matted
Box 86
Folder 10
Claude Dangerfield, When Sun Comes Out, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 1
Claude Dangerfield, When Sun Comes Out, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 2
Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 3
Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 4
Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 5
Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 6
Claude Dangerfield, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 7
Sun Ra, Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, album cover artwork, matted
Box 87
Folder 8
Sun Ra, Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
Tickets and handbill, matted

Box 89
Folder 9
    Broadside, matted

Box 89
Folder 10
    Sign, matted

Box 90
    Sun Ra, Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, album cover artwork, matted

Box 90
    Jazz from Tomorrow’s World, album cover artwork, matted

Box 90
    Saturn Records catalog cover artwork, matted

Box 90
    Black-light painting installation, photographs, matted

Box 91
Folder 1
    Angels and Demons at Play, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 2
    Atlantis, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 3
    Bad and Beautiful, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 4-5
    Continuation, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 6
    Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 7
    Discipline 27-II, album jackets

Box 91
Folder 8
    Fate in a Pleasant Mood, album jacket

Box 92
Folder 1-2
    Interstellar Low Ways, album jackets, circa 1967

Box 92
Folder 3-4
    Jazz in Silhouette, album jackets

Box 92
Folder 5
    The Magic City, album jackets

Box 92
Folder 6-8
   Monorails and Satellites, album jackets
Box 92
Folder 9
   My Favorite Things, album jacket
Box 92
Folder 10-11
   The Night of the Purple Moon, album jackets
Box 92
Folder 12-13
   The Nubians of Plutonia, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 1
   Other Planes of There, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 2-3
   The Soul Vibrations of Man, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 4
   Sound Sun Pleasure!!, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 5
   Sun Ra, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 6-7
   Sun Ra and his Solar Arkestra, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 8
   A Tonal View of Times Tomorrow, album jackets
Box 93
Folder 9
   Universe in Blue, album jacket
Box 93
Folder 10-11
   We Travel the Space Ways, album jackets
Box 94
Folder 1-4
   Claude Dangerfield, color separations for album cover artwork
   • Interstellar Low Ways
   • Sun Ra Visits Planet Earth/
   • Super-Sonic Jazz
   • A Tonal View of Times Tomorrow
Box 94
Folder 5
   Angels and Demons at Play, album cover artwork
Box 94
Folder 6
   Celestial Love, album cover label
Box 94
Folder 7
   Collectors Items Volume I thru K, album cover artwork and proofs
Box 94
Folder 8
   Discipline 27-II, album cover layout
Box 94
Folder 9
   The Immeasurable Equation, metal printing plate and negatives
Box 94
Folder 10
   Music of the Greater Space Age, album cover layout
Box 94
Folder 11
   Other Planes of There, album cover artwork
Box 94
Folder 12
   Other Planes of There, album cover layout
Box 94
Folder 13
   Space is the Place, production notes on blank album jacket
Box 94
Folder 14
   Visit Planet Earth, album cover layout
Box 94
Folder 15
   Lacy Gibson, I Wish I Had a Wishing Ring, fragment of album cover layout
Box 94
Folder 16
   Lena McLin, The McLin Ensemble Singing Spirituals, album cover artwork
Box 94
Folder 17
   Recording studio architectural drawings
Box 94
Folder 18
   Drawings
Box 94
Folder 19
   Photographs of artworks
Box 94
Folder 20
   Unidentified proof
Box 94
Folder 21
Unidentified proofs and layout fragments

Box 94
Folder 22
   Fragments of album cover layouts

Box 94
Folder 23
   Audio Matrix, Inc., sample album jacket

Box 94
Folder 24
   Blank album jacket and type specimens

Box 94
Folder 25
   Empty album jacket mailed from Sun Ra to Alton Abraham

Box 95
Folder 1
   Angels and Demons at Play, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 2
   Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 3
   Atlantis, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 4
   Collectors Items Volumes I Through IX, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 5
   Continuation, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 6
   Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 7
   Discipline 27-II, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 8
   Fate in a Pleasant Mood, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 9
   Holiday for Soul Dance, album cover proofs

Box 95
Folder 10
   Jazz in Silhouette, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 11
  Magic City, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 12
  My Brother the Wind, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 13
  Night of the Purple Moon, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 14
  Nubians of Plutonia, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 15
  Other Planes of There, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 16
  The Soul Vibrations of Man, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 17
  Sound Sun Pleasure, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 18
  Strange Strings, album cover proofs
Box 95
Folder 19
  Super-Sonic Jazz, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 20
  Universe in Blue, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 21
  Visits Planet Earth, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 22
  We Travel the Space Ways, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 23
  When Sun Comes Out, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 24
  Unidentified Sun Ra album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 25
  Lacy Gibson, Wishing Ring, album cover proofs
Box 95A
Folder 26
  Sketch pad with fragmentary design material and notes laid in
Box 95A
Folder 27
  When Sun Comes Out, album cover artwork
Box 95A
Folder 28
  Impulse Records advertisement layout
Box 95A
Folder 29
  V. Short, drawing
Box 95A
Folder 30
  Photograph of artwork
Box 96
Folder 1
  Atlantis, album cover layout
Box 96
Folder 2
  Atlantis, album cover proofs
Box 96
Folder 3
  Album cover proofs
  • Bad and Beautiful
  • Jazz in Silhouette
  • Monorails and Satellites
Box 96
Folder 4
  Nuits de la Fondation Maeght, album cover proof
Box 96
Folder 5
  Album cover proofs
  • Pathways to Unknown Worlds
  • Secrets of the Sun
  • Universe in Blue
Box 96
Folder 6
  Proofs of artworks
Box 96
Folder 7
  Angels and Demons at Play, printing job file
Box 97
Folder 1
  Atlantis, printing job file
Box 97
Folder 2
Fate in a Pleasant Mood, printing job file
Box 97
Folder 3
Magic City, printing job file
Box 97
Folder 4
Unidentified printing job files
Box 98
Folder 1
"The Space Music of Sun Ra," brochure design
Box 98
Folder 2
Drawings
Box 98
Folder 3
Sun Ra, photocopied artworks
Box 98
Folder 4
Fragmentary design material
Box 98
Folder 5
"LP's by Sun Ra and his Arkestra," signs
Box 98
Folder 6
Saturn Research business card and logo, proofs
Box 98
Folder 7
"Hot Hits Fresh from the Sun," broadside layout
Box 98
Folder 8
Saturn "II" Research letterhead, layout and samples
Box 98
Folder 9
Atra Productions letterhead, layout and samples
Box 98
Folder 10
Record label artwork
Box 98
Folder 11
Record labels
Box 98
Folder 12
Record label sheets
Box 98
Folder 13
Record label sheets
Box 98
Folder 14
Record label sheets

Box 98
Folder 15
Record label sheets

Box 99
The Soul Vibrations of Man, Side A, record labels

Box 99
The Soul Vibrations of Man, Side B, record labels

Box 99
Taking a Chance on Chances, Side A, record labels

Box 100
Angels and Demons at Play, record labels

Box 100
Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, Side A, record labels

Box 100
"Cosmo Drama," Side B, record labels

Box 100
Interstellar Low Ways, Side B, record labels

Box 100
"Love in Outerspace," Side A, record labels

Box 100
"Mayan Temple," Side B, record labels

Box 100
Nidhamu, Side A, record labels

Box 100
Nidhamu, Side B, record labels

Box 100
"Sub Underground Series," Side A, record labels

Box 100
"Sub Underground Series," Side B, record labels

Box 100
Taking a Chance on Chances, Side B, record labels

Box 101
Magic City, Side A, record labels

Box 101
Space is the Place, record labels

Box 101
The Soul Vibrations of Man, Side D, record labels

Box 102
"Message to Earthman," Side, record labels

Box 102
Nidhamu, Side B, record labels

Box 102
"The Perfect Man," Side B, record labels
Box 102
"Space is the Place," Side A, record labels
Box 102
"The Sun Man Speaks," Side A, record labels
Box 102
We Travel the Space Ways, Side B, record labels
Box 103
Bad and Beautiful, Side B, record labels
Box 103
Cosmo Earth Fantasy, Side B, record labels
Box 103
Deep Purple, Side B record labels
Box 103
Nature's God, Side A, record labels
Box 103
Nature's God, Side B, record labels
Box 103
"Sub Underground Series," Side B, record labels
Box 104
Bad and Beautiful, Side B, record labels
Box 104
Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, Side B, record labels
Box 104
"Cosmo Drama," Side B, record labels
Box 104
Interstellar Low Ways, Side A, record labels
Box 104
Interstellar Low Ways, Side B, record labels
Box 104
Magic City, Side B, record labels
Box 104
Monorails and Satellites, Side B, record labels
Box 104
Sound Sun Pleasure, Side A, record labels
Box 104
Some Blues But Not The Kind That’s Blue, Side A, record labels
Box 104
Some Blues But Not The Kind That’s Blue, Side B, record labels
Box 104
"Sub Underground Series," Side B, record labels
Box 105
Atlantis, Side A, record labels
Box 105
Bad and the Beautiful, Side A, record labels
Box 105
Cosmo Earth Fantasy, Side A, record labels
Box 105
Outerspaceways Inc., Side B, record labels

Box 105
Pat Patrick and the Baritone Saxophone Retinue, Sound Advice, Side B, record labels

Box 105
"Sub Underground Series," Side A, record labels

Box 106
Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, Side A, record labels

Box 106
Horizon, Side A, record labels

Box 106
Deep Purple, Side A record labels

Box 106
Strange Strings, Side A, record labels

Box 106
Strange Strings, Side B, record labels

Box 106
"Sub Underground Series," Side A, record labels

Box 107
Record labels

Box 108
Record labels

Box 109
Record labels

Box 110
Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, front cover, printing block

Box 110
Other Planes of There, front cover, printing block

Box 111
Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, front cover, two printing blocks

Box 112
Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, back title, printing block

Box 112
Other Planes of There, "SRA" logo, printing block

Box 112
Thoth Intergalactic logo, two printing blocks

Box 113
Art Forms of Dimensions Tomorrow, inset abstraction, printing block

Box 113
Saturn Records catalog cover, printing block

Box 113
Saturn Records album list, printing block

Box 113
Arkestra member list, printing block

Box 113
Thoth Intergalactic logo, printing block
Box 114
   Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, inset image, printing block
Box 114
   Arkestra member list, printing block
Box 114
   Other Planes of There, registration, printing block
Box 114
   Saturn Records mailing address, two printing blocks
Box 114
   "The Shadow of the Fire," and "The Potential," printing block
Box 115
   Three pyramid ornaments
Box 116
   Three orb ornaments
Box 117
   "Alton E. Abraham" stamp
Box 117
   "Saturn Records" stamp
Box 117
   "Thoth Intergalactic Productions" stamp
Box 117
   "Saturn 'II' Research" stamp
Box 117
   "Promotional Use" stamp
Box 117
   "Air Mail" stamp
Box 117
   "Special Delivery" stamp
Box 118
   Saturn "II" Research, address and copyright statement, type pieces
Box 118
   Leather pouch containing astrological inscription
Box 118
   Wallet
Box 118
   Two kazoos
Box 118
   Tuning fork
Box 118
   Quartz crystal
Box 118
   Door keys
Box 118
   Insignia pin
Box 118
   45 rpm record adapter
Box 118  
Metal ornament

Box 119  
Magnifying lens

Box 119  
Tarot cards

Box 119  
Sun Ra sticker labels

Box 120  
Album title sticker labels

Box 121  
Saturn Research sticker labels

Box 122  
Mbira

Box 123  
Necklace

Box 123  
Letter opener

Box 124  
Folder 1  
Craft paper

Box 124  
Folder 2  
Mars Marine bumper stickers

Box 124  
Folder 3  
Printed ephemera  
• Shelby Hotel Rainbow Room, guest pass  
• Roosevelt University sticker  
• Syrian apricot paste label

Box 125  
Homemade musical instrument [Item on loan through April 2024. Please see staff for more information.]

Box 126  
Cymbal with numerological inscriptions

Box 127  
Microphones

Box 128  
Briefcase

Box 128  
Drumsticks

Box 129  
Planisphere instrument

Box 129  
Plexiglass triangle

Box 130
Series X: Oversize

This series consists of oversize material transferred from series I, II, III, V, VI and VII. It is organized into subseries corresponding to the arrangement of these series.

Subseries 1: Biographical, contains newspaper clippings, a scrapbook, a Buzzard comic book, and a poster for the Hyde Park Art Center's 2006 symposium "Sun Ra: The Astro Black and Other Solar Myths."

Subseries 2: Performance, contains broadsides, posters and newspaper clippings documenting Sun Ra performances.

Subseries 3: Recordings, contains broadsides and posters promoting Sun Ra's commercial recordings, as well as a binder that housed the Tilman Stahl discography.

Subseries 4: Verse, Prose and Notes, contains oversize proof sheets of pages of the Immeasurable Equation.

Subseries 5: Business Records, contains financial records, correspondence, publicity material, notes and blank legal forms.

Subseries 6: Alton Abraham, contains publications, clippings, sheet music and ephemera. Included are several large-format posters and radical publications.

Subseries 1: Biographical

Box 132
   Scrapbook, 1962-1967
Box 132
   Scrapbook page, 1968
Box 133
   Folder 1
      Tam Fiofori, "Sun Ra's Space Music," Changes, 1970
Box 133
   Folder 2
      Nathalie Petrowski, "Jazz de l'espace et des astronautes," Le Devoir, 1978
Box 133
   Folder 3
      Chicago Defender, 1981
Box 133
   Folder 4
      Daryl Jung, "Attempting the Impossible," Now, 1986
Folder 5
Stephen Beaupre, "In Support of the Sun Ra Presidency," Buzzard, 1992

Box 133

Folder 6

Subseries 2: Performance

Box 133
Folder 7
Crouse Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, circa 1960s

Box 133
Folder 8
Carnegie Hall, New York, 1966

Box 133
Folder 9
Mexico tour, 1973-1974

Box 133
Folder 10
Happy Medium, Chicago, 9-10 September 1978

Box 133
Folder 11
Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, 26-29 June 1980

Box 133
Folder 12
First Avenue, Minneapolis, 1987

Box 133
Folder 13
Chicago Jazz Festival, 1988

Box 133
Folder 14
Ridley's, Philadelphia, circa 1980s

Box 133
Folder 15
Glassboro State College Black Art Festival, Glassboro, New Jersey, undated

Box 134
Folder 1
Space is the Place, circa 1974

Box 134
Folder 2
Performances
• Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival, 8-10 September 1972
• The East, Brooklyn, New York, undated
• Sweden, undated

Box DRAWER 9
Folder 1
Les Halles, Paris, 13 November 1970
Subseries 3: Recording

Box 134
Folder 3
circa 1970s-2000s
- Esperanto recordings, circa 1970s
- Reawakening, 1994
- El Saturn Records Deluxe Reissue Series, Atavistic, circa 2000s

Box 135
Discography binder, 1983

Subseries 4: Verse, Prose and Notes

Box 134
Folder 4
The Immeasurable Equation, circa 1971-1972

Subseries 5: Business Records

Box 136
Folder 1
Ledger sheets, 1956-1959

Box 136
Folder 2
General correspondence, 1965-1976

Box 136
Folder 3
Sunset Records, catalogs, 1966

Box 136
Folder 4
El Saturn Records catalog, circa 1960s

Box 136
Folder 5
Press clipping montages, circa 1960s

Box 136
Folder 6
Lacy Gibson, posters, circa 1960s

Box 136
Folder 7
Ledger, 1969-1970

Box 136
Folder 8
"Sun Ra and his Arkestra," booking posters, circa 1960s-1970s

Box 137
Folder 1
Provinssi-Rock festival, Finland, poster, 1979
Saturn Records, promotional mailings, circa 1970s
Box 137
Folder 3
  Notes, undated
Box 137
Folder 4
  Recording agreement forms, undated
Box 137
Folder 5
  Ramsey Lewis Trio, album cover proof, undated
Box 137
Folder 6
  Peter Brotzmann Octet, poster, circa 2008

**Subseries 6: Alton Abraham**

Box 138
Folder 1
  House of Knowledge, "M.H. Hammurabi's Almanac Calendar History," 1962-1963
Box 138
Folder 2
  "The Complete Works of Professor Hilton Hotema, circa 1960s
Box 138
Folder 3
  Ethiopian Research Library, "Let there be Light," 1952
Box 138
Folder 4
  Psychic Times, 1975
Box 138
Folder 5
  Silva Mind Control kit, undated
Box 138
Folder 6
  Medical Electronics News, magazine, 1966
Box 138
Folder 7
  Apollo space flights, commemorative album, 1969
Box 138
Folder 8
  Cadillac brochure, 1975
Box 138
Folder 9
  American Institute of Engineering and Technology, blank diploma, undated
Box 139
Folder 1
  Minister J.M. Miller, "Gospel Spreaders for God," poster, circa 1950s
Box 139
Folder 2
"Doctine Chretienne," poster, undated
Box 139
Folder 3
Yucatan Peninsula, map, undated
Box 139
Folder 4
American Medical Association, "Who Expects V.D. at a Time Like This?" poster, circa 1970s
Box 139
Folder 5
Guerilla newsletters, 1968
Box 140
Folder 1
Yipster Times, newsletter, 1974
Box 140
Folder 2
Sepia, magazine, 1974
Box 140
Folder 3
Clippings and Chicago travel guide, circa 1960s-1970s
Box 140
Folder 4
Music filler paper, undated
Box 140
Folder 5-6
Sheet music, circa 1910s-1950s
Box 140
Folder 7
Guitar instruction material, circa 1960s-1970s
Box 141
Blank music score pads
Box 142
Newspapers and clippings, circa 1960s-1980s

Series XI: Restricted
This series consists of personal financial records, academic records, medical records, and identification and registration documents transferred from Series VII.

Box 143
Folder 1-6
Personal financial records, circa 1940s-1990s
Box 144
Folder 1-10
Personal financial records, circa 1940s-1990s
Box 145
Folder 1-11
   Personal financial records, circa 1950s-1990s
Box 146
Folder 1-5
   Personal financial records, circa 1940s-1990s
Box 146
Folder 6-7
   Academic records, circa 1963-1964
Box 146
Folder 8
   Identification and registration, circa 1970s
Box 146
Folder 9
   Medical records, circa 1970s