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Descriptive Summary

Identifier
ICU.SPCL.ABRAHAM.A

Title
Abraham, Alton. Collection of Sun Ra

Date
1822-2008

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

Repository
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 longstanding 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 1970’s 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
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

Box 1
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

Box 1
Folder 17

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'ouvre," 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

Box 1
Folder 25
   "Sun Ra," New Musical Express, 1982
Box 1
Folder 26
   "Sun Ra," Stop, 1982
Box 1
Folder 27
Box 1
Folder 28
   "Interplanetair entertainment met ceremoniemeester Sun Ra!" Travers, 1983
Box 1
Folder 29
   "Sun Ra," Nancy Jazz Pulsations, 1983
Box 1
Folder 30
Box 1
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
Box 1
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

Box 1
Folder 43
   "All Over the Universe with Sun Ra," Record Exchange Music Monitor, 1990

Box 1
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Box 1
Folder 46
   Art Lange, "The First Evidence of Life on Saturn," Pulse! 1992

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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
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, Fans 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
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
Jean Buzelin and Alain-René Hardy, "Disco Sun Ra/1,” discography, 1953-1970, 1991

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"

Box 7
Folder 3
  "Hidden Spheres"

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"

Box 7
Folder 8
  Notebook

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"

Box 8
Folder 5
  "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"
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

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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11</th>
<th>Folder 11-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Immeasurable Equation, 1972</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11</th>
<th>Folder 19</th>
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<tr>
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<td>The Immeasurable Equation, 1972, 1985</td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 12</th>
<th>Folder 1-5</th>
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<tr>
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<td>The Immeasurable Equation, Extensions Out: The Immeasurable Equation, volume 2, 1972</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12</th>
<th>Folder 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;In the beginning...&quot; circa 1968-1972</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12</th>
<th>Folder 7-8</th>
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<th>Folder 1</th>
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<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Jesus Gave You a Peace of His Mind,&quot; undated</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Jesus Said, 'Let the Negro Bury the Negro',&quot; undated</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Magic Lie, undated</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 5</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Music: The Space Language,&quot; undated</td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NASA program application, undated</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Neglected Plane of Wisdom,&quot; circa 1960s</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Folder 8-12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Notebooks, circa 1960s-1970s</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Box 14</th>
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<td>Notebook, circa 1963-1965</td>
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<tr>
<th>Box 14</th>
<th>Folder 1-4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writings and sketches transferred from notebook, circa 1963-1965</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 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 Isg/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"

Box 15
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
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
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
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Folder 5
Walter Thiers, correspondence, 1967
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Folder 6
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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
Box 19
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
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Folder 5
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Folder 6
  Tam Fiofori, correspondence, 1969
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Folder 7
  General correspondence, circa 1969
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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
Box 20
Folder 12
General correspondence, circa 1960s

Box 20
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

Box 21
Folder 10
El Saturn Records, "Good News From...El Saturn Records," postcards, circa 1960s

Box 21
Folder 11
Legal forms, circa 1960s

Box 21
Folder 12
Sonny’s Stereo Village, catalogs, circa 1960s

Box 22
Folder 1
Atra Productions, broadside, circa 1960s-1970s

Box 22
Folder 2
Notes, 1970

Box 22
Folder 3
Saturn Records Research, Maeght Foundation recording agreement, 1970
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Folder 4
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  General correspondence, 1970
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  Financial records, legal records and correspondence, 1970-1971
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  European travel, financial records, 1971
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  American Federation of Musicians, correspondence, 1971-1975
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  General correspondence, 1973
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   Travel insurance policies, 1973
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   Down Beat magazine, 1973
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Folder 4
   Triangle Guide magazine, 1973
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Folder 5
   Copyright manual and forms, 1973
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   Notebook, circa 1973
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Folder 8
   Movie Maker magazine, 1974
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   General correspondence, 1974
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Box 25
Folder 2
   General correspondence, 1975
Box 25
Folder 3-4
   Student Activities Programming, magazine, 1976
Box 25
Folder 5-6
   General correspondence, 1976
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Folder 7
   Notebook, 1976-1979
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Folder 8
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Box 33
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.

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Burroughs, Joseph Birkbeck, Titan, Son of Saturn, 1921

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Rogers, L.W., Self Development and Power, 1910

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- "Everyman’s History of the Jews," undated
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- "The Number of the Beast," undated
- "The Seven Portals," undated
- "Topical Helps to the American Standard Bible," 1911
- "The Truth about Jesus," undated

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Plain Truth: A Magazine of Understanding, 1975

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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

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Richard Clagett, "Public Sale of Negroes," reproduction broadside, undated

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Mickey Baker’s Complete Course in Jazz Guitar, book 1, 1955

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Mel Bay, Tenor Banjo Chords in Photo-Diagram Form, instruction book, 1961

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Charles F. Morrison, Jr., Generalized Instrumentation for Research and Teaching, primer, 1964

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Bureau of Land Management, correspondence, 1966-1970

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Box 52
Folder 6
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Box 52
Folder 7
J.D. Borthwick, "Notes from Three (3) Years in California," typescript, undated

Box 52
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Box 53
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Folder 6
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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.

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Folder 9
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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
Folder 14
- Travel and outdoor scenes, 1978
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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
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Folder 4
- Unidentified, undated
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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

Box 67
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 67
Sun Ra and his Astro-Solar Infinity Arkestra, "Blues on Planet Mars" / "Saturn Moon," Saturn 911AR, 45 rpm record, circa 1968

Box 68

69
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
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 Jazarimba 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

**Box 71**

Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra, "I’m Bringing a Red-Red Rose" / "Making Whoopee!" Columbia 1683, undated

**Box 71**

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

**Box 71**

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

**Box 71**
Test pressing, ASD-9276, undated

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9276, undated

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9276, undated

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9288, undated

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9288, undated

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9289, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9289, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9290, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9290, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9293, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9294, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD-9295-B-2, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD-9295-B-2, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD-9295-B-2, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9295-A-2, ASD-9295-B-2, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9296, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9296, 1974

Box 71
Test pressing, ASD-9297-A-1, ASD-9297-B-2, 1974

Box 72
Folder 1
Jus Tu, Oriskhemqtua, cassette tape and correspondence, 1993

Box 72
Folder 2
Nat King Cole, The Unforgettable Nat King Cole, cassette tape, 1991

Box 72
Folder 3
Nakula, cassette tape, undated

Box 72
Folder 4
Kelan Phil Cochran, cassette tapes and correspondence, 1999

Box 72
Folder 5
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 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
   Folder 1
      Angels and Demons at Play, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
   Folder 2
      Angels and Demons at Play, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
   Folder 3
      Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy, album cover artwork, matted
Folder 4
  Other Planes of There, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
Folder 5
  Visits Planet Earth, album cover proof, matted
Box 88
Folder 6
  When Angels Speak of Love, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
Folder 7
  When Sun Comes Out, album cover artwork, matted
Box 88
Folder 8
  Unidentified album cover artwork, matted
Box 89
Folder 1
  Aye, black-light painting, matted
Box 89
Folder 2
  Black-light painting installation, photographs, matted
Box 89
Folder 3
  Black-light painting installation, photographs, matted
Box 89
Folder 4
  Black-light painting installation, photographs, matted
Box 89
Folder 5
  Black-light painting installation, photographs, matted
Box 89
Folder 6
  Saturn Research business card and logo artwork, matted
Box 89
Folder 7
  Typographic designs, matted
Box 89
Folder 8
  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
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 94
Folder 26
Lettering transfer sheets
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
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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  
**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**  
Cymbal  
**Box 131**  
Eight metal record stampers  

**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

- **Box 133**
  - Folder 3
    - Chicago Defender, 1981

- **Box 133**
  - Folder 4
    - Daryl Jung, "Attempting the Impossible," Now, 1986

- **Box 133**
  - 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
  Box 137
  Folder 2
    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