

PHILIP SHEN MATERIAL
1931-2004

FINDING AID

The David Allan Hubbard Library



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Administrative Information

Title:

Philip Shen Material, 1931-2004

Creator(s):

Shen, Philip

Collection Identifier:

CFT00159

Extent:

31 Boxes, 22.05 linear feet

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182

Acquisition Information:

The gift of Mrs. Shen and son Kairos Shen.

Conditions Governing Access:

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Language:

English

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item], Philip Shen Material, Archives and Special Collections, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California.

Name of Cataloger/Date Completed:

Collection cataloged and finding aid written by Adam Gossman.

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Biographical History

Dr. Philip Shen (b. June 17, 1931- d. August 5, 2004) was Professor of Religion and Philosophy and Dean of the University of Hong Kong (China). Dr. Shen worked as the consultant of the Chinese (HK) Origami Society since 1991. His origami work was exhibited in the United Kingdom, United States, Hong Kong, Japan, and Singapore. He also wrote and taught on the subject.

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

Scope and Content

Dr. Philip Shen (b. June 17, 1931- d. August 5, 2004) was Professor of Religion and Philosophy and Dean of the University of Hong Kong (China). Dr. Shen worked as the consultant of the Chinese (HK) Origami Society since 1991. His origami work was exhibited in the United Kingdom, United States, Hong Kong, Japan, and Singapore. He also wrote and taught on the subject. The Philip Shen collection contains artistic works, clippings, diaries, correspondence, and audio/visual material. Records include research notes and instruction materials from his employment at the University of Hong Kong. A large portion of the collection consists of Dr. Shen's origami and related writings.

Subjects

Artists-China
Origami
Theology

Series Description

The collection has been organized into the following series:

Series I: Personal (Boxes 1-2)

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

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

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Ph. D. dissertation material in one box and the second is his precious notes on L. S. Thornton's Christology kept as he preserved them.

Series III: Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, etc. (Boxes 5-11)

Series IV: Correspondence (Boxes 12-13)

Series V: Annotated Books (Boxes 14-16)

A small collection of his books which all have writing of Dr. Shen inside, key texts which influenced him through his life. Also, the third box is a small collection of material referring to the Beijing protest and conflict in which students from Hong Kong supported.

Series VI: Origami (Boxes 17-29)

Series VII: Audio/Visual Material (Boxes 30-31)

Container List

Series I: Personal. Boxes 1-2.

Boxes 1-2: Personal

Box	Description	Date/Note
1	Personal Material	Sensitive material of biographical reference.
2	Photographic material	Photos, negatives

Series II: Ph.D. Thesis and Notes on L.S. Thornton's Christology. Boxes 3-4.

Boxes 3-4: Ph.D. Thesis and Notes on L.S. Thornton's Christology

Box	Description	Date/Note
3	Ph.D. Thesis	
4	Notes	

Series III: Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, etc. Boxes 5-11.

Boxes 5-11: Course Material, Lecture notes, Notes, etc.

Box	Description	Date/Note
5	Published, unpublished writing	
6	Additional published, unpublished writing and diaries	
7	Course material, lecture notes, notes, etc. Education, politics, etc.	
8	Course material, lecture notes, notes, etc. Philosophy	
9	Course material, lecture notes, notes, etc. Theology	
10	Course material, lecture notes, notes, etc. Additional class notes	
11	Reference and miscellaneous	

Series IV: Correspondence. Boxes 12-13.

Boxes 12-13: Correspondence

Box	Description	Date/Note
12	Correspondence (1)	
13	Correspondence (2)	

Series V: Annotated Books. Boxes 14-16.

Boxes 14-16: Annotated Books

Box	Description	Date/Note
14	Annotated Books (1)	

15	Annotated Books (2)	
16	Beijing	

Series VI: Origami. Boxes 17-29.

Boxes 17-29: Origami

Box	Description	Date/Note
17	Origami (1)	
18	Origami (2)	
19	Origami (3)	
20	Origami Models (1)	
21	Origami Models (2)	
22	Origami Models (3)	
23	Origami Models (4)	
24	Origami Models (5)	
25	“Works in Progress” and “Experimental Folds”	
26	“Earlier Works” and “Stars and Crosses”	
27	Undated Origami	
28	Printed Materials	
29	Origami and miscellaneous notes	

Series VII: Audio/Visual Material. Boxes 30-31.

Boxes 30-31: Audio/Visual Material

Box	Description	Date/Note
30	Audio Cassette Tapes	
31	VHS/DVD	