Guide to the Chris Durante Collection MS.075

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Description is written in: English.

Western Connecticut State University Archives and Special Collections

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Summary Information

Repository:	Western Connecticut State University Archives and Special Collections
Creator:	Durante, Christopher J., 1958-2023
Title:	Christopher J. Durante Collection
ID:	MS.075
Date [inclusive]:	1986-2024
Physical Description:	4.1 Linear Feet 1 box and loose items
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Durante was a WestConn alum and local artist/merchant. The collection is a small sampling of the artist's work.

Preferred Citation

Published citations should take the following form:

Identification of item, date (if known); Chris Durante Collection; MS 075; box number; folder number; Western Connecticut State University Archives

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Biographical / Historical

Chris Durante (1958-2023) was an artist and photographer who attended Western Connecticut State University. He was in the class of 1981 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design. In 1981 he went on to build a successful career as an art handler and freelance framer. He opened the Chris Durante Framing Studio located on 9 Library Place in Danbury CT, which he operated for 38 years and included an abundance of mixed works such as sculptures, photographs, artifacts, etc. He even went on to share his skills as an art educator at The Wooster School in Danbury and then as an Adjunct Professor of Studio Art at Norwalk Community College for 20 years.

Durante's works were shown at many galleries and art spaces, including: Norwalk Community College, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum (Ridgefield), The Cooperstown (NY) Museum,

The Art Space (Norwalk), The Gallery at Still River Editions (Danbury), The Institute Library (New Haven), The Washington Art Association (Washington, CT), The Trailer Box Project (Bethel), WestConn and many others.

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Content Description

The collection includes samples of Durante's artwork that was collocated after his death by Cathy Vanaria of the School of Visual and Performing Arts at WestConn. The collection includes original drawings, art and photographs.

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Arrangement

Arranged into two series. Essen†ially, photographs and everything else.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Cathy Vanaria, SVPA at WestConn.

Conditions Governing Access

Open to researchers without restriction

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the WCSU Archives

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Controlled Access Headings

- Art
- Illustrations.
- Photographs.

Collection Inventory

Prints/Drawings/Art

Title/Description	Instances	
Bob Alberetti watercolor, undated **General** Small, 9 x 9"	box 1	item 1
7 untitled original drawings, undated **General** 2 Black and white ink, 5 mixed paint and ink.	box 1	item 2-8
6 large drawings and one watercolor (rolled), udnated Digital Object: Christopher Durant drawings **General** 2025 Accession	folder OS_folder_01	item 20.2-20.7
2 Large original drawings, 1 watercolor, undated	item 19	

	item 20	
	item 20.1	
3 Prints (exhibit poster, "Some Days...", "Groomed", 1986, undated		

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Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
9 untitled mounted photographs, undated	box 1	item 9-17
General		
Includes photos of children in city playground, self portraits, and mixed media.		
Under Familiar Coverage, 1982	item 18	
General		
Mounted and framed		

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