

# B.C. Binning fonds

Compiled and revised by Christopher Hives (1997, 2005)  
and Michelle Curran (2008)  
Revised March 2010



[University of British Columbia Archives](#)



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



The Library

# Table of Contents

- **Fonds Description**
  - Title / Dates of Creation / Physical Description
  - Biographical Sketch
  - Scope and Content
  - Notes
  
- **Series Descriptions**
  - Biographical Material
  - Correspondence
    - Jessica Binning Correspondence
  - Lectures, Articles and Binning's "Outside" Work
  - Committees
  - Fine Arts Program
  - Festival of the Contemporary Arts
  - Subject Files
  - Teaching Materials
  
- **File List**
  
- **Catalogue entry** (UBC Library)

## Fonds Description

**B.C. Binning fonds.** -- 1947-1976.

1.5 m of textual records.

Bertram Charles Binning (1909-1976) was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta and grew up in Vancouver where he later attended art school before pursuing his studies in Oregon, Greenwich Village, New York and London. He joined the University of British Columbia School of Architecture in 1949 after many years as instructor at the Vancouver School of Arts. In 1955, he became head of the Department of Fine Arts which he had helped establish. He resigned the position in 1968 to devote more time to teaching and painting. Binning retired from the University in 1973. The list of Binning's direct or indirect creations beyond his artwork include the founding of the Department of Fine Arts, the development of the UBC Fine Arts Gallery, the initiation of the Brock Hall Collection of Canadian Art, the conception and direction of the Festival of Contemporary Arts, and the negotiations for the planning of the Nitobe Memorial Garden.

The fonds consists of the following series: Biographical Material (1949-1976); Correspondence (1947-1972); Lectures, Articles and "Outside Work" (1948-1968); Committees (1947-1966); Fine Arts Program (1954-1964); Festival of the Contemporary Arts (1961-1971); Subject Files (1946-1958); and Teaching Materials (1949-1971).

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

Fonds acquired in several accessions since 1976, most recently in July 2008.

## Series Descriptions

### **Biographical Material.** – 1949-1976.

14.5 cm.

The series consists of clippings, articles, personnel records relating to the life and career of B.C. Binning.

Boxes 1, 7(26-31), 8(5-10)

### **Correspondence.** – 1947-1972.

25.5 cm.

The series consists of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

Boxes 1 (2-12), 7(1-25), 8(3)

#### **Jessica Binning Correspondence.** -- 1963-1991.

4 cm of textual records.

The sub-series consists of Mrs. Binning's personal correspondence and other correspondence kept by her regarding B.C. Binning's work after his death.

Box 7 (21-25)

### **Lectures, Articles and Binning's "Outside" Work.** – 1948-1966.

15 cm.

The series consists of correspondence, manuscripts, typescripts, invoices and clippings relating to articles and lectures given by Binning.

Boxes 1(13-15), 7(39-46)

### **Committees.** -- 1947-1966.

19.5 cm of textual records.

The series consists of reports, minutes, correspondence and printed material generated by the various committees with which Binning was associated.

Boxes 2, 8(4)

**Fine Arts Program.** -- 1954-1964.

14 cm of textual records.

The series consists of printed material, clippings and correspondence generated by the Fine Arts Program at U.B.C.

Boxes 3, 8(1-2)

**Festival of the Contemporary Arts.** – 1961-1971.

22.5 cm of textual records.

The series consists of correspondence, clippings, printed material and financial records relating to the Festival of the Contemporary Arts.

Boxes 4, 7(32)

**Subject Files.** – 1946-1968.

35 cm of textual records.

The series consists of subject files arranged alphabetically.

Box 5

**Teaching Materials.** -- 1949-1971.

5 cm of textual records.

The series consists of notes, class rosters, handouts, and lecture notes for fine arts courses taught at UBC.

Box 7 (33-38)

# File List

Box 1

## Biographical Material

1-1 Clippings, articles, personnel records (1949-1976)

**(continued)**

## Correspondence

1-2 Correspondence - General (1947-1953)

1-3 Correspondence - General (1954-1961)

1-4 Correspondence - General (1962-1966)

1-5 Correspondence - General (1967-1972)

1-6/7 Correspondence re: Exhibition of B.C.B. works (1949-71)

1-8/9 Correspondence re: Sales of B.C.B. paintings (1949-1972)

1-10 Correspondence re: European visit (1951)

1-11 Correspondence re: Sabbatical (1963)

1-12 Correspondence (n.d.)

**(continued)**

## Lectures, Articles and "Outside" Work

1-13 Articles/Lectures - Correspondence, manuscripts, typescripts, printed material (1948-1966)

1-14 Lectures - Extra-Curricular - Correspondence, typescripts (1956-1968)

1-15 "Outside" work - Correspondence, invoices, clippings (1953-1967)

**(continued)**

## Box 2

### Committees

2-1 Listing of University Committees on which B.C.B. sat (1961/62)

#### Fine Arts Committee

2-2 Annual reports (1949-1964)

2-3 Membership (1947-1965)

2-4 Minutes (1947-1950)

2-5 Minutes (1951-1955)

2-6 Minutes (1956-1966)

2-7 Correspondence (1948-1965)

2-8 Annual report for President's report (1951-1956)

2-9 Concerts - Correspondence, printed material (1948-1956)

2-10 Lectures - Correspondence (1952-1956)

2-11 Miscellaneous - Correspondence, printed material (1948-1956)

2-12 Cinema Sub-Committee (1949-1955)

2-13 Dance Sub-Committee (1948-1955)

2-14 Drama Sub-Committee (1948-1955)

2-15 Handicraft Sub-Committee (1948-1955)

2-16 Literary Sub-Committee (1949-1954)

2-17 Music Sub-Committee (1949-1952)

2-18 Visual Arts Sub-Committee (1948-1951)

#### Other Committees

2-19 Administrative Committee on Campus Development and Planning - Campus Aesthetics Sub-Committee - Minutes, correspondence (1958-1962)

2-20 Japanese [Nitobe] Garden Committee - Minutes, correspondence, printed material (1958-1964)

2-21 Odium Property (Rockwoods) Administration Committee - Minutes, correspondence (1959-1962)

2-22 University Plan Development Committee - Minutes (1957-1959)

2-23 Vancouver Centennial Committee - Minutes (1965-1967)

**(continued)**

Box 3

Fine Arts Programme

Printed material, clippings and correspondence generated by program sponsored by the Student's Literary and Scientific Executive and the Faculty Fine Arts Committee which sponsored a series of noon hour programs featuring literature, art, theatre, dance and music.

3-1	1954/55
3-2	1955/56
3-3	1956/57
3-4	1957/58
3-5	1958/59
3-6	1959/60
3-7	1960/61
3-8	1963/64

**(continued)**

Box 4

Festival of the Contemporary Arts

Correspondence, printed material, clippings and financial records.

4-1	1961
4-2	1962
4-3	1963
4-4	1964
4-5	1965
4-6	1966
4-7	1967
4-8	1968
4-9	1969
4-10	1970
4-11	1971

**(continued)**

## Box 5

### Subject Files

- 5-1 "Arts and Religion" Conference (March 1965) - Financial records, correspondence (1965)
- 5-2 Campus Improvements - General - Correspondence (1951-1959)
- 5-3/4 Canada Council - Printed material, correspondence (1965-1968)
- 5-5 Canada Council - Recommendations (1959-1967)
- 5-6 Colour Consulting (University) - Correspondence (1956/57)
- 5-7 Dance Festival - Correspondence, minutes, printed material (1958)
- 5-8 Committee on the Future of the Faculty of Education - Printed material, correspondence (1968-1970)
- 5-9 European Visit - Report, correspondence (1951-1954)
- 5-10 Excerpts from Articles, Books, etc. (1949)
- 5-11 Federation of Canadian Artists - Printed material, correspondence (1949, 1956)
- 5-12 Flag (University) - Correspondence (1957-1959)
- 5-13 Japanese Tour - Correspondence, maps, printed material (1958)
- 5-14 Mace (University) - Correspondence (1957-1959)
- 5-15 Massey Report - Report, correspondence (1950-1952)

## Box 6

- 6-1/2/3 National Arts Centre - Printed material, correspondence, minutes, drawings (1964-1968)
- 6-4 Picture Loan Service - Financial records, correspondence (1946-1963)
- 6-5 President's Office and House - Correspondence, photographs (1950-1957)
- 6-6 Printing (University) - Correspondence, printed material (1946-1964)
- 6-7 Recommendations (1968-1972)
- 6-8 Stanley House - Science, Technology and Society Seminar - Correspondence, printed material (1965-1967)
- 6-9 Sculptures - Asiatic Head/Figure/Jazz Band/B.C. Festival Figure/Barred Figure - Correspondence (1959)
- 6-10 Study Leave - Correspondence (1963/64)
- 6-11 Summer School of the Arts (Extension Dept.) - Correspondence (1958-1963)
- 6-12 Tri-Universities Brief to the MacDonald Survey (1967)
- 6-13 Western Universities Art Conference - Minutes, correspondence (1966-1968)
- 6-14 Yeats Exhibition - Printed material, correspondence (1964/65)
- 6-15 UNESCO - Reports, printed material, correspondence (1958-1966)
- 6-16 Poster - "Optional Modules" Exhibition (1970)

- 6-17 Reports:
  - "Future Development of the Dept. of Fine Arts" (1968)
  - "Report of the Gallery Committee" (1965)
- 6-18 Misc. Sketches (n.d.)

## Box 7

### Correspondence (cont.)

- 7-1 [Letter from UBC student to Mrs. Binning regarding donation of Binning papers to Archives] (1987)
- 7-2 1957 – Correspondence (1957)
- 7-3 1969 (1969)
- 7-4 1970 (1970)
- 7-5 1971 (1971)
- 7-6 Ron Longstaffe [1980-1996?]
- 7-7 Retrospective [Fine Arts Gallery exhibition at UBC] (1973)
- 7-8 1960 [correspondence] (1960)
- 7-9 Correspondence (1957-1958)
- 7-10 Misc. Letters (1946-1967)
- 7-11 Letters – Notes (1952-1974)
- 7-12 Personal Correspondence (1950-1974)
- 7-13 [Letters to/from UBC administration regarding Binning's leave of absence] (1957-1968)
- 7-14 [Correspondence and telegram regarding promotion/recognition] (1951, 1975)
- 7-15 [Correspondence] [1957?]
- 7-16 Wells Coates – Country Life/ 11, Nov. 1976 [1976-1986]
- 7-17 Marianne Moore Letter (1958)
- 7-18 [Correspondence – regarding Chinese horse statue] [1969-1976]
- 7-19 Letters [1949-1970]
- 7-20 [Correspondence] (1957-1971)

### Jessica Binning Correspondence sub-series

- 7-21 [Correspondence addressed to Mrs. Binning] (1963-1991)
- 7-22 [Correspondence from Dennis Sexsmith] (1986)
- 7-23 Honorarium – Travel Expenses, Arts Council (1967-1969)
- 7-24 C.C.A. – Canada Council Recommendation (1957-1959)

7-25 Grants – BCB (1961-1966)

**(continued)**

Biographical Material (cont.)

- 7-26 [UBC Employment Records] (1950-1957)
- 7-27 [Personal notebooks and records] [1946-1963]
- 7-28 [Motor vehicle information] (1953)
- 7-29 Letters [related to resignation as Head of the Dept. of Fine Arts] (1967-1968)
- 7-30 [Notebooks and Agendas] [1946?-1956?]
- 7-31 [Calendar pages and business cards] [1950-1951?]

**(continued)**

Festival of the Contemporary Arts (cont.)

- 7-32 Festival Programming (1961-1966)

Teaching Materials

- 7-33 Fine Arts 328, 428, 434 [1967-1968]
- 7-34 UBC Fine Arts Courses [1966, 1971]
- 7-35 [Teaching materials for fine arts] [1967-1968]
- 7-36 [Vancouver School of Art] (1959)
- 7-37 UBC Advisory Committee – Dept. of Architecture [1949]
- 7-38 [Teaching Materials – art, architecture, etc.] [1949-1955?]

Lectures, Articles and Binning's "Outside" Work (cont.)

- 7-39 Exhibition Catalogues – Announcements [1970?]
- 7-40 History of Art [N.D.]
- 7-41 Donald Buchanan [1945-1966?]
- 7-42 [Art and architecture news clippings, pamphlets, flyers] (1958-1997)
- 7-43 [Misc. notes relating to arts and architecture] [N.D.]
- 7-44 Lang Gallery – Toronto (1954)

- 7-45 [Newsclippings, correspondence, notes] [1958?]
- 7-46 [Articles, mounted prints, clippings, etc.] [N.D.]

## Box 8

### Fine Arts Programme (cont.)

- 8-1 Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (I.O.D.E.) Fine Arts Foundation (1948-1968?)
- 8-2 1965 Stanley House Conference (1965)

### Correspondence (cont.)

- 8-3 Correspondence with Bishop Kojo Sakamoto (1962-1968)

### Committees (cont.)

- 8-4 Report on Art Education in European and American Universities (1952)

### Biographical Material (cont.)

- 8-5 [Misc. clippings, photos, and letters regarding achievements] [1956-1968]
- 8-6 [Honorary degree recognition] [1973-1974]
- 8-7 [Award/recognition & Who's Who in Art entry] (1962-1987)
- 8-8 Biographical Notes (UBC records) (1968-1975)
- 8-9 Kanata, ON [1971]
- 8-10 [Friends reminiscing about Binning] (1976)