Sam Black fonds

Compiled by Christopher Hives (1999)

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University of British Columbia Archives
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- **Catalogue entry** (UBC Library catalogue)
Fonds Description

Sam Black fonds. – 1900-1997.
3.14 m of textual records and other material.

Biographical Sketch

Noted British Columbia artist and art educator Sam Black was born in Ardrossan, Scotland on 5 June 1913. He graduated from the Glasgow School of Arts in 1936. After receiving his Teachers Certificate and Art Teachers Diploma in 1937, he taught art in primary and secondary schools in Scotland. Black also continued his study of art in London, Paris and Brussels prior to the outbreak of World War II. When the war began in 1939, Black enlisted in the Royal Scottish Fusiliers and received a commission in the Officer Corps. Shortly thereafter he became a camouflage officer. As Staff Lieutenant Camouflage his first assignment involved the concealment of defences and training men in personal concealment. Later a Camouflage School was established with Black as its first commandant with the rank of Captain. Blacks job was to teach the basics of concealment and behaviour and to understand how to use different ground patterns to their advantage. Black saw military action in France, Belgium and Germany and was decorated with three military stars, the Defence Medal, an Oak Leaf and the Belgian Medaille Civile for bravery. He completed his military service as a Major in 1946. During the war Black also worked for the War Artists Advisory Committee. Paintings he produced were sent to the Committee who purchased them if interested. These works are now in the permanent collection of the Imperial War Museum in London.

Black married Elizabeth Morton Howie on 3 May 1941. Following the war Black resumed his educational career serving as a school inspector for the British Ministry of Education from 1946 to 1949 and then as a Principal Lecturer in Arts at the Jordanhill Training College in Glasgow. In 1957, Black was a visiting professor at the University of British Columbia teaching art at the summer school session. The following year, he accepted an offer from the University and joined the faculty as a professor of fine arts and art education. He enjoyed a distinguished career at UBC, remaining there until his retirement in 1978.

Throughout his career at UBC, Black enjoyed a reputation as an outstanding teacher. Students found inspiration in his enthusiasm, creative energy, and exploration of new ideas. The high regard for Black as a teacher at the University was recognized in 1970 when he became the second faculty member to receive the Master Teacher award. Black was fond of saying that: "Teaching is art; art is teaching." In a paper entitled "Why be a Teacher?" he summed up his feelings about teaching by observing that:
"it is a source of stimulation and ever renewing pleasure. It provides enrichment through the daily contacts and associations with vital, enquiring people and by the activity of learning together and sharing discussions I learn more about the students and discover more about myself. If you are truly engaged in the exciting profession of education, it is impossible to count the work hours and human concerns are incompatible with a stop-watch mentality."

It was in his ability to communicate effectively and in easily understandable terms his passion for, dedication to, and love of art that made Black an outstanding teacher. Although it would be difficult to gauge accurately Black's influence on art education in this province, there can be little doubt that many of the best teachers of art in British Columbia came out of his classroom.

Notwithstanding Black's obvious impact on students at UBC, his influences obviously transcended the campus boundaries as there were many different ways and many different levels in which Black reflected and represented art education values to society at large. Black's numerous public speaking engagements allowed him to share his ideas about art and education to a variety of audiences. He attended many art education conferences around the world and participated actively in the exchange of ideas with his colleagues. Black also contributed to the professional literature in his field. He participated in various art and education organizations -- he was a founding member and vice president of the International Society for Education Through Art and served as president of the Canadian Society for Education Through Art. Throughout his career Black offered numerous art workshops for various groups including art students, art teachers, members of the general public and children.

In addition to his considerable contributions to the field of art education, Black was also one of British Columbia's most outstanding artists. An accomplished artist in watercolours, acrylics, oils, and graphic prints: woodcuts and lithographs, Blacks works hang in private and public collections around the world. Throughout his career, Sam Black received many honours and awards for his artwork. He was elected to the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colour (1953), the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour [CSPWC] (1963) and the Print and Drawing Council of Canada (1964). Black received the CSPWCs Honour Award for "Me and My Straw Hat" (1983), "Church at Castro Marin" (1985), and "Encroaching Flowers" (1992). His painting "Old Pals" was selected for the CSPWCs Diamond Jubilee Collection presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for the Royal Collection of Drawings and Watercolours at Windsor Castle and a Black print was selected for reproduction as part of the Expo 86 print collection.
One of Black's most prestigious honours came in 1977 when he was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. Those elected to membership in the Academy must be men or women who have exhibited outstanding creative merit and are acknowledged to be masters in the particular discipline or environmental arts in Canada. In 1990, the City of Vancouver commissioned Black to design street banners.

Perhaps one of the most unique tributes paid to Black came in the form of Stewart Grants concert work for a full orchestra inspired by the coastal imagery of Black's paintings and prints. The "Sam Black Sketches" consists of nine inter-connected sections bases on a single piece or collection of pieces. The world premier of "Sketches" took place at the Yates Memorial Centre in Lethbridge, Alberta in May 1988 [a recording of the performance is included in the fonds]. In addition to the musical performance by the Lethbridge Symphony Orchestra, the premier also included an exhibition of sixteen of Black's artworks. This allowed members of the audience to study the visual sources or images that inspired the musical compositions. "Sketches" was later performed in other Canadian cities and was also broadcast by CBC radio.

Although accomplished in many forms of art it is perhaps his watercolour paintings for which Black is best known. While his watercolours and other artwork include many different subjects there is a "maritime" theme to much of his work. In particular his art depicts land- and seascapes along the British Columbia coast. The affinity for maritime life probably dates back to his childhood growing up in Adrossan, a coastal town in western Scotland. His family home overlooked a small harbour. Blacks father James who served in the Royal Navy built boats with his son who often went to an off shore island to study birds a subject which would later become a common element in his artwork.

Black often carried a sketchbook around with him wherever he went. These sketches served as a sort of memory or reference for possible future paintings. He also took many photographs particularly during his travels but he later explained that he preferred the process of sketching his subjects because that would allow him to focus on various aspects including proportion, scale, patterns, etc. He suggested that one "takes" a photograph while one "makes" a painting or drawing -- the former process more mechanical and the latter more creative. Often Black would simply record the colours to be added right on the sketch. Black was a very strong proponent of accurate observation and recording and talked about the importance of attention to detail. He told his students that artists should look for three-quarters of an hour and draw for fifteen minutes. That the artist heeded his own advice is evident from his artwork particularly in his rendering of groups of seagulls, geese or crows where each bird is individually positioned and seems to project its own unique personality.
Following his retirement from UBC, Black and his wife Elizabeth retired to Bowen Island. For many years Black had commuted between Bowen Island and Vancouver. In 1970, he designed a residence at Snug Point on Bowen Island as a retirement home. Named "Shieling" after the stone cottages of the early Scots, the two storey home also included a studio and a gallery. There he continued to create many new paintings and other artwork. During his retirement he continued to be recognized nationally and internationally for his outstanding creativity. In 1990, UBC honoured Black’s unique contributions as an artist and educator by conferring upon him the degree Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*.

Sam Black died on 23 April 1998.

**Scope and Content**

The fonds consists of biographical material, family information, correspondence, speeches, publications, subject files, teaching and reference material, photographs, audio and video tapes and artifacts. In addition, the fonds also includes various forms of Black’s artwork.

**Notes**

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

Includes: 8,632 photographs, 1,706 slides, 6 audio cassettes, 5 video cassettes and three-dimensional objects.

File list available.
Series Descriptions

20 cm of textual records.
13 photographs.

Series consists of general information pertaining to Blacks career, educational records, documents created during and just following his military service, and records relating to various awards, honours and recognition bestowed on him.

**Black/Howie family.** - 1900-1993.
2 cm of textual records.
103 photographs.

Series consists of genealogical information about the Black and Howie families as well as material relating to SBs father James Black including a photograph album with images from the Boer War and various ships from World War I. In addition there documents relating to Blacks mother Elizabeth Campbell and grand daughter Yarah Hooley.

**Correspondence.** - 1939-1997.
4.5 cm of textual records.

Series consists of incoming correspondence from various individuals (1939-1997). The series also includes incoming correspondence with British artist Robin Tanner (1949-1988) and correspondence with Tim Fenn regarding the Tanner correspondence (1990/91)

**Speeches/Lectures.** - 1951-1993.
26 cm of textual records.

Series consists of copies of speeches and lectures delivered by Sam Black. This material provides valuable insights into Blacks attitudes towards art and education.

6.5 cm of textual records.
55 photographs.

Series consists of copies of Blacks *China Sketchbook*, a publication with text and sketches prepared by Black based on a visit to the Peoples Republic of China. It includes related correspondence, printed material arising from the trip and the production of the
publication. The series also includes copies of assorted articles by Black for educational journals and copies of newspaper articles with sketches that he compiled while on various travels to Australia, Europe and the Middle East.

**Subject Files.** – 1954-1995.
38 cm of textual records.
38 photographs.

Series consists of an artificially assembled grouping of files that did not easily fit into any of the other series identified in the fonds.

77 cm of textual records.

Series consists of miscellaneous notes used by Black in teaching, some student comments on his courses, and other subject-based files he might have used for teaching or general reference. The series also includes pictures of works of art mounted on cardboard probably used by Black in teaching. There is also material relating to Blacks interest in italic handwriting.

**Art Work.** – 1932-1996.
1.4 m of textual records.

Series consists of original sketches (483) and water colours (120), lino and woodblocks and prints, cancellation proofs for lithographs and woodcuts, as well as other art forms (including street banners and welded metal) in which Black worked. There is also a small volume of artwork by others.

8,423 photographs.
1,706 slides.

Series consists of photographic prints, negatives and slides which have been divided into very general categories including Sam Black and family, Blacks artwork and photographs taken by Black during his travels. The photographs of artwork, used in conjunction with the cancellation proofs and the lino- and woodblock prints, provide a very important record in documenting the breadth of Blacks artistic output during his career.

6 sound cassettes.
5 video cassettes.
Series consists six audio tapes including a radio interview with Black (1987), two performances of "Sam Black Sketches (1988 and 1990), and speeches given at his 50th wedding anniversary. The video tapes, particularly "Sam Black: Surface Flows", "Art Explorations A Workshop with Sam Black" and "Shared Visions" provide interesting insights into Blacks philosophy about art.

**Artifacts.** - [n.d.].
4 boxes.

Series consists of Blacks war medals, colour pallet, brushes, pencils, art and carving instruments, and skulls used in teaching. It also includes a sculptured head, colour separations used in the reproduction of some of Blacks art for cards and other purposes, and a stamp album begun in Black’s youth.
Box 1

BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL

1-1 Articles and clippings about Black and copies of CVs

Education

1-2 Certificates of Merit (1923-1929)
   Higher Education Scotland – Leaving Certificate (1932) Glasgow School of Art – Diploma (15 June 1936) [Note: see Box 18-6]
1-4 Examination in Painting (1937)
   Board of Education – "Examination in Art" certificate (1 August 1937)
1-5a Certificates/Diplomas/Notices:
   Teacher’s Certificate, Scotland (April 1937)
   Training Record (March 1937)
   Art Teacher’s Diploma (August 1937)
   Educational Handwork Association – Certificate (Summer 1939)
   Instructional Institute of Scotland – Certificate of Membership (1 October 1949)
   Printed Appointment Notice as Inspector of Schools (23 April 1947)
1-6 Testimonials/References for SB (1937)

Wartime Experience

1-7 Reminiscences by SB (n.d.)
1-8 12 original sketches [of colleagues?] – 8 in colour
1-9 Photographs of SB wartime sketches [6 photos]:
   "Collaborators Under Escort at Breendonck"
   "Strong Point Taken"
   "Dunclair Ferry over Seine, August 1944"
   "Ten Minutes Rest on Tactics"
   "The Bicycle Market"
   "A Sou’wester During Combined Operations Training" – also letter from Imperial War Museum (1987)
1-10 Miscellaneous War and Post-War Correspondence (1944-1946)
1-11 Medals – Correspondence/Printed Material
   [Note: see Box 32 -- Artifacts for the medals]
1-12 Testimonials (1946)

Miscellaneous

1-13 Marriage Certificate – Samuel Black / Elizabeth Morton Howie - Copy (8 May 1941)
1-14 Miscellaneous Pension Documents (1947-1950)
1-15 Mortgage Documents (1969)
1-16 Biographical information for SB and incoming correspondence (1994-1997) from Reverend Alan Reynolds which deals with preparations for Black’s funeral service.
1-17 Introduction/preliminary notes to autobiography?:
"Lifeline" (8 pp.)
"An Artist’s Life" (6 pp.)

Box 2

Awards/Honours/Recognition

University of British Columbia

2-1 Memorial Fund Certificate (June 1962)
2-2 Master Teacher Award (1970) – Includes clippings, correspondence
2-3 Alumni Association – Honorary Life Membership (26 May 1980)
2-4 Certificate Recognizing SB’s Contribution to Open House (1987)
2-5 Honorary Degree (1 June 1990)
2-6 Honorary Degree – Correspondence, printed material, photographs (5), biographical information, clippings, address by Black, and a sketch by Healy
2-7 Chancellor’s Circle – Cards, correspondence and printed material (1994)
2-8 Faculty Association – Honorary Life Membership (n.d.)

Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour

2-9 Honour Award (4 May 1983) – for "Me and My Straw Hat"
2-10 Honour Award (4 May 1985) – for "Church at Castro Marin"
2-11 Honour Award (12 December 1992) and the Casson Medal – for "Encroaching Flowers" – includes photographs (2), correspondence, clippings, printed material
Royal Canada Academy of Arts – Elected (1977)

[Note: see Box 18-7]

Federation of Canadian Artists

2-12 Certificate of Merit (17 September 1973)
2-13 Life Membership (31 March 1979)
2-14 Canadian Society for Education Through Art – Honorary Membership (1978)
2-15 International Society for Education Through Art – Honorary Life Membership (July 1997)
2-16 El Museo Nacional de la Acuarela – Diploma (3 November 1996)
2-17 Ducks Unlimited – Appreciation Certificate (n.d.)
2-18 Whistler Conference Centre Inauguration – Certificate – folder includes SB sketches (September 1985)
Sun Diploma Mill [1961]
[Note: see Box 18-8]

Box 3

BLACK/HOWIE FAMILY

3-1 Family Trees (n.d.)
3-2 James Black (SB’s father) – Miscellaneous Documents (1918-1946)
[Note: see also Box 18-9 for JB’s Freeman Citizen of Glasgow Certificate (20 September 1901) for Boer War Service and his appointment as Sub-Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (13 February 1917)]
3-3 James Black - Photograph album – 9 images from the Boer War (1900-1901) and 69 from World War I [primarily photos of ships] (1914-1918)
3-4 James Black photograph (n.d.)
Commanding Officer Lieutenant James Black RNVR, 1917/18 – Photograph
[Note: see Box 18-10]
3-5 Elizabeth Campbell (1874-1948):
Will (n.d.)
Obituary (1948)
3-6 Yarah Hooley (1975-1993) – SB’s grand daughter – Photographs (15), correspondence, obituary
CORRESPONDENCE

3-7 Correspondence – General (1939-1989) – Chronological
3-8 Correspondence – General (1990-1997) - Chronological
3-9 Correspondence – General (n.d.)
3-10 Correspondence – Incoming from Robin Tanner (1949-1988) - Chronological
3-11 Correspondence – Incoming from Robin Tanner (n.d.)
3-12 Correspondence – Incoming from Tim Fenn re: Robin Tanner letters (1990-1991)
3-13 Cable from Dean Neville Scarfe re: Black’s appointment at UBC (17 January 1958)

Box 4

SPEECHES/LECTURES

Arranged chronologically

4-1 "The Place of Art in General Education" – Edinburgh Congress (1951)
4-2 "Education Through Art" – Canadian Society for Education Through Art (1960)
4-3 "Art for Living and Humanity" – Teaching Conference – Honolulu (27 Oct. 1961)
4-4 "Art and the Aims of Education" – Regina (2 March 1962)
4-5 "Locating Specific Factors that Contribute to Excellence in Elementary School Art Programmes" – P.A.A. Conference – Seattle (18 April 1962)
4-6 "Art and the Aims of Education" – Canberra (27 May 1963)
4-7 "Commencement Address" – North Delta Junior-Senior High School (20 Sept. 1963)
4-8 "The Fine Arts and Their Relations to Society" – Fine Arts Council, Alberta Teachers’ Association – Banff (16 May 1964)
4-9 "Education Through Art" – Banff (May 17, 1964)
4-10 "Creativity Through Art" – Dept. of University Extension (25 Nov. 1964)
4-11 "Art in Education" – B.C.A.T. (22 April 1965)
4-12 "The Quest for Quality in Living" – Canadian Educators Association Conference (1965)
4-13 "Sir Herbert Read: His Contribution to Education" – University of London, Goldsmith’s College (May 13, 1966)
4-14 "Art Education and Intercultural Relations: Toward a World Art Education" – Prague (August 1966)
4-15 "Quo Vadis? Toward a World Art Education" (1967)
4-16 "Goodbye Schooling, Creativity Here We Come" – Canadian Society for Education Through Art – Montreal (Oct. 26, 1967)
4-17 "Shock Treatment for the Non-Verbal Humanities" – Insea Assembly, New York (August 1969)
4-18 "Art and Life" Vancouver Public Library (3 March 1970)
4-19 "Art Play and Heavenly Alchemy" (15 Jan. 1972)
4-20 "A Brief on Teacher Education: Quo Vadis" (Jan. 1973)
4-21 "Art Contact" (1973)
4-22 "Credo, Conduct and Culture: Thoughts of an Art Teacher" (1976)
4-24 "Pen Lines from the Sidelines“ – BSFSSA (November 1977)
4-25 "INSEA After 25 Years – Why?" – Adelaide (1978)
4-26 "Education Through Art" – C.S.E.A., Halifax (1978)
4-27 SB’s Remarks at his retirement dinner – Notes (1978)
4-28 BC Arts Council Speech (18 April 1980) – Notes
4-29 Remembrance Day Ceremony – Address by SB and program (11 November 1992)
4-30 Speech by SB – 80th Birthday – Notes (5 June 1993)

Box 5

Undated – arranged by title

5-1 "A Plea on Behalf of B.C.’s Culturally Deprived Students" (n.d.)
5-2 "An Education Through Art: The Need is Now" (n.d.)
5-3 "Art and Life" (n.d.)
5-4 "Art and Living (n.d.)
5-5 "Art Education in Australia” – Australian Visit (n.d.)
5-6 "Art Education is Essential Education" (n.d.)
5-7 "Art Education Today" (n.d.)
5-8 "Art in Education" (n.d.)
5-9 "Art Study Visit to United Kingdom" (n.d.)
5-10 "Communications" – Notes (n.d.)
5-11 "Creativity” (n.d.)
5-11a Dean Neville Scarfe’s Retirement Party – Notes (n.d.)
5-12 "Education Through Art" (n.d.)
5-13 "Education Through Art: Where Do We Stand" (n.d.)
5-14 "Man, Play and Art" (n.d.)
5-15 "Man’s Dilemma: Art’s Opportunity for Life’s Sake" (n.d.)
5-17 "Power, Hydro or Pyramid" (n.d.)
5-18 "Tahitian Dreams Today: Tomorrow’s Cultural Nightmare? (n.d.)
5-19 "The Critics Critized" (n.d.)
5-20 "The Great Canadian Art Claptrap or the Mutual Education of the Uneducable" – Seminar 66 (n.d.)
5-21 "Travel Travails or Toilet Training – Scottish Style" (n.d.)
5-22 "Trends and Directions in Art Education” (n.d.)
5-23 "Wha’s Like Us" (n.d.)
5-24 "What Makes a Good Art Teacher" (n.d.)
5-25 Various Burns’ Toasts by SB (n.d.)
5-26 Untitled – West Vancouver Sketch Club (n.d.)
5-27 Untitled (n.d.)
5-28 Untitled (n.d.)
5-29 Untitled, undated notes for speeches

Box 6

PUBLICATIONS

6-1 "China Sketchbook" [2 copies] and negatives (52) and copies of the prints for the publication. File also includes correspondence re: China trip, clippings, photographs (3) and printed materials.
6-2 Articles:
"Wither Art Education in Australia?" (1963)
"Australian Visit" (1964)
"Education Through Art" (1965)
"The Art of Ever Renewing" (1973)
"Viewpoints" (1974)
"Education Through Art" (1979)
6-3 Newspaper articles with sketches prepared by SB during an extended Australian visit (1963):
"A Jet Jump from Cache Creek to Canterbury"
"Tanned Aussies Look for Milder Winter"
"Iron Lace is a Work of Art"
"New Influences Invade Australia"
"Down-Under Art"
"Inside Melbin and Brisbin with Sam Black"
"Billy, Bowyang, Dideridoo"
"Down Under with Sam Black"
"Lovely Island with a Cruel Past"
"Mugs, Rucks and Bare Feet on Aussie Grid"
"Grandeur of a Treeless Waste"
"Travel – This Country Has Everything"
"Waiters – Footsore, Patient Men"
"Outback is a Never-Never Land"
"Australia: Rich Land Needing People"

6-4 Newspaper articles and sketches prepared by Sam Black during a European trip (1966):
"Its Goodbye London and off to Country” Province (30 July)
"From Serene Scotland” Province (20 August)

6-5 Newspaper articles with sketches prepared by Sam Black while on a tour of Europe and the Middle East (1971):
"The Pleasures of Old Blighty"
"Allah Will Bring Peace"
"Valley of the Kings"
"Past, Present and Fantasy"
"Tunis: Where Man Still Needs His Hands to Live"
"When in Rome Avoid Tours"
"A Socialist State with Many Freedoms"
"Venice: A Superb Piece of Work"
"A Thrilling Nostalgic Journey"
"Placid Normandy Rekindles Memories"
"The Lingering Memories are of People"
"Lovely Pilgrimage Bares but a Small Part of Scotland’s Bloody History"

6-6 Additional Manuscripts [Not Published?]:
"Cairo to Cyprus: A Flying Leap on to the Crusades’ Jumping Off Point” (No. 7)
"Ancient Bedouins and Modern Bums” (No. 10)
"A Short Sea Voyage on a Long Travelled Route (No. 11)
"Greece, Myths, Legends, Magic Islands and Martial Law” (No. 12)
"Corfu—Sleepy Enchanted Island” (No. 13)
"Pompeii, Pornography, Pollution and ‘Piu’ (Italian for more) (No.14)
"Paris – Plus ca change, plus c’est la meme chose” (No. 20)
Box 7

SUBJECT FILES

7-1 "Sharing Vision" – Correspondence, project proposals, reports, contracts (1992-1995).

[This was to be a documentary that reflected the convergence of the artistic work of Sam Black and the music of Steward Grant. Unfortunately Black passed away before the project was completed in 2001 - see also VT 849 and 2256]

7-2 Black exhibition at Simon Fraser University Gallery "An Exhibition: Then and Now" (July 3-20, 1990) – Guestbook, printed material, list of paintings included in the exhibit.

[See also exhibition poster Cabinet 10 – 4/9]

7-3 Sam Black Exhibits – Miscellaneous - Reviews, catalogues, notices, price lists, etc. (1970-1989)

7-4 Bowen Island Issues [politics] – Correspondence, sketches (1986-1997)

7-5 "Vancouver City Banners" – Correspondence, photographs (28), printed material (1990)

[see also Artworks – Vancouver City Banners elsewhere in this inventory]

7-6 "Sam Black Sketches" – Correspondence, clippings, programs, photographs (10), notes

[see also audio tapes series for recording of "Sam Black Sketches"]

7-7 "Sir Herbert Read" – Articles and speeches by and about Read (1954-1974)

7-8 "Allan Harrison" – Correspondence, printed material (1976-1985)

7-9 "Robin Tanner" – Articles by Robin Tanner (1966-1971) and catalogue of his work (1980)

7-10 "Chief Justice Nathan Nemetz Tribute" – Correspondence, printed material, clippings (1988)

7-11/14 "Camouflage" – Printed material, articles, reports – Most of this material was generated during Black’s wartime activities in this area during World War II

7-15 INSEA [International Society for Education Through Art] – Miscellaneous printed material

7-16 Miscellaneous quotations collected by Black

7-17 Original design for Shieling crest (n.d.)

"Notes on Heraldry (or as it was called in earlier times armoury)" (n.d.) 10 pp.

ms. Consisting of text and heraldic drawings by Black [Stored at 18-12]
Box 8

TEACHING AND REFERENCE MATERIAL

8-1 "Why be a Teacher?" - Copy of handwritten, manuscript by Black (n.d.)
8-2 Secondary School Teacher’s Art Workshops - Edmonton (1967, 1977) - Correspondence, notes
8-3 "Art Exploration: A Workshop with Sam Black" - Emily Carr College of Art and Design - Correspondence, notes, printed material (1985/86)
   [Note: see video tape later in the inventory]
8-4 Lecture Notes - Miscellaneous - Some identified as Fine Arts 301 - Drawing (n.d.)
8-5 "A Course in Watercolour" - Summer course? - Notes, printed material (n.d.)
8-6 Drawing 201 - Miscellaneous notes, printed material (n.d.)
8-7 Student Comments - Education 404 - Arts (1976)
8-8 Student Comments - Painting for Joy (September 1983)
8-9 Student "Kidnapping" of Sam Black (December 1979)
8-10 Teaching Material - Miscellaneous
8-11 Enamels - Miscellaneous samples, printed material
8-12 Wood Engraving - Miscellaneous samples, printed material
8-13 Painting - Miscellaneous notes, published material
8-14 Bronze Casting/Sculpture - Miscellaneous printed and published material
8-15 Graphics - Miscellaneous printed material, samples
8-16 Miscellaneous printed/published material collected by Black
8-17/19 Unidentified pictures, notes, printed material
   Three scrolls with drawings used by Black in teaching

Box 9/10

Pictures of works of art mounted on 76 sheets of cardboard - probably used by Black in teaching

Box 11

Italics - Miscellaneous printed and published materials, notes

Box 12

Italics
Copies of "The Bulletin of the Society for Italic Handwriting (Spring 1965 -
Summer 1962 – Incomplete
Copies of "The Journal of the Society for Italic Handwriting" (Spring 1963 – Summer 1978) - Incomplete

ART WORK

Box 13

13-1 Sketches - Subject/Title, Dated [14 items]
Sawmill (15 March 1941)
Hide and Wool Store (1941)
Tony ?? (1942)
?? Gardens (1945)
The Old Vicarage (1948)
Paris (16 September 1949) [2]
La Fountane de Carpeaux (Paris) (18 September 1949)
Pont Neuf (Paris) (September 1949)
Quai D'orleans (Paris) (16 September 1949)
Langs?? Show (June 1950)
Paris (3 July 1954)
Hydra ?? (Greece) (14 April 1971)
Stoer-Sutherland (August 1985)

13-2 Sketches - Subject/Title, No Date [11 items]
Coimbra (2)
Mamouth, Wales
Salamanca (2)
Grand Spa Hotel, Bristol, England
Royal York Cres., Bristol
Portencross, Scotland
Boardwalk, Quebec (August 195?)
Porttoe
Paris

13-3 Sketches - Birds - Miscellaneous [29 items]

13-4 Sketches - No Subject / Title, Dated (September 1951) [1 sketch]

13-5 Sketches - Sketch book (n.d.) [49 sketches]

13-6 Sketches - Partial Sketchbook - Australia Trip (n.d.) [12 sketches]

13-7/10 Sketches - Partial Sketchbook [72 items]

13-11/16 Sketches - Miscellaneous - No Subject/Title, No Date [166 items]
13-13  Water Colours - Subject/Title, Dated [4 items]:
       Art School, Ghent (1944)
       Deserted Tin Mine, Cornwall (1945)
       Ghent (1946)
       Greece? (20 March 1971)
13-14  Water Colours (and sketches) - Freighters, English Bay and Mountains (n.d.)
       [39 items]
13-15  Water Colours - No Subject/Title, Dated (1941, 1943, 1946, 1947) [4 items]
13-16  Water Colours - No Subject/Title, No Date [32 items]

Box 14

14-1  Sketches - Subject/Title, Dated [21 items]:
       Stocking up for the Weekend (1948)
       Scots Pine (6 June 1949)
       Portencross (August 1951)
       The Conservatory (September 1951)
       Westkilbride (30 August 30 1951, September 1951) [2]
       Conversation Piece - Dunbar Harbour (1952)
       Le Port D'Avignon (September 1953)
       Cornish Lane - Toward St. Anthony (August 1954)
       Cornish Lane (August 1954)
       Cornish Valley (August 1954)
       Tin Muir River St. Agnes Cornwall (1954)
       From Tower Bay Cornwall (1954)
       Port Levin (August 1954)
       Portscattio (August 1954)
       Dalby Dubin (July 1956)
       Hoult Ireland (July 1956)
       Salmon Nets - Clock Toll (August 1956)
       Peeblesline? (April 1957)
       Seamill Store (May 1958)
       Wreck Beach (July 1958)
       Coal Harbour (July 1958)

14-2  Sketches - Subject/Title, No Date [18 items]:
       Blue Boat by Pont Neuf
       Terence Bay
       Prince George
       Beyond Cherryhill, Okanagan
       Berkeley
Clinton
Portscattio (2)
Low Tide – Portscattio
Madrid - View from Palace Hotel
Hydra Island, Greece
Olhao
From my room window – Lagos
Peggy's Cove
A window in Portugal
Dunure
Breeze at Dunure
Portteven

14-3/6  Sketches - Miscellaneous - No Subject/Title, No Date [84 items]
14-7   Water Colours - Subject/Title, Dated [7 items]:
   "Dust on the Normandy Roads" (June 1944)
   "Beached Landing Craft - Normandy" (1944)
   "Where Battle has Passed" (1944)
   "Church - Mondeville" (August 1944)
   "Refugees" (August 1944)
   Hougomont? - Waterloo, Belgium (1945)
   Peter Paduwt, Brussels (1945)
14-8   Water Colours - Subject/Title, No Date [4 items]
   Hong Kong
   Kiku – Chrysanthenum
   Refugee on the sidewalk - Hong Kong
   Clocktoll – Sutherland
   Cholula
14-9   Water colours - No Subject/Title, No Date [23 items]

Cabinet 10 – 1/1
   Sketches - Subject/Title, Dated [1 item]
   Courseulles (7 June 1944)

Cabinet 10 – 1/2
   Sketches – Subject/Title, No Date [1 item]
   Sea Turtles

Cabinet 10 – 1/3
   Sketches - Miscellaneous - No Subject/Title, No Date [4 items]
Cabinet 10 – 1/4 and /5
Sketches – Large Reproductions [6 items]:
Chinese Figures – from "Chinese Sketches" (3)
Chinese Figures – from "Chinese Sketches" (2) and unidentified
Sketches – Large reproductions [2 items]:
2 oversize sketches rolled and stored on top of Cabinet 10.

Cabinet 10 – 2/1
Water Colours – Subject/Title, No Date [3 items]:
Tugboats – Ghent
"Cronies" (2)

Cabinet 10 – 2/2
Water Colours – No Subject/Title, Dated (1932) [1 item]

Cabinet 10 – 2/3
Water colours - No Subject/Title, No Date [3 items]

Cabinet 10 – 2/4
Owl - Linoblock

Cabinet 10-2/5
Harbour Gulls – Copy print and transparency
Framed:
"Driftwood Long Beach, B.C." (99 x 76 cm)
"Salmon Boats" (99 x 76 cm)
Cancellation Print Proofs

Box 15

Prints – Linoblocks

15-1 "B.C. Harbour Craft" - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (2)
15-2 "Totems, Kispiox, B.C." - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (3)
15-3 "Drfitwood Long Beach, B.C." - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (3)
15-4 "Coastal Fishing Village" - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (3)
15-5 "Winter Drydock, B.C." - Unnumbered prints (1)
15-6 "Old Wharf, Fraser River, B.C." - Unnumbered prints (3)
15-7 "Island Beach" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof Print / Numbered prints 4-15/15 [1982]
15-8  "Wintering" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof Print / Numbered prints 9-15/15 [1982]
15-9  "Lowtide" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof / Numbered print 15/15 [1982]
15-10 "Salmon Boats" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof Print / Numbered prints 10/15, 15/15 [1982]
15-11 "Small Craft" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof Print / Numbered print 15/15 [1982]
15-12 "Harbour Gulls" - Linoblock / Cancellation Proof Print [1982]
15-13 "Sea Fringe" - Linoblock / Unnumbered print
15-14 "Beached Boats" - Linoblock / Cancellation Print Proof [1982]
15-15 "Rocky Inlet" - Unnumbered print
   "Crowded Mooring" - Unnumbered print
15-16 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (4)
15-17 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (2)
15-18 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered print
15-19 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered print
15-20 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered prints (2)
15-21 Unidentified - Linoblock / Unnumbered print
15-22 Unidentified Unnumbered prints
15-23 Woodcut and Lithograph - Printing records / Certificates of Authenticity
15-24 Records of prints - Miscellaneous

Box 16

Miscellaneous Lino- and Woodblocks - 19 items unidentified

Box 17

31 relief metal etchings on wood blocks, likely acid etched (possibly the metal mounted on the wood block is zinc)
Oversize lino- and woodblock print reproductions

Box 18

Print Cancellation Proofs - Lithographs

18-1 [5 items]
   "Blenheim Shipway"
   "Boats in the Harbour" [1977]
   "Coastal Poem" [1981]
"Misty Morn" [1981]
"Dawn" [1981]
18-2 [5 items]
"Rain" [1981]
"Family Tree" [1981]
"Who Me?" [1980]
"Morning" [1980]
"You Know Who" [1978]
18-3 [5 items]
"Gull" [1980]
"Nog the Heron" [1979]
"Waiting Gulls" [1977]
"Coast Highway"
"Island Shore"

Print Cancellation Proofs - Woodcuts

18-4 [5 items]
"A Bird in the Hand"
"Beached" [1983]
"City Dwellers" [1980]
"Sentinel" [1985]
"Sea Fever"
18-5 [6 items]
"Ugh" [1985]
"Fledglings"
"Two Birds in a Bush"
"Sunflower"
"Harmony" [1979]
"Kingfisher" [1987]

Cabinet 10 – 3/1
[5 items]
"The Accuser" [1987]
"The Artist" [1977]
"Salmon Boats" [1979]
"Summer Garden" [1978]
"Gossip" [1978]
Cabinet 10 – 3/2

[5 items]
"Flora Gothic" [1978]
"The Intruder" [1979]
"Canadas" [1979]
"Gull Colony"
"Homeguard" [1981]

Cabinet 10 – 3/3

[4 items]
"In the Wood" [1984]
"Shore Birds" [1984]
"Old Wharf" [1982]
"On Parade" [1980]

Cabinet 10 – 3/4

[3 items]
"Boats, B.C." [1983]
"Lone Heron" [1983]
"The Critics" [1982]

Cabinet 10 – 3/5

[5 items]
"Proud Trio" [1980]
"Farewell to Summer" [1979]
"Cormarants" [1980]
"Cock o’the Walk" [1981]
"Cacophony" [1981]

Cabinet 10-3/6

[4 items]
"Salmon Fishermen" [1977]
"Flower Girl, Portugal"
"Cornish Village"
"Seven Sinners"

Cabinet 10 – 3/7

[6 items]
"Winter Set"
"Golden Summer"
"Crowded Wharf"
"Beached Boats, Portugal"
"Canada Geese” [1978]
"Northern Visitors State II” [1978]

Print Cancellation Proofs - Lithographs

Cabinet 10 – 4/1
[6 items]
"Ocean Ramparts" [1982]
"Morning Waders"
"Blue Heaven” [1979]
"Pres. and Vice-Pres.” [1980]
"Headin’ Home” [1981]
"Old Man Heron” [1981]

Cabinet 10 – 4/2
[5 items]
"Rocky Shore"
"The Great Rocks, N.S.” [1982]
"Blue Rocks, N.S.” [1982]
"Fishers’ Morn” [1985]
"Flyway North” [1983]

Cabinet 10 – 4/3
[3 items]
"Nightwatcher” [1982]
"Silent Observer” [1982]
Untitled

Cabinet 10 – 4/4
[2 items]
"B.C. Welder” (Lino)
Untitled

Miscellaneous Art by Black

Box 18  cont’d

18-11  3 undated, untitled chalk/pastel sketched, 2 untitled, undated crayon pastel sketches
**Box 19**

19-1  Etchings – Prints [5 items]:
   "Blackwaterfoot" (1940) – Print 4/20
   "Power of India" (n.d.) – Print 1/50
   "Towards the Clyde" (1940) – Print 5/25
   "Farnham, Surrey" (1941) – Print 2/25
   [Also copper plate]

19-2  2 intaglio prints on metal sheeting (n.d.)

19-3  Unidentified oil on canvas (n.d.) [by Black?]

**Cabinet 10 – 4/5**
   Kurograph - Knight on Horseback (n.d.)

**Box 19 (cont’d)**

Vancouver City Street Banners (1990)

   14 Banners

**Box 20**

   Paper designs for street banners mounted on 6 sheets

**Box 21**

   Miscellaneous patterns, designs and coloured material used by Black to create street banners

**Box 22**

Metal Work

22-1  5 sheets of design sketches for metal sculptures (n.d.)
   4 metal sculptures
   Also Shieling Gallery sign and crest (stored at end of fonds)

**Miscellaneous Art Work by Others**

   Ian Fleming – "Sunrise in Galloway" (n.d.) – etching
Jay Lessells - print 6/30 (n.d.)
Robin Tanner "June in Wiltshire" (1949)
Ap '86?
Unidentified Japanese watercolour (n.d.)

Cabinet 10 – 4/6
Caricatures of SB and members of his last graduation class (1978)

Cabinet 10 – 4/7
Collage of cartoons presented to SB on his retirement (April 1978)

Cabinet 10 – 4/8
Miscellaneous art by others – Students? [11 items]

PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

The series consists of photographic prints, negatives and slides subdivided into a number of categories.

Photographic Prints [2,923 images]
The photographic prints have been broken into the following general categories: Sam Black and family (352 images), SB’s artwork (1,309 images), travel (943 images), and miscellaneous (319 images).

Box 23

Photographs of Sam Black

23-1 SB in rugby uniform (193- ) [1 print]
SB with rugby team (193-) [1 print]
SB (193-) [3 prints]
SB in military uniform – World War II (ca. 194-) [8 prints, 4 negs]
23-2 INSEA trip to Japan 1960? [23 prints]
INSEA trip to Philippines 1960? [24 prints]
Unidentified event - Hawaii October 1961? [5 prints]
INSEA event 1963? [1 print]
23-3 SB and other UBC Master Teacher Award winners (ca. 1970) [1 print]
SB and unidentified group (1972) [1 print]
SB (1976) [1 print]
SB in Adelaide, Australia (August 1978) [1 print]
SB (197-) [1 print]
SB and unidentified woman (1986) [1 print]
SB portrait (1987) [33 prints]

23-4 SB at UBC honorary degree ceremony (1 June 1990) [6 prints]
SB at Vancouver street banner event (1990) [2 prints]
SB passport photograph (1992) [1 print]
Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colours (1993) [2 prints]
CSPWC – AGM (1993) [1 print]
SB receiving INSEA honorary life membership (1997) [2 prints]
SB at UBC congregation (28 May 1997) [10 prints]
SB and others (199-) [3 prints]
SB on sailboat (199-) [3 prints]
SB at unidentified social function at his home (199-) [3 prints]

23-5/10 Miscellaneous photographs of SB grouped in approximate chronological order [115 prints]

23-11 Miscellaneous photographs of Black family (n.d.) [21 prints]
23-12 Shieling interior photographs (n.d.) [16 prints]
23-13 Shieling exterior and view shots (n.d.) [34 prints]

Box 24

Photographs of SB Artwork - Paintings [Roughly grouped according to subject]

24-1 Boats - Freighters [67]
24-2/5 Boats – Miscellaneous [179]
24-6/8 Birds – Seagulls [153]
24-9 Birds – Owls [56]
24-10 Birds – Herons [19]
24-11 Birds – Geese [14]
24-12 Birds – Miscellaneous [41]
24-13/14 Miscellaneous [123]

Photographs of SB Artwork - Paintings [Grouped together chronologically by SB]

24-15 1990 [5]
24-16 1990/91 [5]
24-17  1991 [22]
24-18/20  1992/93 [85]

Box 25

25-1  Photographs of SB Artwork – Sketchbooks – Prints [49]
25-3  Photographs of SB Artwork – Metal Sculptures – Bird Tree – Prints [23]
25-4  Photographs of SB Artwork – Metal Sculptures – Misc. – Prints [5]
25-5  Photographs of SB Artwork – Nesting Boxes – Prints [14]
25-6  Photographs of SB Artwork – Street Banners (Paper Design) – Prints [21]
25-7  Photographs of SB Artwork – Street Banners – Prints [39]
25-8  Negatives - SB Artwork – Miscellaneous [374]

Box 26

Photographs – Primarily from Travels

26-1/3  Nova Scotia  [132]
26-4/6  Channel Islands  [105]
26-7  Bowen Island – Spillway [16]
26-9  Queen Charlotte Islands [27]
26-10  Christie Island – Howe Sound [53]
26-12  Barbados (1986) [33]
26-13/14  Portugal [87]
26-15  Vancouver and BC [53]
26-16  Vancouver Courthouse [18]
26-17  Siwash Rock ( Stanley Park) [11]
26-18  Jericho Beach/Mountains [3]

Box 27

27-1  Ireland – Harbours [6]
27-2  Thornham/Hamstanton (1995) [31]
27-3/5  Scotland - 3 (1990) [129]
27-6  Scotland, Ireland and England (1991) [36]
27-7  UK, Cornwall and Scotland [52]
27-8  Sleugh – Thonrham, UK (1992) [36]
Photographs – Miscellaneous

Birds

27-11 Geese/Seagulls [40]
27-12 Ducks, Misc. [24]
27-13 Gulls [19]
27-14/15 Geese – Bowen Island –2 [72]
27-16 Owls [13]

Painting Ideas

27-17 Boats and the Fraser River [35]
27-18 Boat forms [32]
27-19 Landscapes/Lanes [11]
27-20 Howe Sound [22]
27-21 UK [8]
27-22/23 Miscellaneous – 2 [43]

Boxes 28, 29

Negatives

Approximately 5,500 negatives

Because the provenance between the photographic prints and negatives (approximately 5,500) is very difficult to determine, with the exception of the 374 negatives listed in the "Artwork" section, there has been no effort made to attempt to match them up. Approximately 230 original photo processing envelopes have been placed in boxes 28 and 29.

Slides

This includes 1,706 slides consisting of copies of various art pieces created by SB, the Black family, slides from travels, and other miscellaneous images. As much as possible the categories assigned by Black have been retained.
Box 30

SB Artwork

Sheets 1–11 Watercolours, Acrylics, Sketches 249 slides
Sheets 14–17 Sketchbook Images 71 slides
Sheets 18 – 19 Metal Sculptures 28 slides
Sheets 19 – 22 Travel Sketches 61 slides
Sheet 23 1984 Show 13 slides

Black family (and slides of Shieling, Black’s home on Bowen Island)

Sheets 24 – 26 49 slides

Box 31

Travel Slides

#1- 10 China 297 slides
#11 – 11a Mexico 56 slides
#12 – 15 Japan 97 slides
#16 – 23 Australia 213 slides
#24 – 27 Hawaii, Hong Kong and Manila 110 slides
#28 – 30 London Spares [?] 77 slides

Miscellaneous Slides

#31 – 34 Nature 91 slides
#35 – 37 Misc. Picture Ideas 109 slides
#38 Seagulls 9 slides
#39 – 40 Water Colour Artists – History 64 slides
#41 Student Drawings 29 slides
#42 Group Paintings 24 slides
#43 Camouflage 20 slides
#44 Handwriting 16 slides
#45 "The Skull and All That Kind of Noise" 23 slides
Audio/Video Tapes

Audio Tapes

AT 2387  Sam Black interview with Michelle Gibson on CJOR (19 May 1987)
AT 2388  Performance of "Sam Black Sketches" – Premier – Lethbridge Symphony Orchestra (1 May 1988)
          Includes brief introduction by composer Stewart Grant
AT 2389  Performance of "Sam Black Sketches" – Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (12 February 1990)
          Includes brief introduction by composer Stewart Grant
AT 2390  50th Wedding Anniversary – Sam and Elizabeth Black – Speeches (3 May 1991)
AT 2391  Unidentified Islands’ Trust meeting – "Island Development" (2 cassette tapes)

Video Tapes

VT 845  "Expressions – Sam Black: Surface Flows"
        Part of the "Expressions" series which featured B.C. artists, this video focuses on Black talking about art and showing a number of his works. (24 minutes)
VT 846  "Art Explorations – A Workshop with Sam Black" (1990?)
        Part of the "Contemporary Art in Canada Tele-course offered by Emily Carr College and the Open Learning Institute, this video consists of an open line show with Black as guest hosted by Max Wyman and a tape of a workshop offered by Black at Emily Carr College. (60 minutes)
VT 847  Copy of VT 845 and VT 846
VT 848  Sam Black’s 80th birthday dinner at the UBC Faculty Club (1993)
VT 849  "Sharing Vision" – Short demo video produced to support this project. (September 1994)
        [See also 7-1 "Sharing Vision"]
VT 850  "Celebration of Wilderness" (1988?)
        Video tape of artists who participated in the Stein Artists’ Expedition as a fundraising activity for the Western Canada Wilderness Committee. Black didn’t travel to the Stein but he donated Coastal Poem State II to the effort.
VT 2256  "Sharing Visions: Stewart Grant/Sam Black" (2001)
        Documentary tracing the collaboration of artist Sam Black and composer Stewart Grant in the creation of "The Sam Black Sketches", a colourful 22-minute orchestral interpretation of Black’s art.
ARTIFACTS

Box 32

Medals - Sam Black

1939-1945 Star
France and Germany Star
British Defence
War Medal 1939-45
Belgian Medal Civil for Bravery
1867-1967 Canadian Centennial Medal
Normandy 1944
National Service Medal

Medals - James Black

3 medals - Boer War and World War I

Box 33

Coloured art pencils
Graphic pencils
Writing pens
Charcoal
Carrying cases
Paint brushes
Ink rollers

Box 34

Wooden clipboard
Gouging, cutting and drilling tools
Samples of uncut woodblocks and linoblocks
Human skull
Animal skull
Silver flask
Sculpture of a head
Box 35

Colour separation sheets used in the reproduction of Black’s work primarily for cards.

- Little Fisherman
- Caribbean Yachts
- Channel Island Fishing Boats
- Indian Harbour, Nova Scotia
- Boat
- Two Seagulls
- Nova Scotia Village Scenes
- English Bay Freighter
- Bowen Island Almanac Cover
- Peggy’s Cove
- Dover, Nova Scotia
- Duck
- Heron
- Miscellaneous

Black’s Stamp album (dated 5/6/26)