

Ian Hugo Collection

Museum of Modern Art, Department of Film

Ian Hugo (February 15, 1898 – January 7, 1985), banker, artist and filmmaker, born Hugh Parker Guiler in Boston, Massachusetts. He took up engraving and etching in 1940 and filmmaking in 1950. Married to Anaïs Nin (1903-1977) in 1923, his engravings illustrated a number of her publications (e.g. *The Winter of Artifice*, 1945 edition).

His films include *Ai-Ye*, 1950; *Bells of Atlantis*, 1952; *Jazz of Lights*, 1954; *Melodic Inversion*, 1958; *The Gondola Eye* (1963-1971); *Through the Magiscope*, 1969; *Apertura*, 1970; *Aphrodisiac I*, 1971; *Ian Hugo, Engraver and Filmmaker*, 1972; *Aphrodisiac II*, 1972; *Levitation*, 1972; *Transmigration*, 1973; *Transcending*, 1974; *Luminiscence*, 1977 with Arnold Eagle; *Reborn*, 1979. A number of these films are in the Museum's collection.

Acquisition.

Received February, 2013. This selection of material from the Hugo Estate was the gift of Alexandra Soteriou of Hawthorne, New Jersey, heir to the collection maintained in her care since Hugo's death. Ms Soteriou began as the artist's "helper" in 1975 and, at the time of this gift, ran a "tree-free" paper production and products business, World Paper, Inc. from her home. The initial contact with Ms Soteriou was made in January 2012 by Judy Hecker, Assistant Curator in the Department of Prints and Illustrated Books. Associate Curator Ron Magliozzi made the selection of work on behalf of the Department of Film, sampling items from each category of material offered. These included copper plates, plaster cast, wood blocks, sketchbooks, and ephemera, but not tools. His choices were made on loose criteria of comparison between Hugo's engravings, prints and films (i.e. movement, subjects, and visual imagination).

Scope and content.

Engraving materials appear to date from the 1940's, including seven wood blocks, fifty-one copper plates, six sketchbooks and forty-four loose sketch sheets, and ten prints. Film exhibition-related documentation dates from the 1970's. The collection does NOT contain film production material.

The collection is housed in six archive boxes: five tan-colored, legal sized and one tan-colored, flat box.

Inventory.

Box 1/6

- Folder 1A acquisition documents
- Folder 1B acquisition documents
- Folder 2A Ian Hugo press notices, 1940's, photocopy
- Folder 2B New Eyes on the Art of Engraving, Ian Hugo, 1946 (inscribed 1979)
- Folder 3 Columbia University, Maison Francaise, NY, 1975
- Folder 4 Anthology Film Archives, NY, Video and Art Program, 1977/2007
- Folder 5 American Film Festival, "A personal foreword...", 1977
- Folder 6 Museum of Modern Art, NY, Circulating Film brochure, ca 1978
- Folder 7 Museum of Modern Art, NY, programs, 1978-1980
- Folder 8 First Light catalog, 1998; correspondence 2007
- Folder 9 Susan Teller Gallery fact sheet, 2008
- Folder 10 *The Square*, sketchbook and five page text, undated
- Folder 11 *Tree of Life* sketchbook, undated
- Folder 12 sketchbook, tan leather, 8x5 3/8", undated
- Folder 13 The Stuart Sketch Pad [#1], spiral-bound, undated
- Folder 14 The Stuart Sketch Pad (Michael's) [#2], spiral-bound, undated
- Folder 15 The Stuart Sketch Pad, two loose pages, undated
- Folder 16 The Empire Sketch Book, 14x10', spiral bound, undated
- Folder 17 sketch pages, loose, 14 sheets, 12x9", undated

Box 2/6

- Folder 18 sketches collaged on 3 sheets; "Where love is made...", undated
- Folder 19 sketches, misc. on 4 sheets, 14 1/2 x 9 1/4 ", undated
- Folder 20 sketches, misc. on 3 sheets, 14x9", undated
- Folder 21 sketches, misc. on 4 sheets, 11x9", undated
- Folder 22 sketches, misc. on 6 sheets, 9x 6 1/2 -10 1/2 x8", undated
- Folder 23 sketches, misc. on 2 sheets, 7 1/2 x 5", undated
- Folder 24 print, unidentified, found in The Empire Sketchbook, undated
- Folder 25 print, *Symphony*, 11x8 3/4", 1943
- Folder 26 print, *Ladders to Fire*, 11 1/2 x9 1/2", 1946
- Folder 27 print, *Jungle Book*, 12 1/2 x 8 1/2 ", 1945

Folder 28A print, *In the Beginning*, 12 ¼ x 9 ¼ “, 1941
Folder 28B print, *Peace (Intaglio)*, 10 x 7 ½”, 1946
Folder 28C print, *Intaglio Peace*, 9 ½ x 7 7/8”, 1946
Folder 28D print, *Family Tree*, 10 3/8 x 5 3/8, 1943
Folder 28E print, *Intrusion*, 10 5/8 x 6 7/8, 1941

Box 3/6

Folder 29 wood blocks, *The Winter of Artiface*, 1945 edition / *Mirror Images*, 1947, 6 3/8 x 4 ¼ “
Folder 30 wood blocks, Anaïs Nin publication: stork-like figure / King – Avenging Angel figures, 7 x 5”, undated
Folder 31 wood block, gray-toned (metal?) two-figures in rapture, 5 ¾ x 3 1/8”, undated
Folder 32 wood blocks, gray-toned (metal?) surreal gun, 5 ¾ x 5 ¼ “ / surreal ear, 5 ¾ x 4 ½ “, undated these are not Hugo’s work

Box 4/6

Folder 33 copper plate, *Departure*, 4 x 2 ½ “, undated
Folder 34 copper plate, *Cheship*, 4 x 3 ½”, undated
Folder 35 copper plate, V18, 3 7/8 x 3 ½ “, undated
Folder 36 copper plate, *Junglitis*, 4 x 2 ½ “, undated
Folder 37 copper plate, *Anger from Fear*, 5 ½ x 3 ½ “, ca 1942
Folder 38 copper plate, *Tentative*, 4 ½ x 4”, undated
Folder 39 copper plate, v14, 4 ½ x 3 1/8”, undated
Folder 40 copper plate, *Cobweb Giraffes*, 6 x 3 ¾”, 1940
Folder 41 copper plate, V11, 6 x 3 ¾ “, undated
Folder 42 copper plate, *Shell*, 5 x 5”, 1943
Folder 43 copper plate, *Father*, 5 x 4 ¾ “, 1941
Folder 44 copper plate, *Dopple Ganger II*, 6 x 5”, 1943
Folder 45 copper plate, *Dopple Ganger I*, 6 x 5”, 1943
Folder 46 copper plate, E, 9x4’ undated
Folder 47 copper plate, *Forget It*, 8 x 6”, undated
Folder 48 copper plate, *Anger is the Edge of Fear*, 8 x 5 7/8 “, 1942
Folder 49 copper plate, *Confusion*, 5 x 5”, undated
Folder 50 copper plate, *In the Beginning*, 10 x 5”, undated
Folder 51 copper plate, *Cops and Copulation*, 5 x 5”, undated

Folder 52 copper plate, *Jungle Book*, 10 x 7 ½", 1943
Folder 53 copper plate, *The Boojah of Ghat*, 10x8", 1942
Folder 54 copper plate, *Under a Glass Bell*, 12 x 10", 1944

Box 5/6

Folder 55 copper plate, *Dancing*, 4 x 2 ½", undated
Folder 56 copper plate, V27, 3 ¾ x 2 ½ ", undated
Folder 57 copper plate, *Sundog*, 4 x 2 ½ ", undated
Folder 58 copper plate, V26, 3 ¾ x 2 ½ ", undated
Folder 59 copper plate, *Growth*, 4 x 2 ½ ", undated
Folder 60 copper plate, *Academe*, 3 5/8 x 2", undated
Folder 61 copper plate, *Marine Jungle*, 4 x 3 ½ ", undated
Folder 62 copper plate, V17, 3 ¾ x 3 ½ ", undated
Folder 63 copper plate, V16, 3 7/8 x 3 ½ ", undated
Folder 64 copper plate, *Symphony*, 6 1/8 x 3 7/8", 1943
Folder 65 copper plate, *Mirror Images*, 6 x 4", 1947
Folder 66 copper plate, V10, 5 x 5", undated
Folder 67 copper plate, V8, 6 ¼ x 4", undated
Folder 68 copper plate, *On Stage*, 5 ¾ x 4", 1944
Folder 69 copper plate, book plate, 8 x 4 ½", undated
Folder 70 copper plate, *Amok*, 9 x 4 ½ ", undated
Folder 71 copper plate, *Look-Out*, 5 x 3 ½ ", 1947
Folder 72 copper plate, V15, 4 ½ x 3 ½ ", undated
Folder 73 copper plate, V31, 3 ¼ x 2 ½ ", undated
Folder 74 copper plate, book plate, L-shaped, 4 ½ x 3 3/8 ", undated
Folder 75 copper plate, *Clownship*, 4 3/8 x 4 3/8 ", undated
Folder 76 copper plate, 59, 8 ½ x 3", undated
Folder 77 copper plate, *Peacock Lynx*, 7 x 5", 1945
Folder 78 copper plate, *Night Gods*, 9 x 6", 1943
Folder 79 copper plate, 2532, 9 x 6", undated
Folder 80 copper plate, *Ladder to the Fire*, 8 5/8 x 7", 1946
Folder 81 copper plate, B, 8 x 4 ½ ", undated
Folder 82 copper plate, *Three Dancers*, 10 x 8", undated
Folder 83 copper plate, 102, 10 x 8", undated

Box 6/6

Folder 84 photographic print, portrait of Ian Hugo, D Arlene Studios, NY,

13 3/8 x 10", ca 1940's

Folder 85 sketches, misc. three sheets, 16 1/4 x 5 1/4 " – 14 5/8 x 4 1/2 ",
undated

Folder 86 print, *No Name*, 13 1/8 x 10", 1941

Folder 87 print, *The Boojah of Gnat*, 13 1/4 x 10", 1942

Folder 88 print, *Shell*, 13 1/4 x 10", 1943

Folder 89 print, *Jungle Book, state II*, 15 x 12 1/2 ", 1943

Folder 90 print, *Panic*, 14 1/4 x 12 3/4 ", 1945

Folder 91 print, *Under a Glass Bell*, 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 ", 1944

Folder 92 print, *Catnip*, 13 1/4 x 9 3/4" 1946

Folder 93 print, *Chunghi Gravure au Burin sur Cuivre*, 14 1/2 x 9 1/2",
undated

Folder 94 drawing? on plastic-backed tissue, [untitled with duck] 15 x 10",
Undated

Flat storage (plan file as of 11/2013)

print, *Toreador*, 22 1/16 x 14 3/4", 1948

Ron Magliozzi, July 2013 / added items from Prints and Illustrated Books Dept
November 2013