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COLLECTION NUMBER: 2018-42
JACK SURES

FEBRUARY 2018

BY ELIZABETH SEITZ

Biographical Sketch: Jack Sures was born in Brandon, Manitoba in 1934. He attended the University of Manitoba (BFA 1957) and Michigan State University (MA 1959, Painting and Printmaking).

Returning to Manitoba Sures taught junior high school in Winnipeg for one year. In 1960 he left Canada again, this time taking up residence in London where he worked part-time at Chelsea Pottery and part-time at another pottery making ceramic cats. He studied classical guitar and pursued his own painting in a one-room apartment/studio. In 1961-62 he traveled extensively throughout Europe and the Middle East visiting galleries and museums and working for a time in Cyprus and Israel.

In 1962 Sures returned to Canada and established a ceramic studio in Winnipeg where he became inventor, teacher, and artist. He built Manitoba's first gas kiln with the help of colleague Ron Burke.

In 1965 he was offered an opportunity to establish a ceramics program at the Regina Campus of the University of Saskatchewan (now University of Regina). The same year he was the recipient of a Canada Council grant enabling him to work in Japan for six months in 1966. From 1969 to 1971 he served as Chairman of the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Regina. Another Canada Council grant took Sures to France in 1972. He then accepted a fifteen-month appointment to work for the United Nations Handcraft Development Program in Grenada, West Indies before returning to Regina in 1974.

Throughout his career, Jack Sures has traveled extensively in Canada, the United States and abroad, conducting lectures, demonstrations and workshops at universities, colleges, high schools, art galleries and museums. Over the years he has offered his expertise as consultant to a variety of organizations including the Canada Council, the Banff Centre, the Regina Wascana Centre Authority, Fine Arts Committee; and the Board of the Canadian Conference of the Arts.

Work by Jack Sures has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally and is included in the collections of the Saskatchewan Arts Board; External Affairs Canada; Province of Saskatchewan; University of Saskatchewan, Pecs National Museum, Hungary; and the University of Regina. His major commissions include ceramic pieces for Secretary of State Canada; a ceramic mural for the Provincial Office Building, Saskatoon; a terrazzo floor for the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Regina; and a mural for the Museum of Civilization, Ottawa. In 1989 he was awarded the Grand Prize in "Mino '89", the foremost international ceramic competition held in Japan every three years.

Recognizing his outstanding contributions to undergraduate teaching at the University of Regina, Jack Sures was awarded the Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching at Fall Convocation on October 19, 1991. Further recognizing his achievements, on October 30, 1991, he received the Badge of the Order of Canada, from the Governor General of Canada at an investiture ceremony at Government House, Ottawa. In 1992 he received the Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Research. He was elected to the International Academy of Ceramics and he also received the Commemorative Medal of the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada in Recognition of Significant Contribution to Compatriots and to Canada.

Jack Sures retired, after 33 years of teaching undergraduate and graduate ceramics students, in June 1998. He was granted the honorary title of 'Professor Emeritus' in November of the same year. In 2018 Sures was named as the winner of the Saidye Bronfman Award.

Sures passed away in 2018.

Written by Jack Sures, 2015
Edited by E. Seitz, 2018

Scope and Content: This oversize collection contains 9 certificates belonging to Jack Sures.

Custodial History: Cara Gay (Driscoll) Sures transferred the certificates to the University of Regina Archives in July 2018.

Legal Agreement and Access Restrictions: A legal agreement is pending.

Future Accruals: Future accruals are expected.

Access Restrictions: There are no restrictions to access for this collection.

Oversize Folder #1

Certificate #1: Japanese and Chinese Writing – Translation needed.

Certificate #2: Grand Prix Ceramics Design Section, Jack Sures - Presented for outstanding achievement in "The 2nd International Ceramics Competition '89 Mino, Japan" Signed by several officials of the event, October 22, 1989. Translation needed.

Certificate #3: (on foam-board): Quarter Century Club Certificate. In Recognition of 25 Years of Loyal Service with the University of Regina, Presented to Jack Sures on March 18, 1991. Signed Donald O. Wells and by the University Secretary, Reid Robinson.

Certificate #4: University of Regina Alumni Association Award For Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Fall Convocation 1991; Awarded to Professor Jack Sures, Faculty of Fine Arts. Signed by Chris Pasterfield, President of Alumni University of Regina.

Certificate #5: University of Regina Alumni Association Award For Excellence in Research; Fall Convocation 1992; Awarded to Professor Jack Sures, Faculty of Fine Arts by Marjorie Gavigan, President of Alumni University of Regina.

Certificate #6: On the occasion of the fiftieth Anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty The Queen to the Throne the Golden Jubilee Medal is presented to Professor Jack Sures, C.M., Canadian Governor General 1952-2002, signed by _____.

Certificate #7: The Saidye Bronfman Award for Excellence in the Fine Crafts 2002 – Finalist - Jack Sures, Ceramic Artist. Signed by _____, Chairman of the Canada Council for the Arts; John English, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corporation; and by _____, President of The Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation.

Certificate #8: Saskatchewan Craft Council Honourary Membership. Presented to Jack Sures, CM. In recognition of your exceptional commitment and support to the Saskatchewan craft community. Your efforts provide for the promotion and facilitation of craft excellence in Saskatchewan. Signed by David Freeman, Chair of the Board of Directors, dated: May 3, 2003.

Certificate #9: (on foam-board): signed by _____ Attorney General; Lynda Haverstock, Chancellor and Lieutenant Governor; _____ Provincial Secretary and Lorne Calvert, Premier.

Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and her other Realms and Territories Queen, head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith To Jack Sures know ye that in recognition of your outstanding contributions to Saskatchewan society, on the nomination of our Saskatchewan Honours Advisory Council, and with the approval and on the recommendation of the President of Our Executive Council for the Province of Saskatchewan. We do by these presents invest you with the Saskatchewan Order of Merit and we do hereby admit you to membership of the said Order, together with the rights, privileges and advantages there unto appertaining. In testimony whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of Saskatchewan to be hereunto affixed. Witness: Our right trusty and well-beloved the honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock, Member and Chancellor of Our Saskatchewan Order of Merit and Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of Saskatchewan, at Our

Government House in Our Capital City of Regina in Our said Province this twenty-sixth day of January 2004 and in the fifty-second year of Our Reign. By Command.