

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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88-74

TONY TASCONA

SHELLEY SWEENEY  
WITH ASSISTANCE BY DAYNA TEES

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REVISED  
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ELIZABETH SEITZ

During the last two decades Tony Tascona has emerged as one of Western Canada's most distinguished visual artists. Born in St. Boniface, Manitoba in 1926, the artist attended the Winnipeg School of Art and the University of Manitoba, School of Fine Arts between 1948 and 1952. While working for Canadian Aviation Electronics and Trans Canada Airlines between 1953 and 1971, as an electroplating technician he was able to compound a knowledge of metallurgy and its related technologies. Tascona left his position in 1971 to devote his efforts chiefly to his art.

Since the late 1950s the artist has had his works displayed in several notable exhibitions, Single-artist shows include: the Winnipeg Art Gallery; Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton; and La Galerie Internationale, Ribe, Denmark. The artist has also had his works included in group exhibitions such as: "Survey 1968", Montreal Museum of Fine Arts; "Manitoba Artists Overseas", Canada House Gallery of Canada, Tascona's awards have been numerous. Besides having been the recipient of several Canada Council grants, he has received citations from the Royal Canadian Academy, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and the Italian Academy of Arts and Works. In addition he received an honorary degree from St. John's College of the University of Manitoba.

This collection is comprised of both Tascona's personal and professional papers. Of note is the artist's correspondence which covers the period from the early 1960s to the late 1980s. Of particular interest, however, are the files relating to Tascona's relations with various dealers and on his commissions which show that he was both artist and businessman. Photographs covering his life, slides of his works, numerous publications on his career and his art, all carefully maintained throughout Tascona's life, make this collection one of the most thorough and comprehensive art collections to date.

Note on Arrangement: These papers were arranged by Doreen Millen in consultation with the artist. Original order was therefore maintained. In 2011 further processing was completed wherein the following count was noted: 837 Photographs, 672 Slides, 4 Contact Sheets and 160 Negative Strips exist within the collection; at this time, the folders were also numbered.

Appendices for Tascona's Catalogue Collection and Card Collection are also available.

- Box 1 1 Bigger Michael (American sculptor, former teacher at U. of MB.) (8 Photographs)  
 2 Biographies, curriculum vitae (includes *The Italians in Canada*, by A.V. Spada, 1969)  
 3 Boning, Jan, Sigrid, Frieso and David (Winnipeg printer and family members) (4 Photographs)  
 4 Bowman, Richard (American artists, former teacher of T.T. at Art School (5 Photographs)  
 5 Chody, Bill (local artist and studio neighbor/friend of T.T.) (1 Photograph)  
 6 Donnelly, K.C. (local artist and friend of T.T.)  
 7 Eastcott, Wayne (Vancouver artist and friend of T.T.)  
 8 Howarth, Ted (Winnipeg printmaker and friend of T.T.)  
 9 Jack Chambers Foundation  
 10 Leathers, Winston (Winnipeg artist and friend of T.T. early in career)  
 11 Marok, John (Montreal artist and friend of T.T.)  
 12 McCloy, Bill (Connecticut artist, first dean of the University of Manitoba Fine Art School.)  
 13 Mikuska, Frank (Winnipeg graphic designer for CBC, early career friend and peer of T.T.)
- Box 2 14 Mitchell, Janet (Calgary artist and friend of T.T.)  
 15 Nelson, Colleen (Winnipeg ornithologist and bird illustrator and friend of T.T.) (4 Slides)  
 16 Nicoll, Marion and Jim (Calgary artists and friends of T.T.)  
 17 Noordhoek, Harry (former Albertan sculptor living and working in Cararra, Italy and long-time friend of T.T.) (5 Photographs)  
 18 Ohe, Katie (Calgary printmaker and friend of T.T.)  
 19 Olito, Michael (Winnipeg artist and friend of T.T.) (3 Photographs)  
 20 Perreault, Wilf (Regina printmaker and friend of T.T.)  
 21 Reichert, Don (Winnipeg artist and friend of artists early in career)  
 22 Swinton, George (Winnipeg art teacher/critic/artist)  
 Miscellaneous files with art cards from artists:  
 23 A to C, including cards from: Judith Allsop, Burton Bass, Peter Bell, Kelly Clark, Eugene Czerednikow.  
 24 D to I, including cards from: D.L., Joe DeAngelis, Joan Dewson, John Doole, Mac Drope, Caroline Dukes, Chris Finn, Sarah Gersovitz, Jerry Grey, Sandy Haeseker, Ted Howarth, H.V.P. (Helen Piddington)  
 25 J to N, including cards from: Fran Jones, Mary-Louise Kreyes, Roger Lafrennier, Pat Landsley, H. Lemay, Elsa Mayhew, Mars Mayhew.
- Box 3 26 O to Z, including David Partridge, Richard Reid, Bob Rosewarne, Ken Saltmarche, Arnold Saper, Reiner Strub, David Thauberger, John Turner, Tony Urguhart, Jordan Van Sewell, Alan Wood.  
 27 Art School, early Winnipeg (11 Photographs)  
 28 Besant, Derek/Haeseker, Alexander (Calgary artists/teachers)  
 29 Cameron, Ann/Burroni, Fabrizio (Toronto curator, formerly T.T. curator in Winnipeg, friend of artist. The artist is God-father to hers and Frabrizio Burroni's son Marco.) - Canada Council (1 Photograph)  
 30 Canada Council  
 31 Cards (non-art) from artists and critics, including: Montreal critic Robert Ayre and British critic Will Townsend, Potters Five in Toronto, Pat Ainsley, Tony Onley, Ann Smith, Tom Hendry  
 32 Cards (non-art) from other - than artists  
 33 CARFAC  
 Catalogues  
 34 General - Other Artists
- Box 4 35 Auctions, Private Collection, T.V show, including works by T.T.  
 36 R.C.A. exhibitions including works by T.T.:  
 37 Tascona one-man shows  
 38 Tascona group shows (2-10)  
 39 Tascona group shows (10+) (1/3 folders)
- Box 5 40 Tascona group shows (10+) (2/3 folders)  
 41 Tascona group shows (10+) (3/3 folders)  
 42 Winnipeg Art Gallery  
 43 Clients List, early 60's  
 44 Cookbook: A Culinary Palette (collection of recipes by artists across Canada, publication

- including T.T.), correspondence and press clippings) (1 Photograph)
- Commissions
- Box 6 45 Centennial Concert Hall, (Commission) 1967 (33 Slides) (1 Photograph)
- 46 Fletcher Argue Building, U. of Manitoba, (Commission) 1969 (2 Photographs)
- 47 Freshwater Institute, (Commission) 1971 (40 Slides)
- 48 Law Courts Building, (Commission) 1983 (7 Slides) (15 Photographs)
- 49 St. Boniface Research Hospital, (Commission) 1986 (34 Slides)
- 50 Windsor Public Library, (Commission) n.d.
- 51 Winnipeg Centennial Library, (Commission) 1977 (2 Photographs) (53 Slides)
- 52 Winnipeg Convention Centre (Commissions – Proposal)
- 53 YWCA Building, (Commission) 1967 (1 Photograph)
- Correspondence
- 54 Undated
- 55 1960-65 (includes letter from Gabrielle Roy)
- 56 1966-67
- 57 1968
- 58 1969-70
- 59 1971
- 60 1972 (1 Photograph)
- 61 1973-76
- 62 1977-79
- 63 1980-81
- 64 1982
- Box 7 65 1983
- 66 1984
- 67 1985 (1 Photograph)
- 68 1986-87
- 69 Cathy, Shelly
- 70 Family, Miscellaneous
- 71 Personal to/from family (Chris)
- 72 Personal to/from family (Larry)
- 73 Personal to/from family (Marty)
- Drache, S.J. Collection
- 74 Drache, S.J. Collection, including correspondence, invitations
- 75 Drache, S.J. Collection legal agreement, art lists
- 76 Drache, S.J. Collection print documentation, press clippings (27 Photographs)
- 77 Drache, S.J. Collection slides (16 Slides)
- 78 Dundurn Press
- Exhibitions
- Box 8 79 Manitoba Artists Overseas (MAO), 1984
- 80 Regina One-Man Show (6 Photographs)
- 81 Shoe Show, 1987 (48 Photographs) (79 Slides)
- 82 Winnipeg Art Gallery, One-Man Show 1974 (39 Slides)
- 83 Winnipeg Art Gallery, One-Man Show 1984 (23 Photographs)
- 84 Early Highlights/Career (4 Photographs) (2 Negative Strips)
- Box 9 Financial / Income Tax
- 85 Income Tax 1959-1982
- 86 Ledger 1 1960-1975 (January)
- 87 Miscellaneous 1963-1978
- 88 1975 (1/2 folders)
- Box 10 89 1975 (2/2 folders)
- 90 1976 (1/2 folders)
- 91 1976 (2/2 folders)
- 92 Tascona Sales Journal January 1 1976
- Box 11 93 January 1<sup>st</sup> 1977- December 31 1977
- 94 January 1<sup>st</sup> 1978- December 31 1978
- 95 1979 (1/2 folders)
- Box 12 96 1979 (2/2 folders)

- 97 1980 Tascona Cheque Journal; July 3<sup>rd</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup> 1980
- 98 Insurance documentation
- Invitations
- 99 Openings of other artists (1 Photograph)
- 100 Tascona Miscellaneous
- 101 Tascona Openings - undated and 1950's
- 102 Tascona Openings - 1960's
- 103 Tascona Openings - 1970's
- 104 Tascona Openings - 1980's
- Box 13 105 Legal papers - personal, including divorce (1 Photograph)
- 106 Manitoba Arts Council
- 107 Mason Bill
- 108 Microfiche, including 2 copies of a biography of the artist (26 Negative Strips)
- 109 Monograph on the artist by Ken Hughes
- National Gallery of Canada
- 110 Catalogues
- 111 Correspondence
- 112 Negatives (125 Negative Strips, 3 Slides, 1 Photograph)
- Newspaper clippings
- 113 baseball, hockey, 1940's
- 114 family and friends
- 115 other artists
- 116 Tascona, 1950's
- 117 Tascona, 1961-63
- 118 Tascona, 1964/65
- 119 Tascona, 1966-69
- 120 Tascona, 1970's
- 121 Tascona. 1980's
- 122 Nitikman, Sam (Winnipeg collector and mentor of the artist) (5 Photographs)
- Periodicals and Publications with articles and/or photographs on Tony Tascona:
- Box 14 123 Alumni Journal, University of Manitoba, Vol 39, #2. "Acquiring Art for Robson Hall", p.8.
- Alumni Journal, University of Manitoba, Vol. 38, #3. "The Drache Collection", p.3.
- Architecture Canada, Jan. 1969. "New Working Tool for Architects", p. 15.
- Architecture Canada Newsmagazine, May 11, 1970. "Contemporary Winnipeg Artist Wins 1970 RAIC Allied Arts Medal", p. 4.
- Arts Canada, Feb. /March, 1972. "Tony Tascona", by Philip Fry; p. 70.
- Arts Canada, Oct./Nov./1968, "In the Studios" by Illi Harff, p. 48.
- Arts Manitoba, Vol.1, # 3/4, Winter/1978. "Tony Tascona and the Art of Technological Humanism", by Ken Hughes; p. 72.
- Arts Manitoba, Vol.3, #3, Summer/1984. "Winnipeg's Benevolent Godfather: An Interview, with Tony Tascona", by Robert Enright; p. 24.
- Artswest, Vol. 3, #5. "Tony Tascona, by Ken Coutts-Smith; p. 40.
- Artswest (Emerging), October, 1975. "Tascona", by Yalta Goldberg; p.21.
- Artswest, Vol. 4, #4, July/Aug./79. "Collections: A faculty of Law", by Laird Rankin, p. 36.
- Artswest, Vol. 7 #7, July/ August 1983.
- Alloys Service Centre News, March, 1971. "Well Channeled Creativity", p. 2.
- 124 Bulletin, Vol.12, #7, Oct.26, 1977. "Law Grad's Gift Honors Art Grad's Art", p.3.
- Bulletin, Vol. 12, #6, Oct.19, 1977. Photograph of "Struggling Forces", p.2.
- 125 Canadian Art, Nov. - Dec., 1965. "Canadian Art Today", by Robert Ayre; p. 52.
- Canadian Art, Fall 1986. "The Shoe Must Go On" by Robert Enright; p. 24.
- 126 Canadian Homes, Sept. 1966. "Our Centennial Home: Gaboury". Photograph of Tascona art on wall; p. 5.
- 127 Canadian Journal of Political and Social Theory, Vol.X, #1-2/1986. "Technology and Emanicipatory Art: The Manitoba Vision", by Arthur Kroker and Kenneth J. Hughes; p. 221. (includes article in French)
- 128 CARFAC News, Vol. 3, #2, Spring 1978. Photographs of the artist, p.8 & 9.
- CAR News, Vol. 2, #3, Spring/1977. "What Do You Think?", p.8.
- 129 Chatelaine, Dec. 1978. "The Christmas Child" by Gabrielle Roy. With reference to Tascona

- and the bitten apple; p. 52.
- Chatelaine, July 1979. "Winnipeg Warm Wonderful", photograph of Winnipeggers, including Tony Tascona. p. 32.
- Coffee Break, CBC Manitoba Region Newsletter, Sept.17, 1984. "World Famous Winnipeg Artist Featured . . .", p. 1.
- CRAFTSMAN L'ARTISAN, Vol. 5, #3, 1972. "Focus on Tony Tascona", p.5
- Lance, The, Vol.48, Nov. 28, 1984. "New Nursing Building" by Wes Rowen. Photograph of Tascona; p.1.
- Mackenzie Art Gallery, VISTA, June/July/August/1985. "Artists in Action", p.5.
- Mackenzie Art Gallery, VISTA, April/May/1985. "The Dynamics of Tony Tascona, p. 2.
- Manitoba Medicine, Vol. 57, # Spring/1987. "The Manitoba Medical College Art Collection" by Marilyn Wade; p. 26.
- Mid-Canada Commerce, April/1985. "Tony Tascona: Comfortable in his own Environment" by Kip Park; p. 7.
- 130 NEWEST, January 1981. "The Industrial Muse" by Ken Hughes; p. 3.
- NEWEST, Dec. 1985. "The Double Bind in Public Art" by Aubrey Neal; p. 10.
- "A Service Centre News"
- 131 Sister Rebecca, "Passionate Spirits: a History of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, 1880-1980",
- 132 Sphere, #3, 1973. "Life in Inner Space", by Derek Hayter; p. 14.
- 133 Touch/Touche, Vol.1, #1, Summer/1976 "Tony gets to 50"; photographs.
- Touch/Touche, Vol.1, #3, Winter/1977
- 134 Trib Magazine, Vol. 1, #3, Winter, Feb.2, 1980. "The Quiet Monks of the Prairies"; photographs of Tascona's resin window on cover and p. 1.
- Trib Magazine, July 19, 1980. "The Artist as Success", p. 10.
- Box 15 135 Vie des Arts, Winter 74-75. "Tony Tascona: Le succes interieur", by Virgil Hammock; p. 45.
- Vie des Arts, Autumn/1966. "L'Art des Prairies", by Andree Paradis, p. 69.
- Western Living, Jan. 1985. "A Meet Harvest", p. 16.
- Western Living, March 1987. "Shoeshines for Research" by Larry Krotz; p. 9.
- WAGMAGazine, Sept.1984. "The Dynamics of Tony Tascona", p. 5.
- 136 Winnipeg Window Shopper, 1981. Ad for the artist. p. 149.
- Photographs
- 137 Art works - aluminum construction (31 Photographs)
- 138 Art works - aluminum painting (1/2 folders (71 Photographs)
- 139 Art works - aluminum painting (2/2 folders) (37 Photographs)
- 140 Art works - Aluminum, process documentation (9 Photographs, 2 Contact Sheets)
- 141 Art works - Ink Paintings (12 Photographs)
- 142 Art works - Painted canvas (30 Photographs)
- Box 16 143 Art works - Painted masonite (74 Photographs)
- 144 Art works - Prints (53 Photographs)
- 145 Art works - Resin construction, sculpture (33 Photographs)
- 146 Art works - Resin installation documentation (26 Photographs)
- 147 Art works - Resin, process documentation (46 Photographs, 2 Contact Sheets)
- 148 Art works - Sculpture / Jewellery (32 Photographs)
- Box 17 149 Birthdays (21 Photographs)
- 150 Career - 1940's - 1950's (48 Photographs, 1 Negative Strip)
- 151 Career - 1960's (32 Photographs)
- 152 Career - 1970 (11 Photographs)
- 153 Career - 1980's (4 Photographs)
- 154 Early Life - 1920's - 1930's (5 Photographs, 6 Negative Strips)
- 155 Family members (37 Photographs)
- 156 Other artists (21 Photographs, 5 Contact Sheets)
- 157 Studios (26 Photographs)
- 158 Posters (includes extra-oversize poster Box 4/4)
- 159 Programs, Community Events which had T.T.'s participation, including Manitoba Theatre Centre program with his illustrations
- 160 Royal Canadian Academy of Arts (RCA), including: minutes of meetings when artist was Vice President of Prairie Region, 1979-81, periodicals, newsletters, membership lists, invitations to

- exhibitions, correspondence with the artist, catalogue of the RCA show at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, 1980
- Box 18 161 Reference, including formulas for resin, techniques, media interviews, art history, techniques for lacquer painting - overlays, techniques for aluminum laminated low relief constructions, ink graphic technique, periodical articles on "The Worship of Art", etc.
- Slides
- 162 Slide Catalogue list
- 163 Artist's career (48 Slides)
- 164 Ink graphics, 1958-66 (60 Slides)
- 165 Lacquer paintings 1980's (58 Slides)
- 166 Oil paintings, 1956-63 (40 Slides)
- 167 Paintings 1970s (14 Slides)
- 168 Paintings, duco lacquer and sand/ink (55 Slides)
- 169 Paintings, lacquer /aluminum, 1970-74 (40 Slides)
- 170 Prints (42 Slides)
- 171 Resin and aluminum sculptures, 1970's (40 Slides)
- 172 Resin sculpture (7 Slides)
- Sketch Books and Sketches
- 173 (1/5) 1950's
- 174 (2/5) 1950's
- 175 (3/5) 1950's
- Box 19 176 (4/5) 1950's
- 177 (5/5) 1950's
- 178 Sketches – Loose (2)
- 179 T.V. Ontario  
Winnipeg Art Gallery
- 180 Art Rental Correspondence
- 181 Correspondence (1/2 folders)
- 182 Correspondence (2/2 folders)
- 183 Periodicals 1975-76
- 184 Yellow Door Gallery
- Audio Visual Material
- 185 (2) Cassette Tapes (#1 and #2) (radio interviews with CBC Radio, Winnipeg)
- 186 (1) Reel to Reel (#1)
- 187 (1) Video Tape (consists of 3 video programs on 1 tape) (#1)
- Oversize
- Folder 1/8 4 items
- Folder 2/8 8 items
- Folder 3/8 6 items
- Folder 4/8 3 items
- Folder 5/8 10 items
- Folder 6/8 6 items
- Folder 7/8 6 items
- Folder 8/8 1 item
- Sculptures from the "Shoe Show"
- Derek Bessant, Alberta Artist (Box 2/4)
- Susan Whitney, Regina Art Dealer (Box 3/4)
- Vic Cicansky, Saskatchewan Artist (Box 1/4)