



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Ursula Hoff Papers
ACCESSION NO	2006.0007 & 2008.0062
	Please refer to 2006.0007 when requesting this material
CATEGORY	University, individuals
ACTIVITY	Art Historian
DATE RANGE	1878-2008
SIZE OF COLLECTION	1.2 metre (9 boxes)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>Ursula Hoff was born in London on December 26, 1909, the only child of German parents. She was educated in Germany and England and in 1934 was awarded a PhD from Hamburg for a thesis on Rembrandt, studying under renowned art historian Erwin Panofsky. She later worked at the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes in London before accepting a position as a secretary at the University of Melbourne's University College in 1939. In 1943 she joined the staff of the National Gallery of Victoria; she was the first university-trained art historian to work in an Australian gallery. She was the Assistant Keeper at the NGV from 1943-1949, Curator of Prints and Drawings from 1956 and Assistant Director from 1968-1973. Upon retirement she became the London-based advisor to the NGV's Felton Bequests Committee until 1984. After returning to Melbourne Dr Hoff resumed teaching at the University's Fine Arts Department, where she had been teaching part-time since 1948. She published dozens of essays, books on Charles Conder, Arthur Boyd and a multi-volume catalogue of pre-1800 European paintings in the NGV, amongst others. She was awarded honorary doctorates from Melbourne, Monash and LaTrobe universities; an OBE in 1970 and an Order of Australia in 1985. Ursula Hoff died in Melbourne on January 10, 2005.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	10 Feb 2006 & 25 Nov 2008
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open. <i>[One file is closed to public access until 2018.]</i>
RELATED COLLECTIONS	Other Ursula Hoff accessions are 1986.0059, 1986.0063, 1988.0038 and 2003.0048 (brought together in one list).
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	This list brings together two accessions which were received after Ursula Hoff's death in 2005. From mid 2003 until her death, Ursula Hoff was in nursing home care, so a significant portion of the material in this collection was collected and organised by Graham Ryles, who was Ursula Hoff's carer, and was later appointed her Executor. The collection also contains correspondence and documents created by Ryles while carrying out duties as carer and Executor. Material is in English unless otherwise stated.

NOTE ON LISTING	Series have been artificially imposed by archivist.
LISTED BY	Samara McIlroy
DATE	January 2009

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Box No	Series No	Description	Date
Box 1	1	Biographical Documents [2 boxes]	
		<i>Note on arrangement and listing.</i> A significant portion of the material in this series was accumulated, created or collected by Graham Ryles, and his file titles have usually been retained for this series. Within each folder, documents and letters have often been left in the original sequence that they were in, but in some cases (particularly in instances where documents were not kept in folders) order was imposed by the archivist, with documents arranged chronologically beginning with earliest date. In merging two accessions together, some documents have been interfiled.	
1	1/1	Rembrandt celebrations, Holland [Presscuttings of UH's visit to Holland and several copies of UH's business card as London Adviser to Felton Trust]	1956
1	1/2	<i>European Paintings before 1800</i> : Agreement between NGV and UH re manuscript [Signed by UH]	1990
1	1/3	90 th Birthday Dinner [re event arrangements]	1999
1	1/4	Visit to Weimar, Germany [Material re UH's travel arrangements]	2000
1	1/5	Establishment of annual Ursula Hoff Lecture at NGV [Administrative arrangements and some email correspondence between NGV & Graham Ryles].	2001-2004
1	1/6	Dr Ida Hoff, Goitre Campaign [re article in German magazine about UH's cousin. File includes original article with accompanying English translation. Also contains newscuttings and correspondence, mostly in German, and photographs of Ida Hoff and her parents].	1900s-2003
1	1/7	Hoffstrasse, Bern, Switzerland [Correspondence regarding a street named after Dr Ida Hoff]	2004-2005
1	1/8	Hoff Portrait [Re UH portrait accepted by National Portrait Gallery of Australia. Includes email correspondence from photographer Francis Reiss to Graham Ryles.]	2004-2005
1	1/9	Hoff Donations : State Library of Victoria, National Gallery of Victoria, Deakin University Museum & University of Melbourne Archives [includes UH's donations under the Cultural Gifts Program and Taxation Incentives Scheme]	1997-2006
1	1/10	Property owned by UH [re sale and purchase of 97 Leopold Street, South Yarra & 678 Canning Street, North Carlton]	1975-2007
1	1/11	Re auction of UH's antiques	2003-2005
1	1/12	Hoff Christmas Cards [re Christmas Card list for 2004 by Graham Ryles]	2002-2004
1	1/13	UH Death Notices	2005
1	1/14	UH Funeral Arrangements	2005

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
1	1/15	Notification of UH's death	2004-2005
1	1/16	Condolence letters, emails and cards	2005
1	1/17	Ursula Hoff Tribute NGV, Graham Ryles 24.02.05 [Re Memorial event organised by NGV as tribute to UH. Includes publication of eulogies from the funeral service]	2005-2006
1	1/18	The laying to rest of the ashes of Dr Ursula Hoff, Wednesday 22 nd November 2006 at NGV [Documents re arranging the event]	2006-2007
1	1/19	UH obituary writers [Includes list of people approached by Graham Ryles to write UH obituaries]	2004 -2005
1	1/20	Published obituaries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerard Vaughan [NGV Gallery] • Dr Dagmar Eichberger [<i>Historians of Netherlandish Art</i>] • Philip Jones [<i>The Age</i>] • Sheridan Palmer [<i>Imprint</i>] • Jaynie Anderson [<i>The Australian</i>] • Irena Zdanowicz, [Artonview, NGA] • Jaynie Anderson [<i>Symposium</i>, Australian Academy of Humanities No. 30 July 2005 (abridged), Proceedings, Australian Academy of Humanities 2005] • <i>Art Events Ideas</i> [Ian Potter Museum of Art] 	2005
1	1/21	Certificate and Awards [incl certificate re Centenary Medal awarded to UH in 2001. <i>Note</i> UH's 1966 Australia Britannica Award is stored separately in Box 5]	1981-2004
1	1/22	Membership and identification cards	c2000-2005
1	1/23	Published articles about UH [Includes a selection of newscuttings and articles. <i>Note</i> This material not sorted].	1944-2004
1	1/24	Miscellaneous biographical documents [includes Sir Clive Fitts' speech at UH's NGV farewell dinner and a transcript of an interview with UH for the National Library Oral History Programme]	c1972-2000s
1	1/25	Miscellaneous biographical documents [Includes ticket stubs and passes to concerts and exhibitions]	2003-2004
1	1/26	Graham Ryles, UH's Executor	2004-2006
2	1/27	UH's Will [<i>Note</i> This file is closed for 10 years from 25 November 2008]	c1955-2006
7	1/28	UH's Australia Britannica Award for outstanding contributions to art scholarship	1966
7	1/29	Honorary Doctor of Letters awarded to UH by Latrobe University. [Red folder contains the degree, and includes copies of testimonials by Latrobe University and an earlier one from the University of Melbourne.]	1994

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
Box 3	2	Correspondence [7 folders] <i>Note on arrangement and listing.</i> Save for childhood letters, correspondence in this series was sent to or by UH in the last few years of her life. Order was imposed by the archivist, with correspondence arranged chronologically beginning with earliest date. If undated, letters have been left in the original sequence that they were in, on the grounds that this is the most likely to be authentic. In merging two accessions together, some correspondence has been interfiled.	
3	2/1	Childhood letters [Three folders of letters, drawings, postcards and notes from UH to her parents Hans and Thusnelde Hoff. Also contains correspondence from Hans to UH, and to Thusnelde. Unsorted. All in German, most in the old Sütterlin script]	c1909-1935
3	2/2	UH's Christmas letters [Two letters are typed on computer and addressed to 'Dear Friends']	2001-2003
3	2/3	Gwen Taylor [Gwen reminisces about the University of Women's College. Contains five colour photographs, one of UH. <i>Note</i> GT, <i>née</i> Littleton, was bursar at University College in the period that UH was employed there.]	2003-2004
3	2/4	Letters from Ute and Rainer Heinen	1999-2004
3	2/5	Miscellaneous correspondence, most regarding artwork loans, payments and memberships. Letters from: 'Gayle?' Canning Street, Carlton Australian Centre for Contemporary Art Centenary Medal Secretariat Gould Galleries Ian Potter Museum of Art Jewish Museum of Australia Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery National Gallery of Victoria Foundation Sotheby's State Library of Victoria Foundation Volkhard Wehner	1984-2005
Box 3	3	Correspondence re Ursula Hoff [3 folders] <i>Note on arrangement and listing.</i> Correspondence in this series was created by or sent to Graham Ryles. In this series (particularly if material was loose, not kept in folders), order was imposed by the archivist, with correspondence arranged chronologically beginning with earliest date. If undated, letters have been left in the original sequence that they were in, on the grounds that this is the most likely to be authentic. In merging two accessions together, some correspondence has been interfiled.	
3	3/1	Correspondence with Liete Carstens	2004-2008

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		[<i>Note</i> UH's cousin, living in Uppsala, Sweden.]	
3	3/2	Correspondence re German diary translations: Kerstin Knight Sheridan Palmer [email and written correspondence re the translation of UH's early German diaries]	2003-2006
3	3/3	Miscellaneous correspondence re UH's health and after her death, re obituaries and publications. Letters and emails from/to: Alisa Bunbury Sonia Dean Dagmar Eichberger Jane Ellen Dr Kate Fullagar [The Academy of Humanities] Sasha Grishin Ute Heinen Lois McEvoy [State Library of Victoria] Suzanne Mourot Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Sheridan Palmer Bull Bernard Smith Margaret Stones Gwen Taylor Valma? Irena Zdanowicz	2003-2008
3	3/4	Floppy disk. "Dr U. Hoff's Articles/letters 1956-1996. Copied from Mac Classic II by Graham Ryles, 22.04.2000".	
Box 3	4	Research [5 folders]	
3	4/1	Seminar Fourth Year – Method : Wölffin, Reigl, Panofsky [UH's notes and research]	n.d.
3	4/2	Xeroxes of Felton Old Master Documents : NGV Soc[iety]	n.d.
3	4/3	Thomas Mann Notebook [Titled: <i>Aufsätze Thomas Mann v.a.</i> containing news cuttings in German and English]	c1929-1955
3	4/4	Miscellaneous Research and Notes [Includes several articles about Arthur Boyd]	1970s-1990s
3	4/5	Newscuttings [Includes newscuttings and some photocopies, mostly of exhibition reviews]	c1954-2003
Box 3	5	Memorabilia [5 folders & 1 object] This series comprises original artwork, news clippings, objects and mementos.	
3	5/1	Colour postcard advertising Ironol's New Iron Tonic [This document has been cropped, and features the name of Hans Hoff (Ursula's father) at a London address]	1902
3	5/2	Portrait – oil on linen of girl, presumably UH. [The girl wears a cross at her neck. The painting has fold creases and oxidation spots]	n.d.

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
3	5/3	M-me Anna Hoff, Dinner 21 April 1878 [The menu printed in French on commemorative scroll of pink silk with fringe, hand stitched to metal rod with ornamental golden end-pieces.]	1878
3	5/4	Drawings [Material includes a newscutting and calligraphy in Gothic German on lined notepaper. Many of the drawings are undated. Possibly UH's own drawings from childhood and early adulthood?]	1916-1930
3	5/5	Portrait: pencil sketch of girl [Oval board support. Subject UH?]	n.d.
3	5/6	Britannica Australia Awards Commemorative Medal inscribed: Ursula Hoff, Art, 1966 [Bronze in plastic case]	1966
Box 3	6	Diaries [2 folders] <i>Note</i> a second German diary is mentioned in notes accompanying translations, but the diary itself is not included in this accession.	
3	6/1	German Diary [Diary and several items in an envelope, which is titled: Items from 'German' Diary 1939, Purple covered, Ursula Hoff, July 2004]	1939
3	6/2	German Diary 1939 Translations [Printed translations which are separated into 'Lots'. Starts at Lot 4, ends at Lot 10, which is a part translation of the second diary.]	2004-2005
Box 4	7	Passports [11 items]	
4		UH's Passports [includes 2 British passports issued to Thusnelde Hoff, UH's mother, and UH's Appointment Diary from 2001]	1933-2001
Box 4	8	Postcards [1 box]	
4		Postcards, greetings cards, Christmas cards [<i>Note</i> This material has not been arranged chronologically. Cards have been separated into bundles and placed in plastic sleeves for ease of access]	c2001-2004
Box 5	9	Memorial Service Record Small lever arch folder housed in white cardboard box. Signed by relatives and friends who attended UH's funeral service.	2005
Box 5	10	Miscellaneous Publications [1 box] Catalogues and books by, about, or collected by UH. Some of the books have been annotated.	
5	10/1	Articles and books by Ursula: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Felton Bequest</i> ['My copy' written on cover, UH's handwritten note stapled inside] • <i>Art Bulletin of Victoria</i> [1971-72, 1973, 1976] 	1972-1983

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>European Painting and Sculpture before 1800</i> • <i>Charles Conder</i> [Newsclippings, photographs and catalogues inside] 	
5	10/2	<i>Portraits by John Brack</i> , National Portrait Gallery [Exhibition catalogue which includes portraits of UH from the Hoff Estate]	2007
5	10/3	<i>Der Strummelpeter</i> [Illustrated book of children's poems, in German. <i>Note</i> this book is in a fragile condition, cracked spine, brittle paper]	n.d.
5	10/4	UH's review copy of Kenneth Clark, <i>Rembrandt and The Italian Renaissance</i> [News cutting of UH's 1967 Age review inside]	1966-1967
5	10/5	<i>Arthur Boyd Paintings 1972 & 1973</i> [Catalogue from University Art Gallery, UOM. Annotated by UH]	c1977
Box 6	11	Photographs [2 boxes]	
		This series comprises photographs (B&W and colour) from the late 1800s until UH's death. <i>Note</i> This material has not been sorted. Photos have been separated into bundles and placed in plastic sleeves for ease of access	
6	11/1	Loose Photographs [1 box] Many early family photographs have not been identified, although some attempt has been made to separate images of the Hoff family (UH's father) from the Bulcke family (UH's mother). There are photographs of UH in locations including Elbe (c1915), Mt Evelyn (1940), Corryong (1942), National Library Council Dinner (1973), Leningrad (1977), Goethe Museum (c2000). Family members identified include: Hermann & Richard Bulcke Liese Bulcke Max Repell? Thusnelde Bulcke Hans Hoff Friedrich Karl Von Bergmann Anna ? Trudi ? Helen Jebeus? Hermann & Thusnelde Theodor Henriette & Leopold Hoff Clara Hoff nee Carstens Liete Carstens Others identified in the photographs include: Margaret Stones Dagmar & Jurgen Eichberger Michael Schmuck Gwen Taylor Margaret 'Meg' Taylor	C19th-2005

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Joseph Burke Stephen Gooden Ray Marginson Frances Lindsay Fiona Caro Mr Ashton Helen Nagler Philipp Schimmer John McDonnell Diana and Kathy Hecksher Kenneth Myer Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Sonia Dean Bryan Finemore Carl Andrew Irena Zdanowicz Nicholas Draffin Sasha Griffin Sir John Medley George Potter & Family Bernard Smith Lenton Parr Roy Grounds Dame Mabel Brooks Mollie Clampett Victor Perry Dale Trendall Kenneth Hood Allan Sumner Timothy Potts Margaret Manion Marjorie Lynch Valma Ingliss Dame Hilda Stevenson	
7	11/2	Photograph Albums [2 albums] [Two albums of people (UH, family and friends) and scenes in Germany, England and Australia. One album is of Hans and Thusnelde Hoff and UH as a baby. The other features family, and later images of UH during school and university in Germany and London, and her early years in Australia.]	1907-1940s
7	11/3	U.H. [4 brown toned photographs in album of UH as a toddler. Rudolf Dünkoop? Hamburg 1911]	1911
7	11/4	Portrait of UH, seated [B&W photograph mounted on black board, signed Gray, 360x280cm]	1975

~~E-N-D~~

8 Unit 8 holds publications, including some by Hoff and are heavily annotated.

9 Unit 9 holds sketchbooks and illustrated stories/diaries in German, all by Hoff, as well as small publications and a catalogue inscribed to 'UH'.