

The Canary Project Collection CAE1104

Introduction / Abstract

Founded in 2006 by photographer Susannah Sayler and her husband Ed Morris, The Canary Project is a non-profit organization whose mission is to “produce art and media that deepens public understanding of human-induced climate change.” The archive consists of materials related to organizational materials, the photography project that was the basis for the founding of the organization, and materials related to select artist projects funded by the organization.

Edward Morris & Susannah Saylor

Edward Morris co-founded The Canary Project in 2006 with his wife Susannah Saylor and assumed the role of Director in 2007. Morris was formerly a partner at the James Mintz Group, an international investigative firm. Morris received an MA in Regional Studies: East Asia from Harvard University and a BA from Wesleyan University. Morris became interested in gathering visual evidence of global warming after reading a series of articles on the subject by Elizabeth Kolbert. This interest became a passion after seeing the extensive retreat of the Pasterze glacier in Austria. Morris is currently Adjunct Professor in the Department of Transmedia, Syracuse University, and co-founder and Principal at Lynx Insights and Investigations—a firm that specializes in consulting for non-profit organizations.

Susannah Saylor, co-founder of The Canary Project, received her MFA in Photography and Related Media from The School of Visual Arts in New York City, and her BA in East Asian Studies from Wesleyan University. As a travel photographer, Saylor has photographed for numerous guidebooks and magazines in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. She has exhibited her work throughout the U.S. and had her first show in Spain in 2005. As a teen, she conducted a project measuring acidity in the lakes and ponds near her house after hearing about the threat of acid rain. Saylor combines her love of photography and interest in the environment through her role as Founder and Artist at The Canary Project. She also is currently Assistant Professor of Photograph and Transmedia in the Department of Transmedia at Syracuse University.

Scope and Content

Founded in 2006 by photographer Susannah Sayler and her husband Ed Morris, The Canary Project initially consisted of Sayler photographing landscapes throughout the world where scientists are studying the impacts of climate change. Exhibitions of the photographs quickly expanded into multimedia events that were accompanied with contextual research and archival images, installations and sculptures by other artists, and extensive educational and outreach materials. The Canary Project now includes diverse works involving more than 30 artists, designers, writers, educators and scientists. The focus is on cultivating research-intensive projects that contribute to knowledge building and are able to communicate that knowledge in a way that both respects complexity and inspires respect for life.

The archive "The Canary Project" consists of materials related to the organization's mission to: "...produce art and media that deepens public understanding of human-induced climate change and energize commitment to solutions." Archive materials include The Canary Project's organizational documents and items related to collaborative projects such as: research, work prints, audio recordings, project overviews, press materials, travel journals, correspondence, book dummies, exhibition layouts, maps, dresses and hats.

**Dates**

2005 – 2010

Quantity / Extent

1.5 cubic feet

Language

English, French, Italian

Arrangement

This archive is divided into two series: The Canary Project Organizational Materials, and Projects. Organizational materials (series 1) consists of folders 1-10 and Projects consists of folders 1-34. Several larger objects from the Project series are stored elsewhere based upon size.

Series 1: The Canary Project Organizational Materials

Series 2: Projects

Related Archive Collections

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Container Listing by Series:**CAE1104/1 Series 1: The Canary Project Organizational Materials, Folders 1-10, 2006 – 2011**

Series 1 includes the organizational papers for The Canary Project.

Box 17

- 1-1 CVs, Organizational Information, 2006 – 2010
- 1-2 Fund Raising, Grants, 2006 – 2010
- 1-3 To Do Lists, 2006 – 2010
- 1-4 Work Plans, 2006 – 2008
- 1-5 Outreach, Education, 2006 – 2010
- 1-6 Press, Blogs, 2006 – 2010
- 1-7 Billboards/Bus Wrap, 2006
- 1-8 Focus Softens Circles Focus Group, 2009
- 1-9 Proposals, 2007
- 1-10 Correspondence, 2006 - 2011

CAE1104/2 Series 2: Projects, Folders 1-34, 1968 – 1997

Series 2 contains items relating to select projects completed by individual or groups of artists supported by The Canary Project.

Box 17

- 2-1 Photography Project, Development Notes
- 2-2 Photography Project, Research, General (1 of 2)
- 2-3 Photography Project, Research, General (2 of 2)
- 2-4 Photography Project, Research, Alaska
- 2-5 Photography Project, Research, Austria
- 2-6 Photography Project, Research, Bangladesh
- 2-7 Photography Project, Research, Belize, 2000 -2006
- 2-8 Photography Project, Research, China, 2002 - 2007
- 2-9 Photography Project, Research, Costa Rica, 2001 - 2006
- 2-10 Photography Project, Research, New Orleans, 2005
- 2-11 Photography Project, Research, Niger, 1999 – 2008
- 2-12 Photography Project, Research, Peru, 2005 - 2008
- 2-13 Photography Project, Research, Venice, 2006
- 2-14 Photography Project, Research, Washington State, 2006
- 2-15 Photography Project Travel journals, 2007 - 2008
- 2-16 Photography Project Exhibition/Project Information, 2007 - 2010
- 2-17 Photography Project Book Development, 2008
- 2-18 Photography Project Peru Book Dummy, 2009
- 2-19 Photography Project Book Dummy, 2005 - 2006
- 2-20 Green Patriot Posters Information, 2008 – 2010
- 2-21 Green Patriot Posters Drafts, 2010
- 2-22 Green Patriot Posters Book, 2010
- 2-23 Green Patriot Posters, NYC/LA Camps, 2010
- 2-24 Highwaterline Information/Book, 2007
- 2-25 Highwaterline Maps (1 of 3), 2007
- 2-26 Highwaterline Maps (2 of 3), 2007
- 2-27 Highwaterline Maps (3 of 3), 2007
- 2-28 Increase Your Albedo Information/Press, 2007 - 2008
- 2-29 Increase Your Albedo Dresses, 2007
- 2-30 We Could Just Leave Concept Notes, 2007 - 2009
- 2-31 We Could Just Leave Big Sur research/Process, 2008 - 2009
- 2-32 We Could Just Leave Big Sur Audio, 2008
- 2-33 We Could Just Leave Netherlands Research/Process, 2009 - 2010
- 2-34 We Could Just Leave Netherlands Audio, 2010
- 2-35 Other Projects/Miscellaneous, 2007 - 2008

Box 13: Objects

- 2-24#4 Highwaterline image on 172 7/8" x 8 3/8" matt paper
- 2-24#5 Highwaterline image on 48" x 8 1/4" glossy paper

Flat File F7: Oversized Items

- 2-8#1 Map of Lanzhou Shi Chengqu Tu (China)
- 2-8#2 Map of Xining Shi Chengqu Tu (China)
- 2-20#1 Interior Green Patriot Bus Poster
- 2-20#4 Interior Green Patriot Bus Poster – Ohio
- 2-23#1 LA camp poster (1 of 5)
- 2-23#2 LA camp poster (2 of 5)
- 2-23#3 LA camp poster (3 of 5)

- 2-23#4 LA camp poster (4 of 5)
 2-23#5 LA camp poster (5 of 5)

Tube Rack: Oversized Items

- 2-20#3 Exterior Green Patriot Bus Poster

CAE S-Box 4

- 2-17#1 – #45 Working photographs

- 2-33#1 Netherlands Process notes

The following 50 Green Patriot Posters:

- 2-22#1 Dead End
- 2-22#2 In the Future Green Will Be Just Another Color
- 2-22#3 Golab wamring
- 2-22#4 Let Them Grow
- 2-22#5 Sustain
- 2-22#6 Lumberjack
- 2-22#7 Washington Monument
- 2-22#8 Don't Be Stuck Up
- 2-22#9 Keep Buying Stuff
- 2-22#10 Friend in Trouble
- 2-22#11 Power Up Windmill
- 2-22#12 Earth
- 2-22#13 Global Warming
- 2-22#14 Manifesto for a People's Republic of Antarctica (part of Terra Nova: Sinfonia Antarctica)
- 2-22#15 Let's Ride
- 2-22#16 Let's Do This
- 2-22#17 (Re)Make America
- 2-22#18 Unplug
- 2-22#19 Simplicity Is the Key to Successful Living
- 2-22#20 Umwelt
- 2-22#21 Rejuve a Nation
- 2-22#22 Eat Local, Buy Local, Grow Local!
- 2-22#23 Detroit as Refrain
- 2-22#24 Ignorance Is Bliss
- 2-22#25 Problem Me, Solution Me
- 2-22#26 We are power
- 2-22#27 You Shouldn't Have
- 2-22#28 Buy Local
- 2-22#29 Efforts Up! Carbon Down!
- 2-22#30 Water's Rising
- 2-22#31 S.O.S.
- 2-22#32 Shorter Showers
- 2-22#33 Water Power is Ready
- 2-22#34 Consequences of CO2
- 2-22#35 Sow
- 2-22#36 Plenty of ...
- 2-22#37 Join the Revolution
- 2-22#38 Oil Spill Gulf of Mexico 2010
- 2-22#39 Shit Be Meltin'
- 2-22#40 If You Don't Like My Tone

2-22#41	Green Patriot Wind
2-22#42	c. 2050
2-22#43	Being Green
2-22#44	Sustain
2-22#45	Step On It
2-22#46	Paint It White
2-22#47	Eat Local
2-22#48	Global Excess
2-22#49	Dirty Secret
2-22#50	Save the Plants