



## **Arcy Douglass: Land Arts Investigation and Writings** **Collection CAE0909**

### **Introduction/Abstract**

The *Arcy Douglass: Land Arts Investigation and Writings* archive consists of photographs and writings relating to early earthworks by Michael Heizer, Walter De Maria, Nancy Holt, Robert Smithson, and land arts in general.

### **Biographical Note: Arcy Douglass**

Arcy Douglass is an artist and writer who originally received his Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the University of Southern California in 1997. He also attended the Arts Student League in New York from 1999 - 2000. He has had several solo exhibitions and has participated in several selected group exhibitions. He has also published essays, reviews and interviews. He helped organize a conference titled "Donald Judd Delegated Fabrication: History, Practice, Issues and Implications."

### **Scope and Content**

In spring 2009 Arcy Douglass, an artist and writer based in Portland, Oregon, took an extended trip through the American Southwest to visit, document, and photograph earthworks and former earthwork sites. From this research he developed a series of articles for the online art journal *Port*.

The sites visited include: Mono Lake (where Heizer took Robert Smithson and Nancy Holt and made a short film); the Mojave site of the now almost invisible *Las Vegas Piece* by Walter De Maria; *The Lightning Field*; *Amarillo Ramp*; *Double Negative*; *Spiral Jetty*; *Sun Tunnels*. The materials include field notes, photographs, Google Earth™ views of the *Las Vegas Site* used to determine its location, and other research materials. Douglass also travelled to places as diverse as Marfa, Texas and Chaco Canyon, all to inform his writings about Land Arts.

The research conducted during this trip also informed a number of subsequent articles and essays about minimalism, the Japanese garden of Portland, the light and space works of Robert Irwin, and other artists. This archive also includes copies of published essays and reviews from 2006 through 2009.

### **Dates**

1969 – 2009

### **Quantity / Extent**

.25 cubic feet

### **Language**

English

### **Arrangement**

The *Arcy Douglass Land arts Investigations and Writings* archive is organized into two series: Land Arts Investigations, which contains photographs taken by Douglass during his 2009 trip in which he visited Land



Arts sites, which are further organized chronologically; and a series titled Writings, which contains a collection of Land Arts based writings.

- Series 1: Land Arts Investigations  
Series 2: Writings

### **Related Archive Collections**

- CAE0901: *The Deiro Collection*  
CAE0902: *Land Arts of the American West*  
CAE1111: *William L. Fox: Michael Heizer*

### **Container Listing by Series:**

#### **CAE0909/1 Series 1: Land Arts Investigations, Folders 1-7, 1969 – 2009**

Series 1 consists of the collection of photographs and writings based upon the trip completed by Arcy Douglass on May 6 - May 22, 2009. The sites visited include: Mono Lake; the Mojave site of the now almost invisible Las Vegas Piece by Walter De Maria; The Lightning Field; Amarillo Ramp; Double Negative; Spiral Jetty; Sun Tunnels. The materials include field notes, photographs, Google Earth™ views of the Las Vegas Site used to determine its location, and other research materials.

##### **CAE Box 1**

- 1-1 Mono Lake, 2009
- 1-2 Las Vegas Piece. 1969 – 2009
- 1-3 Lightning Field, 2009
- 1-4 Amarillo Ramp, 2009
- 1-5 Double Negative, 2009
- 1-6 Spiral Jetty, 2009
- 1-7 Sun Tunnels, 2009
- 1-8 G. Robert Deiro Interview, 2009

#### **CAE0901/2 Series 2: Writings, Folders 1-7, 2007 – 2009**

Series 2 is the collection of articles by Arcy Douglas, some published on the Web and others unpublished, created prior to the Lands Arts Project trip in Spring 2009. From this research trip, he developed a series of articles for the online art journal Port. The research also informed a number of subsequent articles and essays about minimalism, the Japanese garden of Portland, the light and space works of Robert Irwin, and other artists. Douglass also travelled to places as diverse as Marfa, Texas and Chaco Canyon, all to inform his writings about Land Arts. This series also includes copies of published essays and reviews from 2006 through 2009.

##### **CAE Box 1**

- 2-1 Land Art Articles, 2008 – 2009
- 2-2 Art and Nature, 2009
- 2-3 The Black Square, 2009
- 2-4 Background Articles, 2007 – 2009
- 2-5 Portland Articles, 2008 – 2009
- 2-6 Zen Garden, 2008



2-7      Reviews by Arcy Douglass, 2007 - 2009