

Center for Creative Photography

The University of Arizona

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Finding aid for the  
Ilse Bing collection, n.d., bulk 1940-1955  
AG 189

**Ilse Bing collection, n.d., bulk 1940-1955**

**AG 189**

**Creator**

Bing, Ilse

**Abstract**

This collection consists of photo albums, vintage prints, commercial prints, contact sheets, collages, family photographs and holiday cards.

**Quantity/ Extent**

48 linear feet; 110 boxes

**Language of Materials**

English, German

**Biographical/ Historical Note**

Ilse Bing (1899-1998) was a leading American-German photojournalist and commercial photographer during the pre- and inter-War period in Paris. She is remembered for her pioneering photographic techniques, and for being among the first to use electronic flash, solarize her negatives, and photograph at night. Born on March 23, 1899 to a Jewish family, she went on to study at universities in Frankfurt and Vienna. She purchased a Leica camera as a student, and though she was entirely self-taught, she achieved rapid recognition as a professional and artistic photographer with commissions from prominent publications such as *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar* —earning her the moniker "Queen of the Leica." She moved to Paris in 1930, where her work was exhibited alongside contemporaries such as André Kertész, Brassäi, and Man Ray. Bing's work was included in the seminal 1937 exhibition "Photography 1839–1937" at The Museum of Modern Art in New York, following an inclusion the previous year in the Louvre's first modern photography exhibition. After Paris was captured during the Second World War, the Jewish photographer was sent to an internment camp in the South of France. In 1941, Bing swiftly emigrated to the United States, where she continued to produce an ever-evolving body of work until her death on March 10, 1998 in New York, NY.

**Scope and Content Note**

Materials in the archive include several photo albums, vintage prints, collages, holiday cards, commercial prints, and family photographs. The collection has been minimally processed but all contents are accessible.

## Arrangement

Series 1: Photographic Materials

Series 2: Photo Albums

## Names and Subject Terms

Bing, Ilse [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500007274>]

## Restrictions

### Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

### Conditions Governing Use

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

## Provenance

Materials were bequeathed to the Center for Creative Photography in 2002 as part of Ilse Bing Wolff's last will and testament.

## Related Materials

There are over 16,000 prints (circa 1930s to 1960s) in the Center's fine print collection.

## Preferred Citation

Ilse Bing collection, AG 189. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

## Processing Information

This collection has minimal processing. A container list was created in 2019.

**Container List****Series 1: Photographic Materials, n.d. [circa 2003]**

Extent: 44 boxes

## Box

1	DOG	60	4/11/03
2	DOG	94	5/12/03
3	DOG	200	4/11/03
4	DOG	200	5/1/03
5	DOG	69	4/10/03
6	Dog	192	4/10/03
7	DOG	202	5/1/03
8	DOG	34	5/12/03
9	DOG	190	4/11/03
10	DOG	160	5/1/03
11	DOG	181	4/10/03
12	DOG	78	5/12/03
13	DOG	49	4/10/03
14	DOG	57	4/10/03
15	DOG	73	5/12/03
16	DOG	36	5/12/03
17	Holiday Cards	80	4/10/03 loose in cardstock Nelson
18	Holiday Cards	60	Nelson – on stock
19	Holiday Cards	36	Album 36 signed Nelson
20	Holiday Cards	72	Center for Creative P.
21	Holiday Cards	205	Arizona CCP
22	Holiday Cards	112	Center for Creative P.
23	Holiday Cards	41	Nelson – Album
24	Holiday Cards	30	Album Nelson 30 signed
25	Holiday Cards	53	Center for Creative P.

26	Holiday Cards	91	Center for Creative P.
27	Holiday Cards	51	Nelson 2 Albums
28	Holiday Cards	111	Center for Creative P.
29	Holiday Cards	70	Center for Creative P.
30	Xmas Cards	256	5x7's 4/11/03 #255
31	Self Portrait	38	
32	Self Portrait	93	
33	PORTRAITS Ilse Bing	93	4/10/03
34	CONTACTS [ALL STACCATO]		
35	CONTACTS [ALL STACCATO]		
36	CONTACTS [PARIS]		
37	CONTACTS [PORTRAITS, ADULTS] and self portraits		
38	CONTACTS [STACCATO]		
39	CONTACTS [PORTRAITS, CHILDREN]		
40	CONTACTS [LANDSCAPES, NY, MISC.]		
41	ENLARGEMENTS		
42	Family [BING] Snaps	143	
43	G [?] Work Prints (?) by Bing	274	
44		424	

## Series 2: Albums, circa 1940-1955

Note: All numbers in [blue](#) are the numbers that were written on the album labels in blue.

Extent: 65 boxes/albums

### Item

45		1. Two small albums of photos by IB, ca. 1950s. Made soon after she arrived in the US and traveled around the country. These may have been people she knew, or people her friends referred.
46	#56	DOG – STACCATO 1950s <a href="#">16</a>
47	#54	PORTRAITS – BABY & MOTHER 1947 <a href="#">14</a>
48	#57	DOG – STACCATO 1950s <a href="#">22</a>
49	#58	DOG – STACCATO 1950s <a href="#">26</a>

50	#59	DOG C. 1950	12
51	#51	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	18
52	#52	DOG – STACCATO 1950s	18
53		3. Album of small contact prints of Konrad Wolff's family, travels, friends, 1922-1926.	
54		Lecture Slides #47 STACCATO – DOG 1950s	39
55	#46	CHILDREN – DAY IN THE LIFE	12
56	#55	PORTRAIT – BABY 1946	24
57	#48	DOG C. 1940	12
58	#50	DOG C. 1940	12
59	#9	PARIS – LEAVES & STREET C. 1950	20
60	#53	PORTRAITS – BABY + MOTHER/FATHER 1947	18
61	#60	STACCATO – DOG 1955	39
62	#61	STACCATO – DOG 1955	21
63	#62	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	67
64	#32	PARIS – PORTRAITS CHILD – PATRICE + GRANDFATHER 1947	15
65	#1	PARIS EIFFEL TOWER 1950s	49
66	#3	PARIS – EIFFEL TOWER 1950s	39
67	#4	PARIS – LEAVES C. 1950	40
68	#5	PARIS SCHOOLBOYS 1950s	40
69	#6	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	46
70	#7	PORTRAITS – CHILDREN BABO + MICHAEL	36
71	#8	DOG 1950s	15
72	#10	PARIS – LEAVES C. 1950	40
73	#11	PORTRAIT – PATTY CHILD – FEMALE 1954	22
74	#12	PORTRAIT – JONATHAN BABY – MALE C. 1950	18
75	#13	“BAO” – CAT 1947	19
76	#14	PORTRAITS – LEIBOVICI 1947	17
77	#15	PORTRAITS CHILD – FEMALE C. 1950	20

78	#16	PARIS – “BREAD” C. 1950	20
79	#17	PARIS – “BREAD” C. 1950	20
80	#18	PARIS – “BREAD” C. 1950	20
81	#19	PORTRAITS CHILD – FEMALE C. 1950	20
82	#20	PARIS BOY’S CLOTHING C. 1950	40
83	#21	PORTRAITS – CHILD RUSTY NICKEL 1954	18
84	#22	PORTRAITS – ZITO PETER & STEVIE 1953	19
85	#23	PARIS – CHILDREN C. 1950	22
86	#24	PARIS – PATRICE CHILD & GRANDFATHER 1947	15
87	#25	PORTRAITS – LEIBOVICI C. 1950	17
88	#26	PORTRAITS ADULT – FEMALE 1940s-1950s	30
89	#27	PORTRAITS – FEMALE CHILD – ANTIGONE 1954	10
90	#29	PARIS 1950s	12
91	#30	PORTRAITS – ADULT FEMALE C. 1950	15
92	#35	CHILD – FEMALE DANIELLA 1953	18
93	#36	CHILDREN C. 1950	13
94	#34	NEW YORK – BRYANT PARK 1950s	30
95	#33	PARIS 1950s	41
96	#39	“BAO” – CAT 1947	19
97	#38	PORTRAITS ADULT – FEMALE 1940s-1950s	28
98	#37	CHILDREN C. 1950	36
99	#31	31? [illegible]	
100	#31	PARIS 1950s	31
101	#43	PORTRAITS CHILD – FEMALE C. 1950	20
102	#42	PARIS – “STREET” C. 1950	36
103	#41	PARIS – “BREAD” C. 1950	42
104	#40	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	46
105	#63	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	39
106	67		

107	#64	STACCATO – DOG 1950s	39
108	#44	CHILDREN DAY IN THE LIFE	11
109	#49	DOG C. 1940	10
110	#45	CHILDREN DAY IN THE LIFE	12