

Robert Templeton drawings and sketches related to the trial of Bobby Seale and Ericka Huggins, New Haven, Connecticut

JWJ MSS 33



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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: JWJ MSS 33

CREATOR: Templeton, Robert

TITLE: Robert Templeton drawings and sketches related to the trial of Bobby G. Seale and Ericka Huggins, New Haven, Connecticut

DATES: 1971

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 10 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: Sketches and drawings by Templeton of the principal participants in the presentation phase of the trial in Connecticut Superior Court of Black Panther Party chairman Bobby G. Seale and Black Panther Party organizer Ericka Huggins for kidnapping, murder, and conspiracy charges. The trial took place in New Haven, Connecticut, March 18-May 19, 1971.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.templetonrobert>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.templetonrobert>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Lenore Templeton on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2006-2007. Gift of Lenore Templeton, 2019.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research

Preferred Citation

Robert Templeton Drawings and Sketches Related to the Trial of Bobby G. Seale and Ericka Huggins, New Haven, Connecticut. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Existence and Location of Copies

A selection of digital images is available in the Library's Digital Images Online database http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/dl_crosscollex/callnumSRCHXC.asp?WC=N&SS=N&CN=JWJ_MSS_33

Biographical / Historical

Robert Clark Templeton (1929-1991) was an artist known for painting portraits of Lyndon B. Johnson and Jimmy Carter, as well as leaders of the civil rights movement.

Biographical / Historical

The charges against Bobby Seale and Ericka Huggins stemmed from the kidnapping and murder of Alex Rackley in May 20-21, 1969. The trial ended in a mistrial and dismissal of all charges. Templeton made many of the drawings from memory immediately after court sessions because the presiding judge, Superior Court Judge Harold M. Mulvey, banned photographers and artists from the courtroom. Many of the drawings appeared on CBS Evening News to accompany stories about the trial.

Scope and Contents

Sketches and drawings by Templeton of the principal participants in the presentation phase of the trial in Connecticut Superior Court of Black Panther Party chairman Bobby G. Seale and Black Panther Party organizer Ericka Huggins for kidnapping, murder, and conspiracy charges. The trial took place in New Haven, Connecticut, March 18-May 19, 1971.

Individuals represented in the sketches and drawings include Huggins and Seale; their attorneys Charles R. Garry, Catherine G. Roraback, and David N. Rosen; Justice Mulvey; Warren Kimbro and George Sams, Jr., who testified during the trial; Arnold Markle, State Attorney for the Judicial District of New Haven; and political activist Rennard C. "Rennie" Davis. Drawings also depict overviews of the courtroom as well as the foyer of the courthouse.

The sketches and drawings are accompanied by a sketchbook that includes manuscript notes by Templeton about the trial as well as forty-one preliminary sketches in pencil, pastel and ink of the participants and courtroom surroundings. There are two printed items: a composite sketch by Templeton published by the Hartford Courant newspaper on April 28, 1971, which depicts Garry, Huggins, Markle, Mulvey, Roraback, Sams, Seale, and the court reporter; and by a feature cover story from the Sunday supplement of the Waterbury (Connecticut) Republican-American newspaper about Templeton and his work, "Pictures from Places Where Cameras are Banned," by Sando Bologna, May 14, 1972. There is also a color photocopy of fragmentary notes Templeton prepared for an interview that mentions the trial and a color photocopy of Templeton's multicolor drawing of Rennie Davis (spelled "René" on the drawing).

Collection Contents

b. 1	Sketchbook <i>1 sketchbook (114 p.): pencil, pastel, and ink; 20.3 cm.</i>	1971
	Drawings	
b. 2 (Oversize)	Rennie Davis and Bobby G. Seale <i>Oil pastel (multicolor); 12.1 x 20.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 2 (Oversize)	Superior Court Judge Harold M. Mulvey in profile <i>Oil pastels (brown); 12.1 x 20.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 2 (Oversize)	Catherine G. Roraback, Erika Huggins, and two African American jurors: one male, one female <i>Oil pastels (brown); 12.1 x 20.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 2 (Oversize)	Bobby G. Seale and Charles R. Garry <i>Oil pastels (brown); 12.1 x 20.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 2 (Oversize)	Two white jurors: one female, one male <i>Oil pastels (brown); 12.1 x 20.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Rennie Davis <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 25.2 x 20.4 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Rennie Davis <i>Oil pastels (brown); 25.2 x 20.4 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Bobby G. Seale with Arnold Mackle, State Attorney for the Judicial District of New Haven in background <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 24.6 x 20.3 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Arnold Mackle, State Attorney for the Judicial District of New Haven <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 24.8 x 20.4 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Superior Court Judge Harold M. Mulvey <i>Oil pastels (black); 20.4 x 24.8 cm.</i>	1971
b. 3 (Oversize)	Sando Bologna, "Robert Templeton of Woodbury: Pictures from places where cameras are banned," <i>The Sunday Republican Magazine</i>	1972 May 14
b. 4 (Oversize)	"Panther Trial," illustration printed in the Hartford Courant	1971 April 28
b. 4 (Oversize)	Eight jurors <i>Oil pastels (multicolor) and ink; 28.0 x 35.4 cm.</i>	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	Seven jurors <i>Oil pastels (multicolor) and ink; 28.0 x 42 cm.</i>	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	Overview of courtroom <i>Oil pastels (tan); 28.0 x 35.3 cm.</i>	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	Bobby G. Seale <i>Pastels (tan and black); 35.4 x 27.8 cm.</i>	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	Superior Court Judge Harold M. Mulvey <i>Ink and watercolor; 37.5 x 28.0 cm.</i>	1971

b. 4 (Oversize)	Catherine G. Roraback <i>Pastels (black); 37.5 x 28.0 cm.</i>	1971
b. 5 (Oversize)	Head sketches <i>Pastels (black); 42 x 35 cm.</i> Four head sketches. Ericka Huggins, Warren Kimbro (probably), and Bobby G. Seale.	1971
b. 5 (Oversize)	George Sams, Jr., on witness stand <i>Pastels (black); 42 x 35 cm.</i>	1971
b. 5 (Oversize)	Ericka Huggins on the witness stand <i>Oil pastels (multicolor) and watercolor; 48.6 x 42.7</i>	May [11-12], 1971
b. 6 (Oversize)	Courtroom scene <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 45.7 x 61.2</i> Courtroom scene depicting Superior Court Judge Harold M. Mulvey, court reporters and clerks, and jurors, probably including foreman Franklin J. Dilger and Jennie Jesilavich.	1971
b. 6 (Oversize)	Ericka Huggins, four head sketches <i>Pastels (blank and white); 65.2 x 48.3 cm.</i>	1971
b. 6 (Oversize)	Ericka Huggins, Warren Kimbro, Bobby G. Seale, and George Sams, Jr. <i>Pastels (multicolor); 62.4 x 50.3 cm.</i>	1971
b. 6 (Oversize)	Overview of courtroom including judge's bench and defense table <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 45.7 x 61.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 6 (Oversize)	Scene of people in foyer of Connecticut Superior Court, New Haven <i>Oil pastels (multicolor); 45.7 x 61.2 cm.</i>	1971
b. 7 (oversize)	Scenes depicting Bobby G. Seale, Charles R. Garry, alone and together <i>Ink and watercolor; 56.5 x 75.8 cm.</i>	1971

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

African American political activists
African Americans -- Connecticut -- New Haven
Black militant organizations -- Connecticut -- New Haven
Black Panthers Trial, New Haven, Ct., 1970-1971
Black power -- Connecticut -- New Haven
Political activists -- United States
Trials (Conspiracy) -- Connecticut -- New Haven
Trials (Kidnapping) -- Connecticut -- New Haven
Trials (Murder) -- Connecticut -- New Haven

Geographic Names

New Haven (Conn.) -- Race relations

Genres / Formats

Drawings (visual works)
Sketchbooks
Sketches

Names

Garry, Charles, 1909-1991 -- Portraits
Huggins, Ericka (1948) -- Portraits
Kimbrow, Warren -- Portraits
Mulvey, Harold M., 1914-2000 -- Portraits
Roraback, Catherine, 1920-2007 -- Portraits
Rosen, David N., 1944- -- Portraits
Sams, George W., Jr. -- Portraits
Seale, Bobby, 1936- -- Portraits

Corporate Bodies

Black Panther Party -- Pictorial works
Connecticut. Superior Court -- Pictorial works