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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Simon Toparovsky papers

**Date (inclusive):** 1995-

**Collection number:** 1734

**Creator:** Toparovsky, Simon.

**Extent:** 1 box (.5 linear ft.)3 oversize boxes.

**Abstract:** Simon Toparovsky is a designer and sculptor whose work has been exhibited internationally. The collection consists of printed material, exhibition brochures and catalogs, artwork, and clippings in English and Italian.

**Language:** Finding aid is written in English/Italian

**Repository:** University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.  
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

**Physical location:** Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

**Restrictions on Access**

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

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**Provenance/Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Simon Toparovsky, 2006 and 2007.

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Simon Toparovsky papers (Collection Number 1734). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

**Biography**

Simon Toparovsky studied at Temple University, University of California, Berkeley, and California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. He began his professional career as an apprentice to hand bookbinders in the United States and England, where he studied the restoration and conservation of rare books. In 1976 he was chosen as the head of the apprenticeship program at the Center for Book Arts in New York. While there he taught and created original work, some of which has been acquired by the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum and the Smithsonian Institution. In the 1980s, Toparovsky transitioned from working with visual books to creating narrative sculptures. He creates both private and public art, including, in 2002, the design for the main altar crucifix for the Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels in Los Angeles. His other works have been exhibited and purchased by such organizations as the Museum of Modern Art (New York) and the Getty Center (Los Angeles). Toparovsky lives and works in Los Angeles, California and Milan, Italy.

**Scope and Content**

This collection documents exhibitions of sculptor Simon Toparovsky. The catalogs, brochures, artwork, and clippings in it are derived from several of his solo and collaborative efforts from 1995 to ca. 2007. Languages of the material are English and Italian.

**Organization and Arrangement**

Arranged by exhibition title:

1. Ex occidente lux
2. Flight of Icarus

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3. La costituzione Americana
  4. Tutte le storie.
  5. Qui Del Dicabile

#### **Processing History**

Simon Toparovsky donated material from several of his exhibitions in 2006 and the material was rehoused and described. In 2007, Mr. Toparovsky donated additional materials relating to the exhibition Qui Del Dicabile. Processed by Elizabeth Sheehan in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), 2006. Additions to the collection were processed by Kelley Wolfe Bachli in 2008.

#### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

#### **Subjects**

Toparovsky, Simon--Archives.  
Sculptors--Archival resources.

**Ex occidentale lux 2003**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series consists of printed material from first Italian solo exhibition.

Box 1, Folder 1

**Brochure for exhibition in Italy 2003**

**Scope and Content Note**

Studio f.22 Modern Art Gallery, Brescia, Italy. Essay by art critic, Eugenio Schatz, Milano.

**Flight of icarus 1995**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series contains printed material from Los Angeles exhibition at the Lizardi/Harp Gallery.

Box 1, Folder 2

**Catalog of solo exhibition 1995 October**

**Scope and Content Note**

Lizardi/Harp Gallery, Los Angeles. Essay by Robert Barrett.

**La costituzione Americana 2002-2003**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series contains printed material, clippings, and artwork from Milan exhibition.

Box 1, Folder 3      **Catalog for a work in four hands, sculpture and painting installation with Ariel Soulé 2003**

**Scope and Content Note**

Chiesa di San Paolo Converso, Milano, Italy. Essays and poetry.

Box 1, Folder 4      **Installation brochure--San Paolo Converso 2003 March**

Box 2, Folder 1      **Concept proposal for exhibition 2003**

**Scope and Content Note**

Proposal signed by the curator, Giani Donatelli, and the project architects, Andrea Giovanni Croce and Matteo Migliorini.

Box 2, Folder 2      **L'art la facciamo in liberty = We make our art freely 2003 April 30**

**Scope and Content Note**

Review of exhibit from Il Giorno.

Box 3, Folder 1      **Artist's rendering of exhibition salon 1 2002 November**

**Scope and Content Note**

Using watercolor, chalk, and collage material.

Box 3, Folder 2      **Artist's rendering of exhibition salon 2 2002 November**

**Scope and Content Note**

Using watercolor, chalk, and collage material.

**Tutte le stories ca. 2006**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series contains printed material for exhibition scheduled for 2007 in Naples, Italy.

Box 2, Folder 3

**Exhibition brochure ca. 2006**

**Scope and Content Note**

Chiesa dell'Incoronata, Napoli, 2007 (with A. Soulé).

**Qui Del Dibile 2007**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series contains printed material for the exhibition of works by Simon Toparovsky and Ariel Soule in the church of L'Incoronata in Naples, Italy.

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| Box 1, Folder 5 | <b>Qui Del Dibile exhibition catalog and booklet 2007</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | <b>Qui Del Dibile DVD about the exhibition 2007</b>  |
| Box 1, Folder 7 | <b>Qui Del Dibile DVD, film about the artists and artworks in the exhibition created by Nicolangelo Gelormini 2007</b>                         |
| Box 4, Folder 1 | <b>Quijote Don prints by Ariel Soule, artist, Gianni Donatelli, author, Gianni Caldara, coordinator, and Grafiche Moretti, printer undated</b> |

**Physical Description:** 10 prints, plus two sheets with colophon and explanatory text, rolled in a 13 inch tall tin can with Don Quixote graphics