

Robert Preston Archive

Robert Forrest (Bob) Preston, born in the UK on 1 January 1942, graduated from Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts having studied fine art and design. In 1973 he migrated to Australia moving first to Innisfail, North Queensland, and later to Townsville where, although continuing to travel widely, he remained. Preston had moved to Townsville to take up a teaching position at TAFE from 1974. He later joined James Cook University (JCU) where he lectured in creative arts for many years and also completed a Master in Creative Arts, and PhD.

Preston's body of work, dating from the 1960s, expresses his interest in surrealism and mysticism. He has credited his early studies as a draughtsman in the UK, and later of calligraphy and illumination drawing, with enhancing his practice in painting and mosaics.

Archive Location: 490L

Series listing

(This listing retains the original order of bound notebooks and folders established by the artist.)

- Series 1 Notebooks.
- Series 2 "Evidence of Work" - 1976-2016

Detailed Listing:

Series 1 - Notebooks

- RP/1/1 "Arts fusion and tutorial notes," Aug 1991 – Dec 1995.
"An Introductory Note to the AAFC [Australian Arts Fusion Centre]. The following are notes from lectures [rather from those which I attended] given by the composer Dr. Edward Cowie – then Professor – expounding his theories of composition & form."

- RP/1/2 "Notebook V: Background notes for Communion to the Trees," 1997-2004.
Contains: hand-written notes; pasted-in symbols, images and notes; loose bookmark p.153-4; loose flyer p.233, "Thuringowa Library Services: Online Library Catalogue, Reserving Items." [NB pages numbered by hand.]

“A.A.F.C. Description of Arts Fusion Degree Courses, Post Graduate Research & Thesis Notes, Vol.2,” 1992-95. Includes:

- *Australian Arts Fusion Centre*, James Cook University, 1991. 7p.
- “The Australian Arts Fusion Centre James Cook University of North Queensland.” 4p.
- Arts Fusion 1... Course Outline, January 1993. 5p.
- Blank form, Dept of Employment, Education and Training, “1993 Australian Postgraduate Course Awards Advice to Applicants,” 4p.
- “HECS Advice 1992.”
- “Union Membership Fee,” 1992
- “JCU HECS Exemptions for Staff 1992”
- Handwritten planning notes
- Blank application form for JCU Masters, 2p.
- Blank application form for JCU PhD, 6p.
- Letter from Ms Gloria A. Christie, JCU Postgraduate Admissions, to Mr R.F. Preston, re Accept/Decline PhD offer.
- Blank letter from Robert Preston – no recipient specified – re conversation regarding possibility of examiners role
- “The Australian Arts Fusion Centre James Cook University of North Queensland - Notes on Thesis in Arts Fusion: Introduction,” 1992. 14p.
- AAFC “Advisory Notes to PhD Candidates,” 1993. With annotations. 9p.
- Handwritten notes, “Thesis Writing,” 8p.
- “The Articulation of Theses Part 2,” 1993. 6p.
- AAFC “Style Guide for Thesis,” 1992. 3p.
- “Discussion document on the possible introduction of a taught Masters, 1992.”
- Robert Preston submission statement for entry to PhD, May 1992. 5p.
- Robert Preston submission statement for admission to PhD, May 1993. With annotations. 3p.
- Letter from JCU Postgraduate Admissions to Mr R.F. Preston, re Confirmation of Enrolment, 16 February 1993.
- Letter from Wendy Power, JCU Postgraduate Admissions [no recipient specified] re Annual Report for PhD Candidate, 9 August 1993.
- Letter from Christina Spence, AAFC, to “Dear Bob,” re make an appointment with Edward [Cowie], 4 August 1993.
- Letter from Wendy Power, JCU Postgraduate Admissions, no recipient specified, re Annual Report for PhD Candidate, 9 August 1993.
- Letter from Wendy Power, JCU Postgraduate Admissions [no recipient specified] re Annual Report for PhD Candidate, 22 September 1994.
- JCU Annual Report for PhD Candidature, completed by Robert F. Preston, 20 October 1993, 3p.
- “Notes on the Background of “The Mixing of Memory with Desire”” by

Robert Preston, 24 July 1995. With annotations. 3p.

- Handwritten notes on “Chronochromie” with salutation, “Over to you, Bob!” 2p.
- Handwritten notes [perhaps in more than one hand], “Thesis Title: Chronochromie,” 9p.
- JCU Faculty of Arts, Dept of Art & Design Post Graduate Courses, 12p.
- Letter from JCU Visiting Professorial Fellow, Prof John Eveleigh, To All Art and Design Postgraduate Students, re Annual Self-Assessment document, 1992. 4p.

RP/1/4

“A.A.F.C. Arts Fusion Studio Practice & Lecture Notes, Vol.3.” Includes:

- Cover, *Australian Arts Fusion Centre*, James Cook University, 1991. 6p.
- “The Australian Arts Fusion Centre James Cook University of North Queensland.” 3p.
- “Fusion thinking: A Theoretical Discourse on Creativity,” presented by Professor Edward Cowie at the 5th International Conference on Thinking, Townsville, July 1992. 12p.
- Tuesday Night Lectures in Arts Fusion programme, Oct-Nov [no year]
- “Form,” 4p.
- “Arts Fusion Video Project: Shooting and Editing Script,” 13p.
- “Arts Fusion 1-2 Project Exercise,” 2p.
- [Loose inclusion] flyer, Matisse Conference, Qld Art Gallery, 1-2 April 1995
- “Arts Fusion Theory Examination,” 2p.
- AAFC Postgraduate Lecture Series 2, 1993, 2p.
- Musical score [no title], 8p.
- Series of brief illustrative images, 6p.
- Handwritten planning notes, 4p.
- “Arts Fusion Studio Practice Materials List,” 15p.
- “A Fusion Perspective of Texture,” 11p.
- “General Notes on Symmetry,” Edward Cowie, March 1993. 7p.
- “Pictorial Analysis: A Lecture for Arts Fusion postgraduate students,” by Prof Edward Cowie, 1 November [no year]. 13p.
- “Lecture 2: Symmetry in the Visual Arts,” 27p.

RP/1/5

“A.A.F.C. Notes Taken from Arts Fusion Lectures Delivered by Dr. E. Cowie 1991-94, Vol.4.” Includes:

[NB Preston has assigned page numbers enclosed in square brackets to some of his handwritten notes (exclusive of illustrations); these page numbers are also listed here in square brackets.]

- Photocopy of illustrations, 2p.
- Handwritten, “An Introductory Note to the AAFC,” [1].
- “The Australian Arts Fusion Centre,” and illustration, 4p.

- Extracts from book [details not available], pp.134, 113. 2p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No A Study of Line and Block," 28th August 91, [2-3]. 2p.
- "Kandinsky's Theatre Project: Line & Movement," extract from book [details not available], pp.303, 402, and handwritten notes, [4-5]. 4p.
- Photocopy of *Study for an Angel*, by Leonardo da Vinci
- Handwritten notes, "A Notion Concerning Symbolic Association."
- Handwritten notes on exposition, [6].
- Handwritten notes on harmony, melody and rhythm, [7].
- "Fugue," and extract from book [details not available], n.p. and p.169. 2p.
- Handwritten planning notes, 2p.
- Handwritten notes on processing music, [8-9]. 2p.
- Copy of *Highroad and Byroads*, by Hauptweg und Nebenwege.
- Handwritten notes on journey discontinuity, [10-11]. 2p.
- Extract from book [details not available], p.48, n.p. 2p.
- Handwritten notes on blocks, woodwinds, strings, [12-13]. 2p.
- "Deluge – drawing x Leonardo da Vinci."
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Measure, Measurement & Proportion" [14].
- Copy of *Rich Harbor* by Reicher Hafen.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Eliot's Four Quarters," 5th Sept, [15-23]. 9p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Macbeth: The Play as Form," [24-33]; illustration [no details available]. 11p.
- Extract, "The Memory Theatre," from book, *Sacred Architecture*, pp.155-75 [no further details available]. 21p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Development & Variation," [35-48]; extract from book "Themes & Variations," – Figure & Still Life x Henri Matisse, various pages, including pp.215, 218 [no further details available]; annotated page with images of works by Piet Mondrian and Claude Monet; book extract [no details available] Notes 14p, extracts 9p, total 23p.
- "The Video Film," 3p.
- "Time and Space," [49-52]; includes printed and handwritten musical scores, and annotated sketches/diagrams. 14p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. The Nature of Knowledge," [53-56]; annotated sketches/diagrams. 9p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. The Mind of J.S. Bach (1685-1750)," [57-62]; printed musical score with annotations; extract from unknown book, p.343. 9p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Metamorphosis," [63-73]; image – *Rain, Steam & Speed – The Great Western Railway*, J.W.M. Turner; book

extract, pp.194-195, 198 [no further details available]; book extract, pp.36-37 [no further details available]; handwritten notes. Notes 14p, image 1p, extracts 5p, total 20p.

- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No.2 10th August - 1993," [74]; handwritten notes. 3p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. Klee (1879-1940) & Kandinsky (1866-1944)," [75-85]; leaflet enclosed between pp.75-76 – "Some Latest Monumental Works," DK Agencies, International Booksellers; book extract, image of *Ad Parnassum* [no further details available]; 5 illustrative images; book extract, "An Internal Paradise, 1941-1954," [no further details available]. Notes, 16p, extracts 2p, total 18p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture No. On Landscape & Geography 9 Nov - 93," [87]. 1p.
- "General Notes on Symmetry," Tue March 93, Edward Cowie.
- "Symmetry in Music Sample Sets," 1p.
- Typed, "Lecture 2. Symmetry in the Visual Arts," Edward Cowie. 3p.
- Typed, "Lecture 2. Symmetry in Literature," Edward Cowie; book extract from *The Earliest English Poems*, p.30. 2p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture (The Last One) Pictorial Analysis Nov 94," [89-101]; book extract showing images of works by Piet Mondrian and Josef Albers, p. 73 [no further details available]; book extract showing image of work, *Polyphony*, [no further details available]. Notes 15p, extracts 2p, total 17p.
- Handwritten, "Arts Fusion Lecture: Colour" [103-123]; handwritten notes/sketches 12p. 28p.

RP/1/6

"A.A.F.C. Supplementary Material Submission to the Fed. Govt. 1994-8, Designs for Brochures & Stationery etc., Vol.5." Includes:

- Cover, *Australian Arts Fusion Centre*, James Cook University, 1991.
- "The Australian Arts Fusion Centre: A Submission to the Federal Government for a Five Year Foundation Grant. 1994-1998," 2p.
- Letter on Council Chambers letterhead from Tony Mooney, Mayor of the City of Townsville, to The Honorable Paul Keating MP, Prime Minister of Australia, Canberra, re Mooney's support of submission from JCU for a five year foundation grant for the AAFC, 21 April 1993.
- Letter on JCU letterhead from Prof R.M. Golding, Vice-Chancellor, to The Hon Paul Keating MP, Prime Minister of Australia, Canberra, re submission from JCU for a five year foundation grant for the AAFC, 27 April 1993.
- Report, "The Australian Arts Fusion Centre: A National Research Centre for Research into Creativity," 15p.
- AAFC logo/cover design sketches on small white paper bag, pasted onto page.

- AAFC draft cover page.
- AAFC hand-drawn logo designs, "April – 91 - Preston 1991," 2p.
- Draft of AAFC "Complements [sic] Acknowledgement Notelets" letterhead.
- Mock-up of AAFC letterhead.
- Drafts of AAFC letterhead, 4p.
- Loose page, JCU letterhead with AAFC details added
- Mock-ups of business cards for Edward Cowie.
- Designs for business cards for Edward Cowie and Bob Preston.
- Sample business cards for Bob Preston
- Draft designs of AAFC "With Compliments" cards
- Sample AAFC "With Compliments" card
- Draft copies of AAFC "With Compliments" cards, 2p.
- Draft copy of AAFC "With Compliments" card, with tick in red ballpoint
- Draft copy of AAFC "With Compliments" card, with annotations
- Note, pasted in, re amounts of AAFC stationery items to order.
- Hand-drawn draft of AAFC student record card
- Notes re student record cards
- Typed draft of AAFC student record card - annotation, record attempt V
- Typed draft of AAFC student record card - annotation, record attempt V
- Typed draft of AAFC student record card - annotation, third attempt
- Mock-up of AAFC Postgraduate Studies flyer, and photocopy, 3p.
- AAFC brochure design drafts and accompanying text, 12p.
- Typed notes re brochure
- Handwritten notes, cover/folder design
- Handwritten notes, "Meeting with Greg concerning publicity," 14 Nov 91
- "Quotes for Fusion Folder"
- B&W photograph of artist and portrait, pasted in
- B&W proofs page - artists, pasted in
- B&W photograph of pianist annotating score, pasted in
- B&W proofs page – musicians; outdoor group with typewriter - pasted in
- B&W photograph of woman, with typewriter, seated under tree - pasted in
- B&W photograph of violinist and guitarist in classroom - pasted in
- Draft AAFC publication pages, 8p.
- Mock-up AAFC publication, 8p.
- Printed copy, AAFC brochure, 1991.

Series 2 - Evidence of Work, 1976-2016

- RP/2/1 "Evidence of Work from 1976-1981: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:
- Newspaper clipping, "Festival Art in Court House." Annotation, "Sixth Pacific Festival Art Awards – June – 1976. *Townsville Bulletin*."
 - Exhibition invitation, includes recent work by Bob Preston, Martin Gallery, 13 October [no year]
 - Typed letter, "Draft Only," from Robert Preston to City Council – Dept of Health, re "Comments on 'Health Poster Competition,'" 16 September 1977.
 - Newspaper clipping, "Voyage of a Singing Rock," Bob Preston interviewed by Anna Bock. Annotation, "*Townsville Advertiser*, Thur March 26, 1981 – P10."
 - Newspaper clipping, photograph of Bob Preston, teacher at Townsville College of Advanced Education (TCAE) [no publication details retained with clipping – see next entry].
 - Newspaper clipping, "Voyage of a Singing Rock," Bob Preston interviewed by Anna Bock; also includes photograph [as described in previous entry] and publication details [pasted on], "*The Townsville Advertiser*, Thurs., March 26, 1981 – P10."
 - Newspaper clipping, "Foyer Exhibition" by Anna Bock; includes reference to Bob Preston's participation in Exhibitions in the Foyer organised by Friends of the Theatre. No publication details; annotation, "March 1981." [also includes reference to T150 Exhibition artists, Anneke Silver, James Brown, and Ron McBurnie]
- RP/2/2 "Evidence of Work from 1982-1987: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:
- Exhibition catalogue, Tie: TAFE Instructor's (sic) Exhibition, PTRG, 13-27 August (no year), includes work by Robert Preston. Annotation appended, "August 1982 TIE Exhibitn (sic)." [Also includes work by JCU T150 project artists James Brown, Anne Lord, Jane McBurnie, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver.]
 - Newspaper clipping, "Scene 1: An Important Exhibition," by Anna Bock, re T.I.E. Exhibition, includes reference to Robert Preston. No publication details; annotation, "August - 1982." [Also includes reference to JCU T150 project artists Ron McBurnie, Anneke Silver, and James Brown.]
 - Photocopy of cover page for *Linq*, Vol.11, No.2, 1983/84 and article, "Painted Myths: The Artists Seppo Hautaneimi and Robert Preston," by Anna Bock, pp.18-31.
 - Photocopy of cover page for *Art Network: Photography*, Autumn 1983, and article, "Tracing the Mythical: The Painter Robert Preston," by Anna

Bock, pp.70-71.

- Exhibition poster, Drawings X 4, PTRG, 4-24 August 1984, includes work by Robert Preston. Includes Artists' Statements and included works on reverse. [Also includes work by JCU T150 project artists James Brown, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver.]
- Photocopies of documents about Drawings X 4, with cover page annotated "4th Aug 1984. X Bruce James,":
 - **Clipped together:** Review by Bruce James, 2p; "Itinerary"; Newspaper column, "About Town," *Townsville Bulletin*, 4 August 1984, p.3, refers to exhibition works by Bob Preston. 1p. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Anneke Silver, James Brown, and Ron McBurnie]; Photograph and caption from *Townsville Bulletin*, 8 August 1984, n.p. 1p. [Photograph also includes JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie and Anneke Silver]
 - Exhibition opening invitation, 4 August, PTRG
 - Newspaper column, "About Town," *Townsville Bulletin*, 4 August 1984, p.3, refers to exhibition works by Bob Preston. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Anneke Silver, James Brown, and Ron McBurnie]; "About Town," *Townsville Bulletin*, 17 August 1984, p.3, refers to exhibition works by Robert Preston. 1p. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie, Anneke Silver, and James Brown]
 - Photocopy of photograph and caption from *Townsville Bulletin*, 8 August 1984, n.p. 1p. [Photograph also includes JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie and Anneke Silver]
 - "Itinerary - Drawings X 4"
- Photograph and caption from *Townsville Bulletin*, 23 August 1984, p.18, refers to Robert Preston's works in Drawings X 4. [Photograph also includes JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie and Anneke Silver, and refers to James Brown]
 - Invitation for preview, 9 March 1985, exhibition, Drawings X 4, Alfred St. Community Arts Centre, Cairns, from 9-23 March 1985. Includes work by Robert Preston. 2 copies, one signed by Robert Preston. [Also includes works by JCU T150 Exhibition artists James Brown, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
- Photocopy of cover of *Arts National*, Vol.2, No.1, September 1984, and article, "Drawings X 4," by Glen Betz, p.44-45.
- Newspaper clipping, "TAFE Tutors Win Arts Circle Coup," by Ian McDougall (clipping has not retained further details). Refers to Bob Preston's participation in exhibition, Drawings X 4. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists James Brown, Ron McBurnie,

and Anneke Silver]

- Review by Bruce James [as above]
- Photocopy, cover of *Eyeline*, November 1987, and article, "Letter from Townsville," p.29. Refers to Robert Preston. 2p. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
- Letter from John D. Millington, on University of Queensland Press letterhead, to Robert, re selected for inclusion in book "Tropical Visions," to be published September 1987, 10 December 1986.
- Invitation to book launch, *Tropical Visions* by John Millington, and exhibition of works by some artists featured in book (24 November – 5 December 1987), PTRG, 27 November.
- Photocopy of cover, publication details, and entry on Robert Preston, in *Tropical Visions*, by John Millington, UQP, 1987. 9p.
- Photocopy of newspaper article, "Stimuli from the North! – Artists up the 'top end' are showing the way," by John Millington, refers to Robert Preston; annotation, "Sat 17th Jan. 1987 *Gold Coast Bulletin*... Paper was 224 pages. These are pp 42-." Article includes photograph. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Anneke Silver, Anne Lord, Ron McBurnie, and James Brown, and photographs of all but Brown]
- Invitations, *Tropical Visions* book launch/exhibition [as above]. 2 copies, one intact, one cut in two
- Newspaper clipping, "City Artists' Visions Appear in Tropical Landscapes Book," by Colin Campbell, *Townsville Bulletin*, 21 November 1987, p.14, refers to Robert Preston's work featured in *Tropical Visions* by John Millington. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Anneke Silver, and Ron McBurnie]
- Newspaper clipping, "Queensland Art in Vibrant Colour," *Daily Sun*, 10 October 1987, p.20, refers to Robert Preston's work featured in *Tropical Visions* by John Millington.

RP/2/3

"Evidence of Work from 1988-1990: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Photocopy of cover page for *Linq*, Vol.16, No.2, 1988 and article, "Letter from Townsville," by Anneke Silver and Ron McBurnie, pp.85-93, includes reference to Robert Preston. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists Ron McBurnie, Anneke Silver, Anne Lord and James Brown]
- Photocopy of article, "Letter from Townsville," by Anneke Silver, in *Eyeline*, March 1988, p.26, refers to Robert Preston. [Also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists James Brown, and Anne Lord]
- Letter from Ross Searle, PTRG Director, on PTRG letterhead, to Bob Preston, re confirmation of exhibition dates, 24 November 1988; PTRG

memo from Ross to Bob, n.d.

- Typed, "Bob Preston – Survey Exhibition."
- "Anneke Silver – Ancestral Meetings." 2p.
- "An Interview with Robert Preston by Anneke Silver," with annotation, "Draft for catalogue April 1989." 8p.
- Photocopy of cover, *Art and Australia*, Vol. 26, No. 4, Winter 1989, and advertisement for Survey Exhibition by Robert Preston, PTRG, 27 July – 25 August. [Also includes exhibition, Ancestral Meetings, 25 May – 18 June, by JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Anneke Silver]
- Newspaper clipping, "Art Influenced by Old Culture," *N.Q. Herald*, 16-22 August 1989, p.2, refers to Robert Preston.
- Newspaper clipping, "Exhibition will Span 23 Years' of Work," by Helen Smith, and, "Art that Moves," Advertiser, 20 July 1989, p.15, both refer to Bob Preston.
- Exhibition opening invitation, *Robert Preston Survey Exhibition: A Selection of Work from 1966-89*, PTRG, 26 July 1989
- Small hand-made, handwritten draft of catalogue; cover features photocopy of Robert Preston artwork – March 1988.
- Exhibition catalogue, *Robert Preston Survey Exhibition: A Selection of Work from 1966-89*, PTRG, 26 July 1989; Introduction by Ross Searle, Interview by Anneke Silver.
- Handwritten notes, "'Dancing Snakes and Dreaming Bodies,' Performance/Lecture with Robert Preston and Dance North."
- Handwritten notes, "Format for 'Dancing Bodies and Dreaming Snakes,' Perc Tucker Regional Gallery. Tuesday August 1, 1989," and "Notes on the Mediums of Visual Art and Dance," - notes from Dance North choreographer, Cheryl Stock. 2p.
- Flyer/purchase order for catalogues and video of Robert Preston's and Anneke Silver's work, 1989.
- Handwritten letter [senders unclear] to Bob, re thanks for helping with the Monsoon Madness Exhibition, n.d.
- Letter from Fay, on Bingil Bay Gallery letterhead, to Bob, re cheque enclosed, 1 August [no year].
- Letter from Fay, on Bingil Bay Gallery letterhead, to Bob, re cheque enclosed, 19 August 1989.
- Letter from John Linton, Peak Pacific General Manager, on "Peak Pacific" letterhead, to Mr R. Preston, re purchasing two pieces – *Seated Nude in Front of Mirror* and *Palms and Pink Cloud* - from exhibition at PTRG and cheque enclosed, 4 August 1989.
- Handwritten letter from John Linton, Peak Pacific General Manager, on Peak letterhead, to Mr R. Preston, re delivering two pieces purchased from exhibition at PTRG, 6 October 1989.
- Letter from John Linton, Peak Pacific General Manager, on Peak Pacific

- letterhead, to Mr R. Preston, re commissioned work, 5 January 1990.
- Letter from Doug Hall, Queensland Art Gallery (QAG) Director, on QAG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re acquisition of *Fragments of a Lost Place No.2*, as part of Contemporary Art Acquisition Program, 12 September 1989.
 - Letter from Alan Wilson, QAG Acting Director, on QAG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re acquisition of *Fragments of a Lost Place No.2*, as part of Contemporary Art Acquisition Program, 9 October 1989.
 - Receipt from Doug Hall, QAG Director, on QAG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re acquisition of *Fragments of a Lost Place No.2*, 6 November 1989.
 - Letter from E.P. Tonnoir, on Tonnoirs of Townsville letterhead, to Doug Hall, QAG Director, re acquisition of *Fragments of a Lost Place No.2*, as part of Contemporary Art Acquisition Program, 20 February 1990. [also refers to work by JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Anneke Silver]
 - Letter from Doug Hall, QAG Director, on QAG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re acquisition of *Fragments of a Lost Place No.2*, 19 March 1990.
 - Letter from D. Gray, Townsville Grammar School Hon. Secretary, on Townsville Grammar School letterhead, to Robert Preston, re thanks from Ladies Auxiliary for help and time judging inaugural art show, 16 October 1989.
 - Photocopy of article, "A Conversation with Anneke Silver," interview by Robert Preston [no further publication details], with annotation, "A.S. – Catalogue – 1989."
 - Letter from Ross Searle, PTRG Director, on PTRG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re thank you for gift of two studies to Gallery's permanent collection, 14 June 1990.
 - Photocopy of newspaper article, "Tucker Concepts Food for Thought," in column, "Visual Arts," by John Millington pp.104, 107; annotation, "13th Jan – 1990 [no title details available]. Refers to Robert Preston's 1989 exhibition at PTRG, includes photo [also refers to other JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Anneke Silver and Anne Lord].

RP/2/4

"Evidence of Work from 1990-1991: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Colour photocopy of *Studies of Beach Almonds (Palleranda [sic] Beach Almonds*, Dec 92
- Newsletter, *PTRG 10th Anniversary 1991*, Dec 1990 – Jan 1991, 4p. Refers to Robert Preston's participation in exhibition, *Accents in the Landscape*, 16 Jan – 17 Feb 1991. [also refers to other JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Anneke Silver]
- Information panels including "Accents in the Landscape," annotation

- “16th Jan - 17th Feb 1991. Curated x Robert Barton,” and “Robert Preston.” 12p [also includes panels for JCU T150 exhibition artist, Anneke Silver]
- Pamphlet, *Artist in the Tropics: 1780s to 1900*, PTRG, 1991.
 - Catalogue of works, *Works on Paper by Townsville Artists*, 14-28 March 1990, Grahame Galleries Brisbane; includes work by Bob Preston. [also includes work by JCU T150 artists, Anne Lord, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
 - Exhibition invitation, *Works on Paper*, Grahame Galleries, Brisbane, 14-28 March 1990. Includes work by Bob Preston. 2 copies, one signed on front, one on verso, by Robert Preston [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Anne Lord, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
 - Photocopy, on Grahame Galleries letterhead, newspaper clipping, “Polish with Depth,” by Michael Richards, in column “Galleries,” re *Works on Paper* exhibition, includes reference to Robert Preston; annotation, “The Courier Mail 27 March 1990.” [also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Anneke Silver, Anne Lord and Ron McBurnie]
 - Letter from D.J. Walker, Art Prize Co-ordinator, on Aberdare Collieries Pty Ltd letterhead, to Robert Preston, re purchase of *The Flight of Birds*, 2 August 1990.
 - Catalogue, 1990 Aberdare Art Prize Annual Acquisitive Exhibition, Ipswich City Council Regional Art Gallery, includes work by Robert Preston. [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, James Brown, Anne Lord, Ronald McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
 - Letter from Mrs Len Davenport, Ipswich City Council Art Gallery Director, on ICC letterhead, to Dear Artist, re Aberdare Art Prize, notes that work by Robert Preston selected as gift by Allied Queensland Coalfields for ICC Regional Art Gallery, 19 July 1990. [also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artist Ronald McBurnie’s work acquired]
 - Letter from Robert Barton, PTRG Display Co-ordinator, on PTRG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re thank you for lending work for inclusion in “Sister City” exhibition travelling to Tokuyama and Iwaki in Japan, 27 September 1991. 2p
 - Letter from Akihiko Ishimura, Tokuyama City Government, on Tokuyama City Govt letterhead, to Robert Barton, re thank you for art works, 31 October 1991
 - PTRG Incoming Loan Agreement, 44th Tokuyama City Museum Exhibition, 13 September – 20 December 1991, lender – Robert Preston, work – *Design for “Rhythmographic” Plaque for the Month of April*. 3p.
 - PTRG With Compliments from Robert Barton re room brochure for Tokuyama Exhibition accompanying Iwaki City Art Museum Gallery

Guide. 3p

- Letter from Robert Barton, on PTRG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re enclosed copies of "Eight Artists in Townsville," 18 December 1991.
- Exhibition works list [in Japanese script]; annotation "Robert Preston – 1991." Includes works, *Two Amygdaloid Plaques* and *Rhythmographic Plaque for April*, by Robert Preston. [also includes works by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Anneke Silver, Ron McBurnie, and James Brown]
- Exhibition catalogue, in English and Japanese, "Eight Artists in Townsville", includes work by Robert Preston. [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, James Brown, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
- Exhibition price list, the *Lost Songs of Eden: An exhibition of Works by Robert Preston*, 13-30 June 1991. 2 copies, both include annotations.
- "Artist Statement," by Robert Preston re the Lost Songs of Eden.
- Exhibition catalogue, *Lost Songs of Eden, by Robert Preston*, 13-30 June 1991, PTRG; loose handwritten notes enclosed.
- Photocopy of exhibition catalogue, *Images Past, Images Present*, includes works by Robert Preston, PTRG, 13-30 June 1991. [also includes work by JCU T150 artist, Anneke Silver]
- Exhibition opening invitation, *Seeing Green*, includes work by Robert Preston, PTRG, 22 August 1991.
- Exhibition catalogue, *Seeing Green*, includes work by Robert Preston, PTRG, 23 August – 22 September 1991. [also includes work by JCU T150 artists, Anneke Silver, Ron McBurnie, and Anne Lord]

RP/2/5

"Evidence of Work from 1991-1998: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Handwritten letter from A. Collins, Austin/Desmond Fine Art Ltd, on Austin/Desmond letterhead, to Mr Preston, re receipt of artwork, *Borderland No.2*, 21 January 1991.
- List of prize entries and winners, 2003 Hinchinbrook Acquisitive Art Competition, and handwritten draft of judge's speech to announce winners. 2p
- Letter from Ross Searle, PTRG Director, on PTRG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re Estate Evelyn Penprase Deceased – artwork proposal, 19 May 1992. 2p
- Letter from Robert Preston to Ross Searle, PTRG Director, with proposal for commissioned artwork for Penprase Estate, 28 May 1992. 3p
- *The Lyre Bird Press Catalogue*, 1994. Includes *Trees* by Robert Preston. [also includes works by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Ron McBurnie and Anneke Silver]
- Blank PTRG Membership form and "Exhibition Highlights," includes exhibition, *Between the Tides*, by Robert Preston, 12 December – 17

- January [no year]. [also includes exhibition by JCU T150 artist, Ron McBurnie]
- Exhibition, *Between the Tides*, by Robert Preston, Grahame Galleries, Brisbane, 10 March – 2 April 1993:
 - Catalogue mock-ups and pages
 - Opening invitation, 10 March 1993. 2 copies- one signed by Robert Preston, one addressed to Ron McBurnie
 - Photocopy, newspaper clipping, “Enduring Brushes with Shamanism,” by Karla Pincott, refers to a mini-retrospective by Robert Preston at Flinders Gallery [no title, page number, or date]; includes annotation, “May 1993.”
 - Brochure, “Brisbane International Retail Floor Plans,” includes annotation, “Position of Mosaic Works.”
 - “JCU Colours New Brisbane Airport,” *Research Review 1994*, JCU, Townsville, p.31. Refers to commissioned work, *The Mixing of Memory and Desire*, by Robert Preston, also featured on front and back covers.
 - Extract, p.31, as above.
 - Newspaper clipping, “Glass Art Slow, with a Flying Fish,” by Darren Lovell, refers to floor mosaic for Brisbane International Airport designed by Robert Preston; includes annotation, “1994.” [no further publication details retained]
 - Printed colour images of floor mosaic construction and details. 5p
 - Clipping, “Brisbane International,” *The Australian Magazine*, 2-3 September 1995, p48, refers to mosaic by Robert Preston.
 - Pages 17-24 from *Craft Arts International*, No.37, 1996, [no article title retained] refers to Robert Preston’s Brisbane International Airport mosaic, pp.17, 22.
 - Letter from Cyrilla Wellings, Graphic Designer, Education and Information, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, on GBRMPA letterhead, to Robert Preston, re exhibition insurance, n.d.; includes annotation, “1995.”
 - GBRMPA With Compliments, from Cyrilla to Bob, re catalogue
 - Exhibition invitation, *Reeflections*, PTRG, 8 March [no year]; includes annotation, “1996.”
 - “Robert Preston,” p.14, 17 [no title retained]; refers to Preston’s work, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*. [also includes reference to JCU T150 artist, Ron McBurnie]
 - Exhibition catalogue, *Reeflections: Reef Inspired Images*, PTRG, 8-24 March 1996. Includes work by Robert Preston [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Barbara Cheshire, Jane Hawkins, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver]
 - Handwritten notes, “Works Entered for Reeflections Exhibit.”
 - Exhibition poster, Muse, Umbrella Studio, Townsville, 19 May – 12 June

1995; includes annotation, "Featured was the work – 'Parotic Vision of a Larva' – 1972. Shown as source for her work. See 'Eyeline' No.29, Summer 1995 pp22-23." [includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Barbara Cheshire]

- Exhibition invitation, *Muse*, Umbrella Studio, Townsville, 19 May – 12 June 1995; includes annotation, "3 works borrowed by Alison Bray... shown with exhibition." [includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Barbara Cheshire]
- Book outline, "Experimental Art in Queensland c.1975 to the Present Day," Urszula Szulakowska. 8p
- Handwritten letter from Jenny Greder, QSC, on Griffith University letterhead, to Robert, re returned images not used in Urszula Szulakowska book, 27 April 1997
- Letter from Jenny Greder, Queensland Studies Centre Administrator, Griffith University, on Griffith University letterhead, to Robert Preston, re book to be published by Urszula Szulakowska, *Experimental Art in Queensland, 1975 to 1995: An Introductory Study*, 23 April 1998.

RP/2/6

"Evidence of Work from 2000-2003: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Exhibition opening invitation, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*, by Robert Preston, Customs House Art Gallery, Brisbane, 4 November 2000
- Brochure, University of Queensland/Customs House Brisbane
- Page, "Striking Imagery of the North," *University News*, 21 November 2000, p.2, refers to Robert Preston's exhibition at Customs House Gallery.
- Newsletter, "Striking Imagery of the North," *University News*, 21 November 2000, p.2, refers to Robert Preston's exhibition at Customs House Gallery
- DL envelope with handwritten notes re "slide images"; enclosed, 11B envelope with handwritten notes re "Slides film of work 2000-2001," containing 35ml negatives
- Brochure, PTRG 2001 Programme, includes *The Mixing of Memory with Desire* by Robert Preston, 16 March – 7 May 2001.
- Exhibition poster, A4Art, Vincent Art Gallery, February – April 2001, includes works by Robert Preston. [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists Jane Hawkins, Anneke Silver, James Brown, Jill O'Sullivan, and Ron McBurnie]
- Exhibition catalogue, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*, by Robert Preston, PTRG, 16 March – 6 May 2001.
- Exhibition invitation, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*, by Robert Preston, PTRG, 16 March – 6 May 2001; opening, 16 March; artist's floor talk, 29 April

- Floor talk invitation, 29 April, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*, by Robert Preston, PTRG, 16 March – 6 May 2001. 2 copies, one with date changed by hand to 18th March
- Letter from Frances Thomson, PTRG Director, on PTRG letterhead, to Robert Preston, re *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*, 16 March – 6 May 2001, 24 May 2001
- Newspaper clipping, “Going into Detail,” by Mandy Wildeheart, in column “Galleries,” *Townsville Bulletin*, 20 April 2001, p.22, refers to Robert Preston’s exhibition, *The Mixing of Memory with Desire*
- Article, “Mosaic of Tropical Life,” in *JCU Outlook*, April 2001, p.6. Refers to Bob Preston’s mosaic work, *Mixing Memory with Desire*, at Brisbane International Airport.
- Exhibition catalogue, “Strand Ephemera: An Exhibition of Sculpture and Installation,” The Strand, Townsville, 21-30 September 2001, includes work by Robert Preston, *Mixture of Memory and Desire 4*. [catalogue also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Jane Hawkins, Anneke Silver, and Anne Lord]
 - Enclosed, PTRG With Compliments note [sender’s name indecipherable] to “Bob” with notes re exhibition.
- Book launch invitation, *Communion to the Trees: Third Morning Communion: The Essene Gospel of Peace, Book III*, by Robert Preston, PTRG, 29 November 2002.
- Handwritten letter from “Frances,” on PTRG letterhead, to “Bob,” re contract for perusal, 19 December 2001.
- Newspaper clipping, “Envisaging New Eden,” by Ian Frazer, *Townsville Bulletin*, 27 November 2002, p. 21. Refers to Robert Preston and his book, *Communion to the Trees: Third Morning Communion: The Essene Gospel of Peace, Book III*. 2 copies, one full-page.
- Newspaper clipping, “It’s Illuminating,” in column “Weekender,” *Townsville Bulletin*, 30 November 2002, p.60. Refers to Robert Preston and his book, *Communion to the Trees: Third Morning Communion: The Essene Gospel of Peace, Book III*.
- Letter from Jenny Zimmer, Art Publisher, on Palgrave Macmillan letterhead, to “Dear Customer,” re enclosed brochure of Australian Art books including Robert Preston’s limited edition, *Communication to the Trees* [sic], November 2002. 2 copies with date stamps, 2 Dec 2002 COMVAT and 3 Dec 2002 COMVAT
- Palgrave Macmillan “Art Titles Order Form,” includes *Communion to the Trees* by Preston.
- Colour brochure, “Art Books from Palgrave Macmillan Australia,” includes *Communion to the Trees* by Robert Preston.
- Newsletter, *PTRG News*, February – April 2003, includes reference to Bob Preston and his book, *Communion to the Trees: Third Morning*

Communion: The Essene Gospel of Peace, Book III.

- Flyer, "Big Draw Day @ the Gallery," PTRG, 20 March [no year], notes Bob Preston will be assisting.

RP/2/7

"Evidence of Work from 2003-2011: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Leaflet, "25th Annual Hinchinbrook Acquisitive Art Competition 2003... Judge: Mr. Robert Preston." Includes handwritten annotations.
- Flyer, Eldorado Galleries, Proserpine.
- Flyer, Oceanic Whitsunday Boat & Leisure Show 2004, includes art exhibition, Eldorado Galleries Proserpine, 14-21 June 2004, with Dr Robert Preston as judge
- Art exhibition list of categories, entries and entrants.
- "Artist's Statement," Robert Preston, May 2005, re Thuringowa Sands
- Exhibition opening invitation, Thuringowa Sands, Pinnacles Gallery, 2 September – 1 October 2005, includes work by Robert Preston.
- Newspaper article, "Fanning Creative Flames," by Mandy Wildeheart, in column, "Galleries," *Townsville Bulletin*, 16 September 2005, p.40. includes reference to Bob Preston's participation in Thuringowa Sands exhibition.
- Email correspondence about beginning restoration work at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 16 November – 2 December 2005.
- Corporate greeting card from Helene Marsh, Dean of Postgraduate Studies, JCU, re Congratulations on submitting thesis for examination. [card cover features image of mosaic work, *Heralds of Rain*, by JCU T150 Exhibition artist, Anneke Silver].
- Cover page from "Graduation Ceremony Invitation, JCU" at Townsville Entertainment & Convention Centre, 24-25 March 2006.
- A3 poster of twelve Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy Publications, Camberwell, Vic.
- Newspaper article, full pages, "Station Hands," by Ian Frazer, in column, "Weekend Extra," *Townsville Bulletin*, 1 April 2006, p.33, 35. Refers to Dr Bob Preston's participation in Sacred Heart Cathedral restoration project. [article also refers to JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Jane Hawkins and Alison McDonald].
- Part of newspaper supplement, "Catholic News," containing article, "Cathedral Refurbishment," *Townsville Bulletin*, 6 July 2006, p.5. Refers to Bob Preston's participation in restoration project. [article also refers to JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Jane Hawkins and Alison McDonald].
- Invitation to Sacred Heart Cathedral re-opening, 23 June 2006.
- Newspaper article, "Sacred Heart's Return to Life: Cathedral Re-opens," *Townsville Bulletin*, 24 June 2006, p.12 [includes photograph capturing a Station of the Cross]

- Order of Service, Sacred Heart Cathedral Thanksgiving Service, 23 June 2006
- Pamphlet, *Sacred Heart Cathedral Townsville: A Self-Guided Tour*.
- Holy card with two images [no further details]
- Email correspondence between Bob Preston and Marg Naylor, PTRG, re drawing art class. 2 pages.
- Exhibition postcard series [cover only], *Q150: Now & Then, 150 years of art making in North Queensland*, Umbrella Studio, 28 August – 4 October 2009. Includes work by Bob Preston [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artists, James Brown, Anne Lord, Ron McBurnie, Alison McDonald, and Anneke Silver]
- Postcard, features Robert Preston's *Dawn Landing, 2009*, and biographical details.
- Invitation, "SoCA Staff Exhibition 2010," 29 March – 23 April 2010.
- JCU With Compliments note from Elly Murrell, Gallery Committee, to Robert, re participating in group show.
- Exhibition opening invitation, *JCU Staff Exhibition*, School of Creative Arts, 29 March – 23 April 2010.
- Expression of Interest & Proposal Form, *SoCA Staff Exhibition 2010*, partially completed.
- PTRG With Compliments note from "Frances" to Bob, re thank you "for opening Glen's show," n.d.
- Draft of speech, "Glen Skien's Opening Tuesday, 8th May, 2010," with handwritten annotations. 2 pages.
- Palm cards, "Glen Skien's Opening. 8th May, 2010." 6 cards
- PTRG 2011 Exhibition program, includes exhibition *30@30*, 19 August – 9 October, p.9. Includes work by Robert Preston [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artist Anneke Silver]
- Pages from exhibition catalogue, *30@30: A Collection Exhibition Celebrating Perc Tucker Regional Gallery's 30th Birthday*, PTRG, 23 September – 30 October 2011, includes work by Robert Preston, p.29, 66. 3 pages
- Newspaper clipping, "Goddess Looks Down on 30 Years of Art," by Barbara Lynch, in column, "Entertainment," *Townsville Bulletin*, 1 October 2011, p.14. Includes reference to Bob Preston's work, *The Lost Songs of Eden no.2: The Myazian Plaque* [also includes work by JCU T150 Exhibition artist Anneke Silver]

RP/2/8

"Evidence of Work from 2015-20--: Newspaper, Magazine & Journal Articles, Invitations, Programs & Catalogues etc." Includes:

- Leaflet, "Sydney Contemporary" 2015 Fair Highlights.
- Booklet, *Townsville Bulletin* Special Publication, *Moments in Time, Part 6: Curtain Calls*, with article, "Moments in Pictures." Includes reference

to Robert Preston. [also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artists, Ron McBurnie, and Anneke Silver].

- Exhibition opening invitation, *Celebrating Townsville: The City's Visual History Drawn from the James Cook University Art Collection*, Umbrella Studio, 8 July – 14 August 2016, includes work by Robert Preston. Opening, 8 July 2016 [the JCU T150 Exhibition, includes all twelve artists].
- Exhibition opening invitation, *Images of an Era: The Martin Gallery*, PTRG, 15 July – 14 August 2016. Opening, 15 July 2016.
- Handwritten note from “Ross” to “Bob” re receipt of drawing.
- Exhibition summary, *Images of an Era: The Martin Gallery*, PTRG, 15 July – 14 August 2016, cover image, detail of Robert Preston’s *Chao Phya River*. [also includes reference to JCU T150 Exhibition artist Anneke Silver, James Brown, Anne Lord, and Ron McBurnie].

RP/3/1

Preston, Robert., “A Primitive City – Ancient Rite beneath the Waxing Moon 2013-2019 - A History, Description and Background Notes informing both Versions of the Work”, Self-published book, Townsville, Qld November 2023. Limited Edition: 3/6.
Signed and dated by Artist: “Robert Preston May – 2024”.