## Guide to the Helenn Rumpel Collection

New Mexico Museum of Art Library and Archives

Processed by Rebecca Potance, December 2014

**Extent:** .833 linear feet (2 document boxes)

**Dates**: 1961-2006 **Language**: English

#### **Scope and Content**

This collection documents the life of artist Helenn Rumpel. Materials in this collection include exhibition and event notices, newspaper clippings, correspondence, photographs of Rumpel and stationary Rumpel sold with her artwork reproduced on it. Folders are arranged chronologically when dates are known.

### **Biography**

Helenn Rumpel was born Helenn Barbara Johnson in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on March 31, 1937. She moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico in 1943 with her parents Paul and Olive Johnson. She received an Associate's Degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri in 1957 and a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education from University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1959. In 1959 she moved to Santa Fe where she taught Junior High School until 1961. She did freelance work in contemporary embroidery, painting and clay. In addition to making art, she often wrote and lectured about fiber art, advocating for its status as a fine art rather than a decorative or "folk art." She died June 17, 2014.

She was married to Clarence Arthur Henry Rumpel from 1959-1994 with whom she had two sons, Warren Rumpel and Robert Wesley "Wes" Morris.

#### **Access and Use**

No restrictions.

### **Acquisition Information**

Materials were donated to the museum by Rumpel at various times since she moved to Santa Fe, ending with the 2014 posthumous gift from her Estate.

#### **Related Material**

The museum's exhibition files and/or catalogs mention Rumpel in the 1959, 1960 and 1964 Fiesta Shows, as well as the 1964 and 1973 Biennials and the 1976 *Masterworks from the Permanent Collection* exhibition. The Governor's Gallery Collection contains information about

Rumpel's work in the 1980 *Contemporary Craftsmen* exhibition file. The museum library also has a biographical file on Rumpel.

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