Preliminary Guide to the Sally Fox Innovative Lives Presentation

NMAH.AC.0646

by Alison Oswald

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview......................................................................................................... 1
Administrative Information .............................................................................................. 1
Biographical Note............................................................................................................. 2
Scope and Content Note................................................................................................. 2
Arrangement..................................................................................................................... 2
Names and Subject Terms ............................................................................................... 2
Container Listing............................................................................................................ 4
  Series 1: Original Videos, 1997 November 14.......................................................... 4
  Series 2: Master Videos, 1997 November 14.......................................................... 5
  Series 3: Reference Videos, 1997 November 14..................................................... 6
Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Creators: Fox, Sally
Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation.
Person, Abigail
Title: Sally Fox Innovative Lives Presentation
Dates: 1997
Quantity: 0.25 cubic feet, 3 boxes
Language: English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
Created by the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation on November 14, 1997.

Provenance Information
The collection was transferred from the Lemelson Center to the Archives Center on May 1, 1998.

Available Formats
Original videos digitized in 2014. See repository for details.

Processing Information
Processed by Alison Oswald, archivist, July 1998; revised January 2001.

Preferred Citation
Sally Fox Innovative Lives Presentation, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions on Access
Collection is open for research.

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Biographical Note

Sally Fox began growing brown cotton in 1982 and experimented with crossbreeding it. By 1985, some of Fox’s plants growing from cross-pollinated seeds produced green cotton as well as brown. These naturally colored cottons were brought to the marketplace in 1989, when Fox established her company, Natural Cotton Colours, Inc., in Arizona. FoxFibre is the registered trademark of her naturally colored cotton. Fox developed several different types and colors of cotton—pink, yellow, lavender, brown, green, and red. Crossbreeding two types, reddish-brown Coyote and traditional white Pima produces the bronze brown Buffalo FoxFibre. The six varieties of FoxFibre include three browns: Coyote (reddish), Buffalo (mocha), and New Brown; and three greens: Green FoxFibre, Palo Verde (sage), and New Green. FoxFibre is naturally colored, so there is need to bleach or dye the fabric. The Coyote and Buffalo FoxFibre are naturally flame resistant. FoxFibre is environmentally friendly because it is grown organically, without the use of chemical pesticides.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains 5 1/2 hours of footage documenting Sally Fox, an inventor of a commercially spinnable naturally colored cotton. This video was created on November 14, 1997.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into three series.

Series 1: Original Videos, 1997
Series 2: Master Videos, 1997
Series 3: Reference Videos, 1997

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
- Cotton growing--1980-2000
- Cotton--1980-2000
- Inventions--1980-2000
- Inventors--1980-2000
- Inventors--20th century
- Spinning--1980-2000

Types of Materials:
- Interviews--1980-2000
- Oral history--1980-2000
Videotapes--1990-2000

Names:
  Fox Fibre.
  Natural Cotton Colours, Inc.
Container Listing

Series 1: Original Videos, 1997 November 14

11 videocassettes (betacamsp)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Video OV</th>
<th>Innovative Lives footage, 1997 November 14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>646.1</td>
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<td>Fox interview, 1997 November 14</td>
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### Series 2: Master Videos, 1997 November 14

6 videocassettes (*betacamsp*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 2, Video MV 646.1</th>
<th>Sally Fox in Hands on Science Center, 1997 November 14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Video MV 646.2</td>
<td>Sally Fox interview with students, 1997 November 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2, Video MV 646.3</td>
<td>Sally Fox Innovative Lives footage, 1997 November 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2, Video MV 646.4</td>
<td>Sally Fox Innovative Lives Footage, 1997 November 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3, Video MV 646.5</td>
<td>Sally Fox Innovative Lives Footage, 1997 November 14</td>
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<td>Box 3, Video MV 646.6</td>
<td>Sally Fox--universal craft, natural fibre, mentor, undated</td>
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Series 3: Reference Videos, 1997 November 14

Box 4, Video 1-4