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# COMMEMORATING 9/11 IN ART

## Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection

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**This work was donated by the New Jersey Museum's Remember 9/11 Project.**

This fragment is part of the supporting I-beams from one of the World Trade Center towers in New York City. Specifically, it is believed to be steel from the North Tower from the Tower's East Façade, floors 89-92. Because I-beams were not labeled at the time they were cut, the donor was not aware of the I-beam's exact location in the Towers.

On September 11, 2001, 19 men hijacked four American passenger planes. The hijackers steered two planes into the World Trade Center towers, killing 2,753 people. The third plane slammed into the Pentagon in Washington, DC, killing 184 people. The fourth plane went down in a Pennsylvania field; it is believed that passengers and crew struggled to regain possession of the aircraft, during which time the plane crashed, killing 40.

Why did the 19 men do this? According to the *Executive Summary of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States 2004 report*, the terrorist group Al Qaeda, under the leadership of a wealthy Saudi man, Osama Bin Laden, coordinated the attacks from Afghanistan. The report states that Bin Laden seized "on symbols of Islam's past greatness, he promise[d] to restore pride to people who consider themselves the victims of successive foreign masters ..." He appealed to people "disoriented by the cyclonic changes as they confront modernity and globalization." It is critical to emphasize, as the report states, "The enemy is not Islam, the great world faith, but a perversion of Islam."

Under the leadership of President Obama, Navy SEALs killed Bin Laden in 2011.

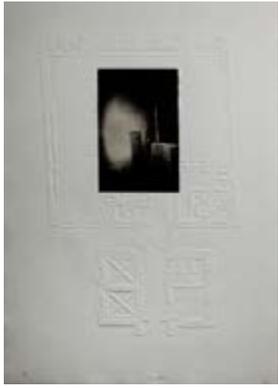
The WTC steel fragment came to HCCC from the Office of the Executive Director at the New Jersey State Museum. This fragment was part of the *Remember 9/11* exhibit at the Museum. After the exhibit, in 2013, the Museum sought to place fragments in appropriate institutions. More than 700 people from New Jersey died in the September 11 attacks.

If you look out past the sculpture, you can see the new Freedom Tower, built near where the World Trade Center towers once stood. The Freedom Tower opened in 2014.



This work can be found on the sixth floor terrace of the Gabert Library.





## ELENA DEL RIVERO

*[Sweet Home]*

Lithograph

2003

Edition 20/20

*The work can be found on the Lower Level of the Gabert Library.*

Before the 9/11 attacks, Del Rivero lived and worked on Cedar Street, across from the World Trade Center. As a result of the force of destruction, her space was filled with ashes and debris. She was in her native Spain on September 11, but when she returned home, she began the task of carefully salvaging and cataloging and photographing what happened. The small images on these prints are photographs of her home afterward. Do you see the outlines of blueprints of the space? She sewed together the debris, and it was later exhibited at the New Museum in New York City.

Thank you to Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull for the generous donation of this work.

## ANDREW ROSS

*Untitled (World Trade Center Fragments)*

Mixed Media

2001

*This work can be found on the second floor of 2 Enos Place.*

In 2001, Andrew Ross had a studio on the Lower East Side of Manhattan near the World Trade Center site. On September 11, he was standing at the corner of Avenue C and Houston at 9:02 a.m., when he witnessed the second plane slam into the South Tower. When the planes hit the Towers, and they later collapsed, debris from the disaster – carried by the force of the falling buildings, and later by wind – took remains from the Towers into the five boroughs and beyond.

The blocks surrounding the Towers were covered with dust, dirt, ash, paper and other remains. Every person will respond differently to a disaster. Andrew Ross made art. This piece is one of several the artist made from materials he found on nearby streets after 9/11. His studio manager, Anna De Chevalier, wrote about the materials in the work: “incense for the ashes, candles, wax representing the city wide vigils, items of clothing, watches symbolizing that time simply had ceased to matter, a survivor’s shirt...materials incorporated into works that echoed the colors and contours of the landscape and buildings of New York City as its people picked themselves up and faced the destruction around them.” Most of the works Andrew Ross made about 9/11 were later destroyed by studio flooding during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. This piece, stored elsewhere, survived.



Thank you to Michael Cox for facilitating the generous donation of this work, and thank you to the artist for the work.



## MICKEY MATHIS

*Untitled*

Photograph

2001

## MICKEY MATHIS

*Untitled*

Photograph

2001

*These works can be found on the fourth floor of the STEM Building at 263 Academy Street.*

Mickey Mathis is a longtime Jersey City resident and freelance photographer who studied at the International Center for Photography in New York City.

*Mickey Mathis: World Trade Views* was a solo exhibition at the Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery in the Gabert Library in 2016

These works come from a timeline of the World Trade Center, photographed by Mathis from the western shore of the Hudson River over a 20-year period.

Thank you to Mickey Mathis for the generous donation of these works.

