



# The Allen Collection

Texas Tech University Special Collections







On the cover:

## **Bookman (Read Reader)**

Terry Allen

Commissioned public art by Texas Tech University

Installed in the Student Union / Library walkway

Lubbock, Texas — September 2003

Left side:

## **Historic Dairy Barn Facility**

1927 Texas Tech University Campus

Originally a dairy facility for students,

today plans are to repurpose for the

Allen Collection Studio and Multipurpose Interdisciplinary Space.

*“Jo Harvey and I were raised there, she was born there, our folks are buried there, and we went to high school there, married there, escaped there and escaped back, over and over throughout the entire last 53 years of our lives together.*

*It’s always been in the rear view mirror or right in our face; something we were running from or chasing after...and sometimes both at once. We’ve cussed it, praised it, made it into music, writing, painting, drawings, sculpture, performance and theater; we’ve made it, showed it, performed it damn near everywhere.*

*Lubbock (On Everything), even in Cambodia, Brazil, India, Thailand, Europe, etc....we made it into a world and were made into a world by it. It’s probably the secret heart of everything we do, have done and also made sure we never did.*

*Where else could our archives possibly go?  
It completes the circle and opens it back up again.”*

*- Terry Allen, 2015*





*“Terry and I have kept diaries, journals and notebooks since junior high and continue to keep them. For better or worse, we’ve saved all the evidence, even the sets and costumes. We’ve saved every love letter and hate letter, kept almost all of our correspondences, photos, scripts and screenplays, videos, films, tapes, my endless diets, thousands of To-Do lists (with a lot not scratched off), goals, budgets, old taxes, fragments of stories, songs, poems, working drafts and drawings, studies and books with ideas for projects and proposals, hundreds of audio and video work tapes from our own projects and many of those of our friends – plus over 250 beautifully bound notebooks Terry has written, drawn and painted in daily since the mid ‘60s.*

*We love the idea that our archives would be in Lubbock, our hometown, and we would be very proud to be included in the Southwest Collection at Texas Tech. We are especially excited because of their enthusiasm and commitment to share all this in what they are calling a ‘Living Archive’...making them easily accessible, and using them and our own participation, along with that of friends, supporters, fellow artists and musicians, including our sons Bukka and Bale, to develop a program and center – Terry calls it The Center for Unlearning – where students, faculty, visiting artists, scholars and leaders in all fields can come together to brainstorm and present new ideas, challenge old habits and develop and implement exciting projects and hopefully come up with some fresh solutions toward a better world.”*

*-Jo Harvey Allen, 2015*





# The Allen Collection

Future Home  
Texas Tech University

## *The Allen Collection*

Music and the arts have always been a core part of the culture of Texas Tech and its host city of Lubbock. Many artists will tell you the Lubbock arts scene helped fuel their creative engines. The innovative sounds of a young Buddy Holly, the songs of Waylon Jennings and the bas-relief on a sculpture by Glenna Goodacre are but a handful of examples of our West Texas heritage. Yet, there is none more influential than Lubbock natives Terry Allen and Jo Harvey Allen. Their individual and collective creativity have been the source of inspiration to many talented artists throughout the world.

Terry and Jo Harvey have spent a lifetime documenting their creative processes. With every project, large or small, they made meticulous notes. Modification is often part of an artist's creative genius. The Allen Collection is full of evidence of adjustments to ideas, and notes on successful ventures and imagined possibilities. It is a part of their creative process, which began long before they were married.

Today, after more than 50 years of marriage and artistry, they have assembled an unprecedented and eclectic mix of mediums that tells their stories of art being born. To sift through this collection is like a master's class in the creative process.

The long and successful careers of both Terry and Jo Harvey Allen are reason enough to make their materials significant additions to any scholarly archive. But neither the length nor success truly marks the most important aspect of their work. Instead, it is how they work that makes their collection of the highest value for study and research.

Art is a process, not a product. It is not just the body of work, but also the making of the work. Whether it is writing, art, or music, the thread in every journal is the importance of relationships. Terry and Jo Harvey's alliances with their contemporaries are both celebrated and vital to the creative progression.

In the simplest sense their archives will provide students, scholars and researchers with a unique opportunity to investigate the creative process as it moved forward from the initial idea or inquiry – what the Allens most often refer to as curiosity – to the finished product, rather than working backward as is most often done in studies of arts. This collection will be preserved and accessible for review and display, an inspiration for generations of all disciplines to immerse in the collaborative process.

"Absolutely Lubbock is the place for the Allen Collection and Studio! The ethos of creativity they sprung from the tablelands of the Llano Estacado is tremendous. Beyond being wise to cultivate connections to the expansive reverberations of Terry and Jo Harvey's work, imagining a working studio at Texas Tech that gathers and activates energy across the campus, region, and whole world is brilliant. It has the potential to propel the identity of the university as a creative generator and bridge the work of many who explore landscape as laboratory."

- Chris Taylor, Associate Professor of Architecture and  
Director of Land Arts of the American West  
at Texas Tech University



## *Right Here, Right Now*

The Allens are at the perfect time in their lives and careers to establish a living archive of their works. They have established themselves as international artists and continue to work collaboratively with their contemporaries in creating new projects, and they are still producing fabulous work. What makes this especially unique is the Allens will be active participants of the archive and studio.

Our university is also at a perfect time for such a landmark program. We, too, are established, and yet still growing; we have a strong tradition of achievement, but we remain nimble; and we have a progressive and visionary administration, one that understands the importance of the arts as an integral part of research, scholarship and education of its students.

Few universities can boast “living collections” where contemporary artists, writers and performers house their collections for the use of study and integration into the campus community. Texas Tech University is one of those rare examples. We are fortunate to have similar collections housed here that will augment and reinforce that of the Allen Collection. For

example, the Sowell Family Collection consists of the archives of more than two dozen of the world’s finest writers on the natural world, including Barry Lopez, Annick Smith, Gretel Ehrlich, Rick Bass and others. In 2014, the Libraries’ Southwest Collection were researched by 2,878 Texas Tech students and scholars, and attracted more than 560 researchers from other parts of Texas and the United States.

These archives are studied by science and writing students and draw in faculty and researchers from all over the world. With the addition of the Allens’ journals and their patronage, the next generation of artists, scientists, musicians and writers will travel from far and wide to be inspired and reimagine their own worldview through their art. Friendships and collaborations will be forged in this oasis where ideas and art are forged under the big, blank canvas of the West Texas sky.

The Texas Tech University Libraries’ Special Collections supports and embraces the visual and performing arts culture in Lubbock. It has the infrastructure to house and preserve these treasured documents and media. It has a culture of longevity and the resources to provide the academic venue by which students can study collaborative creativity through art.

## *Connecting with Curriculum*

Texas Tech University is committed to interdisciplinary study between arts and sciences that would benefit greatly from the study of the Allen Collection. An example is the Land Arts of the American West program in the School of Architecture directed by Chris Taylor and recognized as one of the most innovative cross-disciplinary programs in the world.

Most recently, the College of Visual and Performing Arts is developing new, innovative tracks within the existing Bachelor of General Studies degree. One is the Interdisciplinary Design, Arts & Technology (IDAT) track, a unique liberal arts degree featuring specialized training in the arts with an orientation toward technology and design. IDAT may be of particular

interest to students preparing for growing career opportunities combining or integrating such fields as art direction, game design, event design, interactive and convergent media, animation, app design, song writing, sound design for time-based media, and concept art. The path would also be appropriate for students who want to produce technology-oriented work that crosses boundaries between fine art and design or between theatre, music and the visual arts.

There are many more examples across our campus where our faculty and students find priceless value in having such collected materials to use in their studies and research. The Allens' work will be at the intersection of these efforts, where the academic study of the writings, works and process of creative minds engenders more art, invention and discussion.





The Allens are acclaimed and established artists, with admirers in the United States as well as abroad. Their works are often referenced and they are clearly an inspiration for contemporaries and the next generation alike. Some examples of how the journals may be used in the curriculum:

- Fine art students assigned to write a paper on contemporary sculpture will be able to study journal entries of Terry Allens that detail ideas, sketches, revisions and notes on works such as “Corporate Head,” “Modern Communication” and many others;
- Theater students can read about and perform any number of Jo Harvey Allen’s acclaimed one-woman plays, such as “Counter Angel;”
- Music students can simultaneously listen to the classic “Lubbock (On Everything)” recording while reviewing journal entries on underground radio, lyric rewrites and chord sequencing – an immersion that can produce independent works on many levels – both academic and artistic;
- Media students could use 3-D technology to recreate site specific installation pieces based on the Allens’ notes and filmed history;
- Performing art students can review Jo Harvey’s notes on character development from her numerous film roles;
- Museum studies students can be assigned to design and install an exhibit that incorporates peer work derived from sketches never realized;
- Technology students can be challenged to create a virtual collaboration space that encourages intentional and random artistic expression based on a theme or topic;
- Landscape architects can be assigned to review/discuss outdoor installations and interactivity with surroundings/participants/nature/sustainability based on the Allens’ journals;
- Creative writing students can be assigned to compare/contrast prose, plays and even lyrics with contemporary or historical themes and inspirations.

In addition, archivists at Texas Tech will create rotating displays using the Allens’ journals for the university and community at large. Student and visiting artists’ works will be integrated to demonstrate influences from the study of the journals. Traveling exhibits, programs and curricula will also be developed and promoted nationwide; these activities will evoke discussion, bring recognition to the collection and change the way people view West Texas – from desert to oasis from which art and ideas spring – calling new visitors, students and artists to visit Lubbock and experience the oasis for themselves.

“There can be no better place than the Texas Tech University Libraries’ Special Collections, for the archives of Terry and Jo Harvey Allen. As special as they are to those of us who know them, Lubbock is never very far from their lives or discussions of what goes on in their lives. When my wife and I first heard of Terry and Jo Harvey, it was through their music and performance and we had no idea of the depth, breadth and strength of their visual performances, both on stage and on the easel. They are two of the most remarkable humans America has produced and I’m only jealous that these archives will be located that far from the West Coast, where I live.”

- Steven H. Oliver, Founder of the Oliver Ranch Foundation  
([oliverranchfoundation.org](http://oliverranchfoundation.org)), and Chairman of the Board for the United States Artists Foundation



Terry and Jo Harvey Allen at the Tornado Jam in Lubbock, 1982

LUBBOCK (on everything)



TERRY ALLEN

Terry Allen's 1979 album



Terry and Jo Harvey Allen, expecting son Bukka, in Los Angeles, 1967



Terry Allen in his studio on Gardner Street in Los Angeles, 1968



Terry and Jo Harvey Allen at the opening of Al's Grand Hotel in Los Angeles, 1971



Terry Allen, photo by James Bland



Poster for Jo Harvey Allen's one-woman play



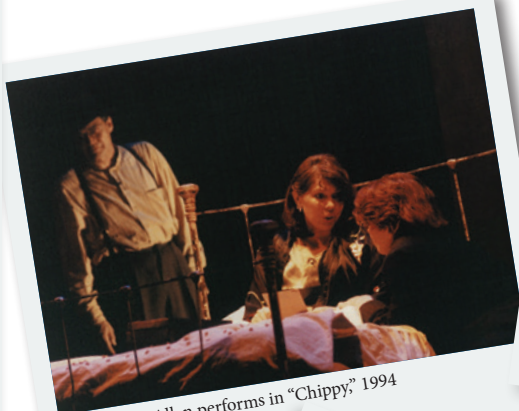
Terry and Jo Harvey Allen at Monterey High School prom, 1961



Jo Harvey Allen performs in the play "Counter Angel" based on her book of photographs and interviews, "The Beautiful Waitress."



"Ancient" (from Dugout Part 1) by Terry Allen, 2000-2001



Jo Harvey Allen performs in "Chippy," 1994



Jo Harvey Allen with Matt Damon



Drama based on Terry Allen's childhood memories of West Texas



Terry Allen performing with Maines Bros. Band on "Austin City Limits," 1984



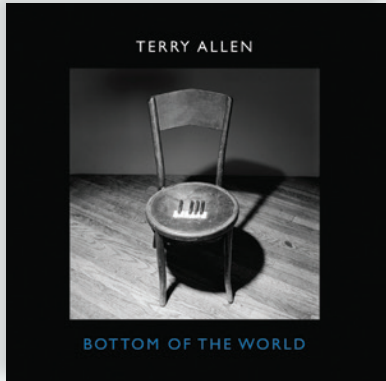
"Cinderella Block" sculpture by Terry Allen, 1991



Terry Allen, Lucinda Williams and David Byrne perform in a benefit concert for the Stubb Memorial at the Red Jacket in Dallas, 1996.



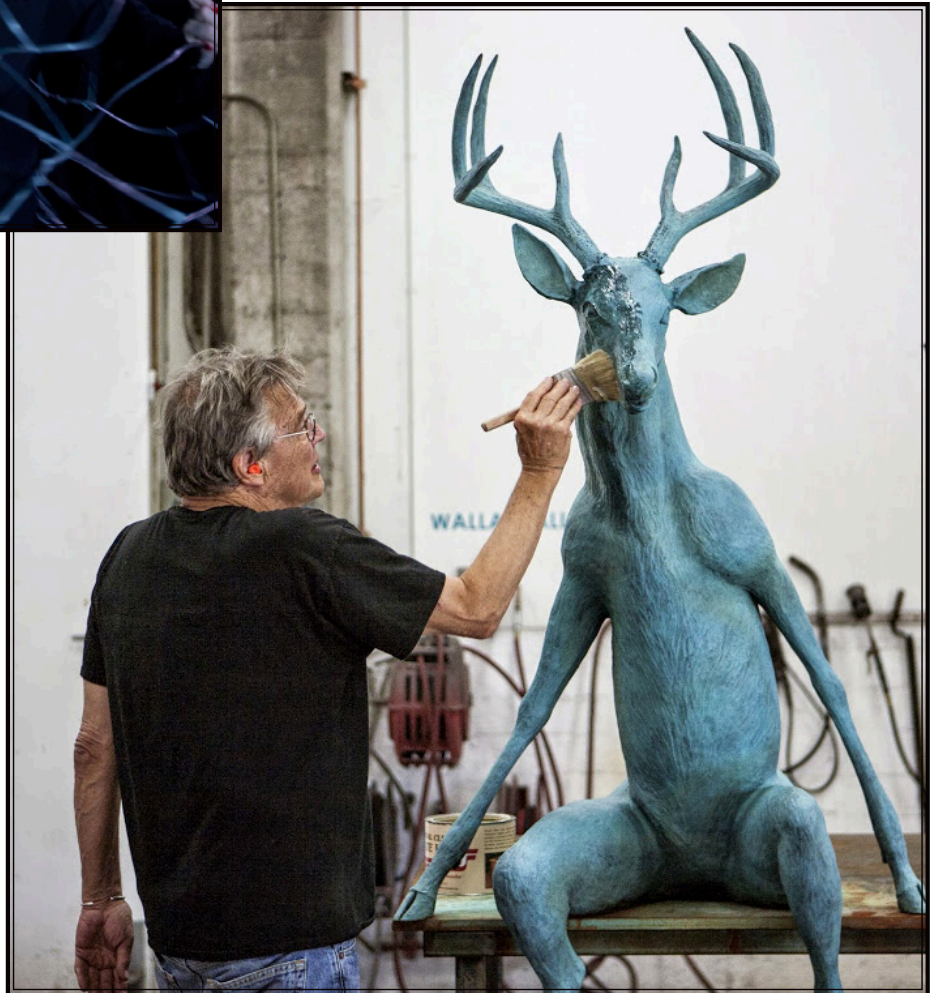
Jo Harvey Allen performs in a theater occurrence, "The Embrace....Advanced to Fury" written by Terry Allen, 1978



Terry Allen's 2012 album



Jo Harvey Allen performs in "As It Is in Texas"

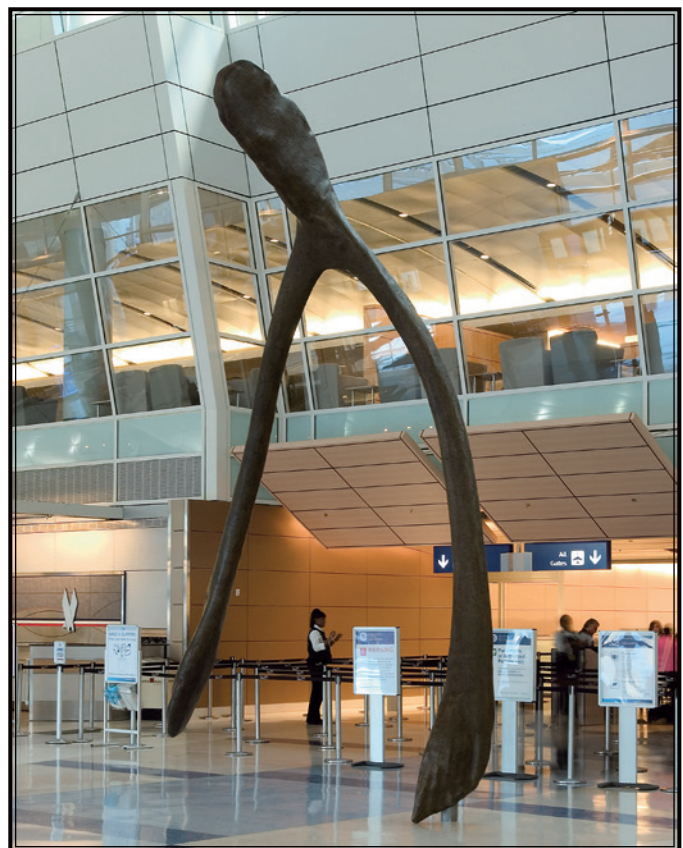


"I have had the pleasure of both knowing and working with and for Terry and Jo Harvey Allen ever since helping to co-organize the first concerts and performances they presented in San Francisco during the mid '70s. A few years later, I was even coaxed into a wrestling ring with Jo Harvey and two professional wrestlers to perform as "He" with Jo Harvey acting as "She" in "The Embrace Advanced to Fury," Terry's first major theatrical work. Other memorable Allen exhibitions, commissions, and performances have continued to bring us together ever since (over four decades), once for a full Allen Family drama entitled "Do You Know What Your Children Are Tonight?" It featured the very talented Bale and Bukka Allen performing together with their unruly parents. Watching Terry and Jo Harvey cover for each other over the years, raising these two fine sons in the bargain, has been inspirational.

They've juggled wildly, with unyielding drive and dedication, to pursue two distinct artistic visions. There's been much travel, times spent apart, yet through it all family has been the hub of their lives. Serving as a museum director throughout the last 27 years, I have also collected Terry's visual artwork in depth and on occasion brought his Panhandle Mystery Band to the east coast to perform before audiences of all ages. I can't think of two long-enduring creative artists who better deserve to be honored with an Archive and Study Center devoted to the active and boldly imaginative way in which they have experimented successfully across all disciplines in the Arts.

Texas Tech has done itself proud in recognizing the enduring value of Terry and Jo Harvey's artistic legacies and what they can and will mean to future generations of students, scholars and other artists."

- Jock Reynolds, Henry J. Heinz Director,  
Yale University Art Gallery





“Where Jo Harvey and Terry Allen came from gave them the courage to be brave, loud, funny and expose their hearts through their West Texas stories. They have crossed artistic lines in every direction and blow fresh air and insights into old ideas wherever they land. They are my heroes. They’ve recruited, worked with, collaborated with and become friends with scientists, fellow artists, film makers, musicians, their critics, business men, hookers, waitresses, rich people and poor people. They’ve raised amazing children, artists in their own right, walking through the minefield of ordinary living let alone the pressures of being artists working together or individually. The glue is where they came from. It is where the archives of their works and lives should be.”

- Joan Tewkesbury, author, film & television director, producer, veteran screenwriter, leader of the Sundance Institute Screenwriter Intensive Program



## JO HARVEY ALLEN BIO

Jo Harvey Allen, actress, playwright, poet and pioneer of women in radio, was born and raised in Lubbock, Texas. Her critically acclaimed plays have been performed throughout the United States and Europe. She has written, starred and toured off-Broadway productions of “A MOMENT’S HESITATION” (Dance Theater Workshop & The New School, NYC), “COUNTER ANGEL” (The New School, NYC), and “AS IT IS IN TEXAS” (St. Ann’s Church, NYC). Her other one-woman plays include “HALLY LOU” (originally produced by Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA, Palace of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA); “DUCKBLIND” (Cornet Theater, Los Angeles, CA); “360 OAK GROVE” (Gutherie Theater Lab, Minneapolis, MN); and “HOMERUN” (Remembrance through the Performing Arts, Austin, TX, McKinney Ave. Contemporary, Dallas, TX).

Other plays, in which Allen co-wrote and starred in, include: “CHIPPY: DIARIES OF A WEST TEXAS HOOKER” co-written with Terry Allen (1993, American Music Theatre Festival, Philadelphia, PA and Lincoln Center, NYC); “COVENANT” co-written with Terry Allen, performed in Ann Hamilton’s Tower, Geyserville, CA (2011, Oliver Ranch Foundation); and the Allen family collaboration “DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE TONIGHT?” (1985-1987, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, D.C. and Theatre Artaud, San Francisco, CA).

Allen co-wrote with Bukka Allen the radio play “EVERY THREE MINUTES” (NPR). She co-wrote with Terry Allen and Rende Eckert the opera “PIONEER” (1990, Spoleto Festival), in which she also co-starred. “PIONEER” toured extensively throughout the United States.

Jo Harvey Allen is married to artist, singer, songwriter and West Texas Walk of Fame inductee Terry Allen and has starred in his radio and musical theater pieces, including “JUAREZ” (1990), “THE EMBRACE...ADVANCED TO FURY” (2001), “ANTERABBIT/BLEEDER: A BIOGRAPHY” (1983), “REUNION” (1992), “WARBOY AND THE BACKBOARD BLUES” (2002-2007), and “GHOST SHIP RODEZ” (2011).

Allen co-starred in George Buchner’s “LEON AND LENA (and Lenz)” adapted and directed by Joann Akalitis (Gutherie Theater, Minneapolis, MN). She hosted the radio show “RAWHIDE AND ROSES” (KPPC AM/FM-Pasadena, 1965-1969) co-produced with Terry Allen. She hosted “THE LOWELL GEORGE TRIBUTE” (Will Geer Theater, Topanga Canyon, CA) and co-hosted with Gov. Ann Richards, “THE FIRST TEXAS FUNNY WOMEN SYMPOSIUM” (Univ. of Texas, Austin, TX).

Jo Harvey Allen is the author of “CHEEK TO CHEEK” (1983), a collection of poems and “HOMERUN” (2012). Her art and photographs have been exhibited internationally, most recently at the Catharine Clark Gallery in San Francisco, CA (2015).



Allen has appeared in numerous films including co-starring roles in David Byrne's cult classic "TRUE STORIES" (1986), "FRIED GREEN TOMATOES" (1991, directed by John Avnet) and "THE CLIENT" (1994, directed by Joel Schumacher). Her most recent films include an appearance in "THE HOMESMAN" (Cannes, 2014, directed by Tommy Lee Jones) and her starring role as "Mama" in Rosalyn Rosen's award-winning independent film "THE OTHER KIND" (2015, Los Angeles Film Review Honorable Mention for Best Feature Film). She has been the recipient of Art Matters and NEA fellowships. Jo Harvey Allen was inducted into The West Texas Walk of Fame, Lubbock, Texas, in 2015.

Jo Harvey Allen and her husband Terry Allen have two sons, three grandsons and live and work in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



## TERRY ALLEN BIO

Terry Allen is a visual artist and songwriter. He was born in Wichita, Kansas and raised in Lubbock, Texas. He has received numerous awards and honors including a Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Art Fellowships, Awards for the Visual Arts (AVA), Washington, D.C., Bessie (New York) and Isadora Duncan (San Francisco) Critic Awards for text, music, sets, costumes for “PEDAL STEAL” (Margaret Jenkins Dance Co.), AICA Award (International Assoc. of Art Critics) Best Show in a Commercial Gallery, Dugout I, LA Louver Gallery, Venice, CA, curated by Peter Goulds; induction into the Buddy Holly Walk of Fame (now West Texas Walk of Fame) in 1992, and recipient of USArtists Fellowship/Oliver Fellow, 2009.

His work has been shown throughout the United States and internationally, including Documenta and San Paolo, Paris, Sydney and Whitney Biennales and is represented in major private and public collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art in New York, The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and L.A. County Museum of Art in Los Angeles, Houston & Dallas Museums of Fine Art and Hirshhorn Museum in Washington D.C.

His numerous public commissions can be found in such places as L.A.’s Citi-Corps Plaza, San Francisco Moscone Center, The Stuart Collection at UCSD in La Jolla, CA, Texas Tech in Lubbock, TX, Iowa State Univ., Ames, IA, and Denver, Houston and Dallas/Ft. Worth Intercontinental airports. His most recent public work is “SCIOTO LOUNGE” in Columbus, OH, and his mural “PLAYING LA JOLLA (for all it’s worth)” for the Athenaeum, La Jolla, CA.

Allen’s epic body of visual/aural work and theater piece “DUGOUT” was published in 2005 by University of Texas Press (essays by Dave Hickey, David Byrne, Terri Sultan, intro by Dana Fris-Hansen.) A monograph of Allen’s work “TERRY ALLEN” (essays by Dave Hickey, Marcia Tucker & Michael Ventura) was published in 2010 by University of Texas Press.

Terry Allen has written for and worked extensively in both radio and theater. Some of his selected staged works include “JUAREZ,” “THE EMBRACE...ADVANCED TO FURY,” “ANTERABBIT/BLEEDER,” “WARBOY AND THE BACKBOARD BLUES,” “GHOST SHIP RODEZ,” all of which he wrote and directed; “PIONEER,” set design, co-written with Jo Harvey Allen and Rende Eckert, directed by Robert Woodruff, Paul Dresser Production, performed throughout USA; “LEON AND LENA (and Lenz),” composer, directed by JoAnne Akalaitis, Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, MN; “CHIPPY: DIARIES OF A WEST TEXAS HOOKER,” set design, co-written with Jo Harvey Allen, music co-written with Joe Ely,

Butch Hancock, directed by Evan Yianoulis, co-produced by American Music Theater Festival, Philadelphia, PA & Lincoln Center's 'Serious Fun' series, New York, NY. "COVENANT," co-written and performed with Jo Harvey Allen and recently performed in Ann Hamilton's Tower at Oliver Ranch in Geyserville, CA and Kaneko Museum, Omaha, NE.

Allen did music for Margaret Jenkins Dance Company production of "ROLLBACK," sets Bruce Nauman and choreography Margaret Jenkins, premiered at Kimo Theater, Albuquerque, NM, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY.

Terry Allen has recorded 13 albums of original songs, including classics "JUAREZ" and "LUBBOCK (On Everything)," and his most recent "BOTTOM OF THE WORLD" released February 2013. He has performed his music throughout the United States and Europe and his songs have been recorded by such diverse artists as: Bobby Bare, Guy Clark, Little Feat, Robert Earl Keen, David Byrne, Cracker, Doug Sahm, Ricky Nelson and Lucinda Williams. He has written numerous songs for film and theater, including the music soundtrack for Wolf-Eckert Bueller's "AMERASIA" and Jane Anderson's Showtime Emmy nominated "THE BABY DANCE."

He has been described by critic Dave Hickey in the Los Angeles Times as "a modern day renaissance man...renowned for his effortless command and outrageous combination of disparate genres and media, according to the task at hand."

Terry Allen lives and works in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with his wife, actress and writer, and West Texas Walk of Fame inductee, Jo Harvey Allen.



"In rare cases, artistry is so deeply linked to a sense of place that they cannot be unhitched. Texas Tech University Libraries' Special Collections is the perfect harbor for the archives of Terry and Jo Harvey Allen for a compelling reason: their creative works live and breathe with the wind and sun of West Texas. Their archives will join others of the same ilk, writers, songsters and artists who understand that allegiance to place is not a constraint but a gift."

-Gary Nabhan, internationally-celebrated nature writer and W.K. Kellogg Endowed Chair in Sustainable Food Systems at the University of Arizona Southwest Studio

## Join us!

Be a part of the creative process. Donations will provide for acquisitions and preserving materials for research and study, maintaining The Barn collaborative studio space for visiting faculty and students, supporting artists-in-residence, providing funding for exhibit and performance costs and developing academic programming and scholarships.

For more information about this transformative project,  
please contact:

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or visit the website:

[www.bit.ly/allencollection](http://www.bit.ly/allencollection)





