

V I N T A G E P H O T O G R A P H S

This is an offering of an extensive collection of **Brain Cell**, the publication created and edited by the Japanese mail artist Ryosuke Cohen. **Brain Cell** has been published two or three times a month since its initial appearance in January, 1985. By January, 2020, thirty-five years after commencing publication, Cohen had produced over 1000 issues, and he continues to do so.

Exemplifying the global reach and network-like nature of mail art (conceived before the dawn of the digital age), ***Brain Cell*** is a collaboration between Cohen and other mail artists from all over the world. These artists send him their own stamps, stickers, drawings or other images through the mail, and from these diverse elements Cohen creates assemblages. With the "Print Gocco" process and a photocopier he produces examples of ***Brain Cell***, each each 11 1/2" x 16 1/2" in size. He mails a copy to each contributor, along with a list of all other contributors. Each issue of ***Brain Cell*** contains the work of 45-60 contributors. Starting in 2010, Cohen added the "Orion Soup Bulletin Board" to the mailing, as a forum for thoughts on the Big Bang concept.



This collection consists of 212 individual examples of ***Brain Cell***, running from no. 9 of November, 1985, to no.1010 of February 23, 2018. Original mailing envelopes accompany 22 of the individual issues.



Contributors to the periodical include mail artists engaged in the practice for over fifty years. Among these artists are Pawel Petasz (Poland), Clemente Padin (Uruguay), György Galantai (Hungary), Paulo Bruscky (Brazil), Julian Blaine (France), Klaus Groh (Germany), Vittore Baroni (Italy), Aaron Flores (Mexico), Rod Summers (Holland), Anna Banana (Canada), John Evans, Richard Craven, John Bennett, and E. F. Higgins (United States), to name a few. Librarian contributors have included Clive Phillpot and Judith Hoffberg. Artists from Cuba, Republica di San Marino, Malaysia, Burkina Faso, Macedonia, Taiwan, South Korea Ukraine, and Uruguay and elsewhere have contributed to *Brain Cell*.



<http://www.ryosukecohen.com/>