



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Neda Al-Hilali Papers, circa 1960-1995, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

2018/10/01

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Professional Files, 1966-1995.....	4
Series 2: Commission and Project Files, circa 1970-1989.....	6
Series 3: Writings and Notes, circa 1970-circa 1990.....	7
Series 4: Printed Material, 1960s-1995.....	8
Series 5: Artwork, 1960s-1980.....	9
Series 6: Photographs, circa 1960-1990s.....	10

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Neda Al-Hilali Papers
Date:	circa 1960-1995
Identifier:	AAA.alhineda
Creator:	Al-Hilali, Neda, 1938-
Extent:	4.6 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of fiber artist Neda Al-Hilali measure 4.6 linear feet and date from circa 1960 to 1995. Al-Hilali's career is documented through professional files, commission and project files, writings, printed materials, artwork, and photographs. The bulk of the collection consists of Al-Hilali's annual activity files from 1967 to 1992, which contain lists of exhibitions; exhibition announcements, catalogs, invitations, and posters; letters and memoranda; sales records; awards; clippings; photographs; and loan records.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were donated by Neda Al-Hilali in 2004.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Neda Al-Hilali conducted on July 18-19, 2006, by Mija Riedel, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Neda Al-Hilali papers, circa 1960-1995. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center.

Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished writings by Neda Al-Hilali: Authorization to publish, quote, or reproduce requires written permission from the donor. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Terms of Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the [Smithsonian's Terms of Use](#) for additional information.

Biographical / Historical

Neda Al-Hilali (1938-) is a fiber artist active in California.

Al-Hilali was born in Cheb, formerly Czechoslovakia in 1938. She studied art at Saint Martin's School of Art (London, England), Kunstakademie Muenchen (Munich, Germany), and the University of Baghdad (Baghdad, Iraq). In 1961 she moved to the United States and settled in California where she earned her BA and MA in art from the University of California, Los Angeles. In the 1970s, she began working on large-scale three-dimensional fiber projects, and has also worked on installation and performance pieces using metal, papers, and other materials in addition to fiber. Al-Hilali has taught at various institutions in California including California State University, Los Angeles, Scripps College, and Claremont Graduate School. Her works appear in private and public collections.

Scope and Contents

The papers of fiber artist Neda Al-Hilali measure 4.6 linear feet and date from circa 1960 to 1995. Al-Hilali's career is documented through professional files, commission and project files, writings, printed materials, artwork, and photographs. The bulk of the collection consists of Al-Hilali's annual activity files from 1967 to 1992, which contain lists of exhibitions; exhibition announcements, catalogs, invitations, and posters; letters and memoranda; sales records; awards; clippings; photographs; and loan records.

Professional files contain records relating to Al-Hilali's teaching career and exhibition activities. Materials relating to various commissions and projects are scattered but may include photographs of works of art and installations, proposals, and sketches or renderings. Artworks include designs for fiber and metal works, many of which are unlabeled.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as six series

- Series 1: Professional Files, 1966-1995 (1.4 linear feet; Boxes 1-2, 7-8)
 - Series 2: Commission and Project Files, circa 1970-1989 (1.0 linear feet; Boxes 2-3, 6)
 - Series 3: Writings and Notes, circa 1970-circa 1990 (0.2 linear feet; Box 3)
 - Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1960s-1995 (1.0 linear feet; Boxes 3-4)
 - Series 5: Artwork, 1960s-1980s (0.3 linear feet; Box 4)
 - Series 6: Photographs, circa 1960-1990s (0.7 linear feet; Boxes 4-5, 7)
-

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Decorative arts
Women artists
Women educators
Women textile artists

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Photographs
Sketches

Occupations:

Educators -- California
Fiber artists -- California

Container Listing

Series 1: Professional Files, 1966-1995

1.4 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, 7-8)

Scope and Contents: Professional files contain records relating to Al-Hilali's teaching career and exhibition schedule and activities. They may include printed materials from exhibitions, lists, letters, sales and loan records, awards, clippings, and photographs. Also found is scattered correspondence, an annotated studio calendar from 1980, records on grant applications, travel papers for a research trip to Afghanistan in 1974, and a juror statement.

Arrangement: Annual files were likely created by Al-Hilali in the 1980s and were compiled in binders which have been dismantled however original order has been maintained.

Box 1, Folder 1	Books, Permissions, 1966-1979
Oversize 7, Folder 1	Calendar, 1980
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1971-1993
Box 1, Folder 3	Juror's Statement and Writings, circa 1980-1989
Box 1, Folder 4	National Endowment for the Arts, Grant, 1976
Box 1, Folder 5	Publicity, 1970s-1979
Box 1, Folder 6	Research Trip, Afghanistan, 1974
Box 1, Folder 7	Resumes and Chronologies, 1981-circa 1989
Box 1, Folder 8	Teaching Files, 1991
Box 1, Folder 9	Annual Activities File, 1967
Box 1, Folder 10	Annual Activities File, 1968
Box 1, Folder 11	Annual Activities File, 1969
Box 1, Folder 12	Annual Activities File, 1970
Box 1, Folder 13	Annual Activities File, 1971
Box 1, Folder 14	Annual Activities File, 1972
Box 1, Folder 15	Annual Activities File, 1973
Box 1, Folder 16	Annual Activities File, 1974

Box 1, Folder 17-18	Annual Activities File, 1975
Box 1, Folder 19	Annual Activities File, 1976
Box 1, Folder 20	Annual Activities File, 1977
Box 1, Folder 21	Annual Activities File, 1978
Box 1, Folder 22	Annual Activities File, 1979
Box 1, Folder 23	Annual Activities File, 1980
Box 1, Folder 24-25	Annual Activities File, 1981
Box 1, Folder 26	Annual Activities File, 1982
Box 1, Folder 27-28	Annual Activities File, 1983
Box 2, Folder 1-2	Annual Activities File, 1984
Box 2, Folder 3-4	Annual Activities File, 1985
Box 2, Folder 5	Annual Activities File, 1986
Box 2, Folder 6	Annual Activities File, 1987
Box 2, Folder 7	Annual Activities File, 1988
Box 2, Folder 8	Annual Activities File, 1992
Oversize 8	Oversized Annual Files Material, 1971-1986

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Commission and Project Files, circa 1970-1989

1 Linear foot (Boxes 2-3, 6)

Scope and Contents: Proposals, agreements, sketches and renderings, correspondence, photographs, and receipts relating to fiber and painted metal commissions and projects may be found. A project entitled *Collaboration* also includes the work of Marilyn Anderson, John Garrett, and Mary Ann Glantz.

Box 2, Folder 9	Alicante Princess Hotel, 1985
Box 2, Folder 10-11	Audio Digest, circa 1970s
Box 2, Folder 12	Bank of Tokyo, World Trade Center, 1972
Box 2, Folder 13-14	Barnsdall Park, circa 1984
Box 2, Folder 15	Black Feather Project, circa 1970
Box 2, Folder 16	Bonaventure Hotel, 1977
Box 2, Folder 17	Carpenter Offut Corporation, 1978
Box 2, Folder 18	Centennial Project, 1989
Box 6, Folder 1	Centennial Project, Painted Metal, 1989
Box 2, Folder 19	Clarion Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, circa 1980
Box 2, Folder 20	Clarion Hotel, Ontario, California, circa 1980
Box 2, Folder 21	Collaboration, circa 1970s
Box 2, Folder 22-23	Fluor Engineers and Constructors, Inc., 1977
Box 2, Folder 24	IBM, Atlanta, Georgia, circa 1980s
Box 3, Folder 1	Lake Merritt Plaza, circa 1980s
Box 3, Folder 2	Los Angeles Exposition Park, 1982 December 15
Box 3, Folder 3	Meridien, Irvine, California, 1983
Box 3, Folder 4	Midland Marine Center, 1974
Box 3, Folder 5	Wells-Fargo Bank, 1978

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Writings and Notes, circa 1970-circa 1990

0.2 Linear feet (Box 3)

Scope and Contents: Unpublished writings include Neda Al-Hilali's statements on her work, a lecture given around 1982, lecture notes, and notes on fiber art. A notebook fragment may contain writings from Al-Hilali's time in graduate school.

Box 3, Folder 6	Artist Statements, 1970s-1980s
Box 3, Folder 7	"Second Fiber Structure National" [Lecture], circa 1982
Box 3, Folder 8	Lecture Notes, on Paper, circa 1990
Box 3, Folder 9	Notes, on Fiber, circa 1980
Box 3, Folder 10	Notebook, circa 1970

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Printed Material, 1960s-1995

1 Linear foot (Boxes 3-4)

Scope and Contents: The bulk of this series consists of exhibition catalogs, many of which include Al-Hilali's work from the 1960s to 1995. Also found are scattered clippings and museum flyers or bulletins.

Box 3, Folder 11	Clippings, 1960s-1984
Box 3, Folder 12	Flyers and Bulletins, 1968-1970s
Box 3, Folder 13	Exhibition Catalogs, 1960s
Box 3, Folder 14-22	Exhibition Catalogs, 1970s
Box 3, Folder 23	Exhibition Catalogs, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 1-6	Exhibition Catalogs, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 7	Exhibition Catalogs, 1990-1995

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Artwork, 1960s-1980

0.3 Linear feet (Box 4)

Scope and Contents: Artworks include designs for fiber and painted metal works of art, many of which are unlabeled. Fiber samples may have been used to convey color scheme or texture. Designs for painted metal works are painted onto photographs.

Box 4, Folder 8-10	Designs, 1960s-1980s
Box 4, Folder 11	Designs, Painted Photographs with Collage, circa 1980
Box 4, Folder 12-15	Fiber Samples, Unlabeled, 1970s-1980s

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 6: Photographs, circa 1960-1990s

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 4-5, 7)

Scope and Contents: The bulk of this series consists of photographs of works of art and of installations or exhibitions. Also found are portraits of Neda Al-Hilali in her studio and with her artwork.

Box 4, Folder 16-17	Portraits, Neda Al-Hilali, circa 1960-1980s
Box 4, Folder 18	Exhibitions and Installations, Cal Poly Installation, circa 1970
Oversize 7, Folder 3	Exhibitions and Installations, Feathers, at New York Art Park, circa 1980
Box 4, Folder 19	Exhibitions and Installations, Hunsaker, Cassios Garden, circa 1970
Box 4, Folder 20	Exhibitions and Installations, LAICA, Cassios, circa 1970
Box 4, Folder 21	Exhibitions and Installations, New American Paper, circa 1970
Box 4, Folder 22	Exhibitions and Installations, Old Field Hall, Notre Dame University, circa 1970
Oversize 7, Folder 2	Exhibitions and Installations, Old Field Hall, Notre Dame University, circa 1970
Oversize 7, Folder 5	Exhibitions and Installations, Rio Hondo, circa 1970
Box 4, Folder 23	Exhibitions and Installations, Santa Monica College of Art, 1983
Box 4, Folder 24	Exhibitions and Installations, Seattle, Washington, Cassios, circa 1970
Box 4, Folder 25	Exhibitions and Installations, Scripps College, Cassios, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 26	Exhibitions and Installations, Venice Beach, Tongues, 1970s
Box 4, Folder 27	Exhibitions and Installations, Various, 1970s-1980s
Box 4, Folder 28-29	Works of Art, Cassiopeias, 1970s
Box 4, Folder 30	Works of Art, Hawaiian Fans, 1980
Oversize 7, Folder 4	Works of Art, Hawaiian Fans, 1980
Box 4, Folder 31	Works of Art, Howdah, 1970s
Box 4, Folder 32	Works of Art, Tables, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 33-35	Works of Art, Fiber, 1960s-80s
Box 4, Folder 36	Works of Art, Garments, 1968

Box 4, Folder 37	Works of Art, Metal, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 38	Works of Art, Modular Z Weavings, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 39	Works of Art, Paper, 1980s-1990s
Box 5, Folder 1	Works of Art, Paper, 1980s-1990s
Box 5, Folder 2	Works of Art, Woven Tiles, 1970s
Box 5, Folder 3	Works of Art, Various, 1980s
Box 5, Folder 4-5	Negatives, 1970s

[Return to Table of Contents](#)