



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Alliance of Figurative Artists Lectures and Panel Discussions, 1969-1970, in the Archives of American Art

Ricky Gomez

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

2019/09/27

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Alliance of Figurative Artists lectures and panel discussions
Date:	1969-1970
Identifier:	AAA.alliof
Creator:	Alliance of Figurative Artists
Extent:	2 Linear feet 1.24 Gigabytes
Language:	English .
Summary:	<p>The lectures and panel discussions of the Alliance of Figurative Artists measures 2.0 linear feet and 1.24 GB and date from 1969 to 1970. The collection consists of twenty-four tape recordings and two recordings in digital format of panel discussions, and lectures held in conjunction with meetings of the Alliance of Figurative Artists in New York. Artists represented include: Lennart Anderson, Milet Andrejevic, Noah Baen, William Bailey, Rosemarie Beck, William Beckman, Leland Bell, Robert Birmelin, John Bradford, Joel Brody, Harold Bruder, Rudy Burckhardt, John Button, Gretna Campbell, Richard Chiriani, Bruno Chivitico, Thomas Cornell, Lucien Day, Lois Dodd, Ben Einhorn, Walter Erlebacher, Lawrence Faden, Louis Finkelstein, Joseph Fiore, Jane Freilicher, Stanley Friedman, Joel Galker, Paul Georges, Gregory Gillespie, Lloyd Glasson, Joel Goldblatt, Nancy Grilikhes, Nathan Hale, Aaron Kersen, John Koch, Majorie Kramer, Al Kresh, Gabriel Laderman, Alfred Leslie, Frank McCall, Edward Melcarth, Raoul Middleman, Richard A. Miller (Richard McDermott), Philip Pearlstein, Joseph Pollet, Paul Resika, Ben Rifkin, Anthony Siani, Bonnie Sklarski, William Sullivan, Sam Thurston, Sidney Tillim, Louis Tytell, and Neil Welliver.</p>

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The lectures and panel discussions were donated by the Alliance of Figurative Artists on November 13, 1970.

Other Finding Aids

A description of each discussion/ lecture and index by artist is available at Archives of American Art offices.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid created by Ricky Gomez in 2019. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2020 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Alliance of Figurative Artists lectures and panel discussions, 1969-1970. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

The Alliance of Figurative Artists was an artist-run discussion group frequented by a majority of the figurative and realist painters and sculptors in New York City in the 1970s. It was held in New York City from February 14, 1969, until the 1980s.

Scope and Contents

The lectures and panel discussions of the Alliance of Figurative Artists measures 2.0 linear feet and 1.24 GB and date from 1969 to 1970. The collection consists of twenty-four tape recordings and two recordings in digital format of panel discussions and lectures held in conjunction with meetings of the Alliance of Figurative Artists in New York. Artists represented include: Lennart Anderson, Milet Andrejevic, Noah Baen, William Bailey, Rosemarie Beck, William Beckman, Leland Bell, Robert Birmelin, John Bradford, Joel Brody, Harold Bruder, Rudy Burckhardt, John Button, Gretna Campbell, Richard Chiriani, Bruno Chivitico, Thomas Cornell, Lucien Day, Lois Dodd, Ben Einhorn, Walter Erlebacher, Lawrence Faden, Louis Finkelstein, Joseph Fiore, Jane Freilicher, Stanley Friedman, Joel Galker, Paul Georges, Gregory Gillespie, Lloyd Glasson, Joel Goldblatt, Nancy Grilikhes, Nathan Hale, Aaron Kersen, John Koch, Majorie Kramer, Al Kresh, Gabriel Laderman, Alfred Leslie, Frank McCall, Edward Melcarth, Raoul Middleman, Richard A. Miller (Richard McDermott), Philip Pearlstein, Joseph Pollet, Paul Resika, Ben Rifkin, Anthony Siani, Bonnie Sklarski, William Sullivan, Sam Thurston, Sidney Tillim, Louis Tytell, and Neil Welliver.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Functions:

Arts organizations -- New York (State)

Container Listing

Series 1: Lectures and Panel Discussions, 1969-1970

2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

1.24 Gigabytes (ER01)

Scope and Contents: The collection consists of twenty-four tape recordings and two recordings in digital format of panel discussions and lectures held in conjunction with meetings of the Alliance of Figurative Artists in New York. Artists represented include: Lennart Anderson, Milet Andrejevic, Noah Baen, William Bailey, Rosemarie Beck, William Beckman, Leland Bell, Robert Birmelin, John Bradford, Joel Brody, Harold Bruder, Rudy Burckhardt, John Button, Gretna Campbell, Richard Chiriani, Bruno Chivitico, Thomas Cornell, Lucien Day, Lois Dodd, Ben Einhorn, Walter Erlebacher, Lawrence Faden, Louis Finkelstein, Joseph Fiore, Jane Freilicher, Stanley Friedman, Joel Galker, Paul Georges, Gregory Gillespie, Lloyd Glasson, Joel Goldblatt, Nancy Grilikhes, Nathan Hale, Aaron Kersen, John Koch, Majorie Kramer, Al Kresh, Gabriel Laderman, Alfred Leslie, Frank McCall, Edward Melcarth, Raoul Middleman, Richard A. Miller (Richard McDermott), Philip Pearlstein, Joseph Pollet, Paul Resika, Ben Rifkin, Anthony Siani, Bonnie Sklarski, William Sullivan, Sam Thurston, Sidney Tillim, Louis Tytell, and Neil Welliver. Transcripts are included for all but the Ben Rifkin and Philip Pearlstein discussions. Audio is included for all but the "Still Life" and Paul Resika discussions.

Box 1, Folder 1 [Necessity of Making an Image, 1969, November 7](#)
1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript. Lecture delivered by Paul Georges.

Box 1, Folder 2 [Panel on Corot, 1969, November 14](#)
1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript. Panel members included: Lennart Anderson, LeLand Bell, and Joseph Pollet, with Paul Resika as the moderator.

Box 1, Folder 3 [Portraits, 1969, November 21](#)
1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript. A group discussion and critique of portraits painted by members of the Alliance of Figurative Artists.

Box 1, Folder 4 [An Artist's Utopia, 1969, November 28](#)
1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript. A group discussion involving members of the Alliance of Figurative Artists

Box 1, Folder 5 [Narrative Paintings, 1969, December 12](#)
1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript. Panel members included Milet Andrejevic, Alfred Leslie, and Sidney Tillim, with Gabriel Laderman as the moderator.

Box 1, Folder 6 [Drawing as a Tool, 1969, December 19](#)

	1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A group discussion led by Lawrence Steven Faden.
Box 1, Folder 7, Item 1	Ben Rifkin, Rembrandt's Studio, 1969, December 5 1 Sound tape reel Notes: "Rembrandt's Studio" lecture is delivered by Ben Rifkin. "Philip Pearlstein" lecture given by Philip Pearlstein in which he speaks on the development of his work, his aims, and methods. Reel is untranscribed.
Box 1, Folder 7, Item 2	Philip Pearlstein, 1970, January 9 1 Sound tape reel Notes: "Philip Pearlstein" lecture given by Philip Pearlstein in which he speaks on the development of his work, his aims, and methods. Reel is untranscribed.
Box 1, Folder 8	Myths, 1970, January 16 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A panel discussion featuring Rosemarie Beck, John Bradford, and Anthony Giani. Paul Georges is the moderator.
Box 1, Folder 9	"The Nude" and "Self Portrait", 1970, January 23, 1970, April 27 2 Sound tape reels 3 Sound cassettes (Duplicates) Notes: "The Nude" is a group discussion led by Louis Tytell discussing member's paintings, sculptures, and drawings of nudes." Also included is a copy on one sound cassette. Self Portrait is a group discussion on self portraits led by Joel Brody. Also included is a copy on two sound cassettes. Both reels are untranscribed.
Box 1, Folder 10	Archetype, Hero, and epic Today, 1970 January 30 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A dialogue between Edward Melcarth and Raoul F. Middleman with an introduction by Paul Resika.
Box 1, Folder 11	Gabriel Laderman Discusses His Paintings, 1970, February 6 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Gabriel Laderman discusses his paintings.
Box 1, Folder 12	Sculpture Panel, 1970 February 13 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Panel members include Walter Erlebacher, Lloyd Glasson, and Nathan Cabot Hale. Richard A. Miller is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 1	Landscape Panel, 1970, February 20

	1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A group discussion in which Noah Baen, Ridy Burkhardt, Gretna Campbell, Lucien B. Day, Lois Dodd, Frank Mccall, and Raoul F. Middleman discuss their work. Lois Dodd also reads a statement from Joseph A. Fiore who was unable to attend the meeting. Marjorie Anne Kramer leads the discussion.
Box 2, Folder 2	Erotic Art, 1970, February 27 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A group discussion led by Aaron Kersen.
Box 2, Folder 3	John Koch speaks About His Works, 1970, March 6 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript.
Box 2, Folder 4	Implications of Photography, 1970, March 13 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A panel discussion featuring John Button, Gretna Campbell, and Ben Einhorn. Harold Jacob Bruder is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 5	Still Life, 1970, March 20 Notes: Transcript only. A group discussion led by Joel Goldblatt.
Box 2, Folder 6	Concerning the Real and the Ideal in Representation, 1970, March 27 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Panel members include William H. Bailey and A. Robert Birmelin. Louis Finkelstein is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 7	Paul Resika Talks About His Works, 1970, April 3 Notes: Transcript only.
Box 2, Folder 8	The Figure in Landscape, 1970, April 10 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Panel discussion featuring Jane Freilicher, Anthony Siani, Sam Thurston, and Neil G. Welliver. William sullivan is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 9	Conceptual Painting, 1970, April 24 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Panel discussion featuring Richard Chiriani, Bruno Chivitico, Stanley Friedman, Joel Galker, Nancy Grilikhes, and Bonnie Sklarski. Milet Andrejevic is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 10	Illusion and Analogy, 1970, May 1 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. Panel featuring William Beckman, Gregory Joseph Gillespie, and Al Kresh. Thomas Browne Cornell is the moderator.
Box 2, Folder 11	Open Discussion-Future of the Group, 1970, May 8

	Notes: Transcript only. The group discussion is led by Richard A. Miller.
Box 2, Folder 12	Recollection of the Origin of the Alliance of Figurative Artists, 1970, November 12 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript. A monologue delivered by Richard A. Miller on the origin of the Alliance and its meetings held between February 14 and May 9, 1969. Miller also reads the program committee's report of October 1970.
Folder ER01	Alliance of Figurative Artists, Panel Discussions (circa 1970), Digital Audio Recordings, 2004 1.24 Gigabytes (Two computer files) Notes: Some portions of recordings are inaudible.

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