



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano Papers, 2005-2015, in the Archives of American Art

Sarah Mundy

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center.

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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/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano papers
<b>Date:</b>	2005-2015
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.alvajari
<b>Creator:</b>	Alvarez, Jari, 1980-
<b>Extent:</b>	1.3 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	The collection is in English and Spanish.
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of New York artists Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 2005 to 2015. Drawings, correspondence, four scrapbooks, and fifteen sketchbooks document Alvarez and Lozano's graffiti and public art careers.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The papers were donated in 2015 by Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2018.

### Preferred Citation

Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano papers, 2005-2015. 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Jari "WERC" Alvarez (1980- ) is a graffiti artist who was born in Mexico and raised in Texas. Geraldine "Gera" Lozano (1981- ) is a public artist from New Jersey. They both reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Alvarez and Lozano produce artwork independently but have collaborated on public works of art in Mexico, Paraguay, Brazil, Peru, New York, and Texas. Their mural, *Portal Flow*, done as part of the Gateways to Newark initiative in Newark, N.J., is the largest mural on the east coast. As collaborators, they focus on beautifying public environments through creating work that honors the surrounding communities.

## Scope and Contents

The papers of New York artists Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 2005 to 2015. Drawings, correspondence, four scrapbooks, and fifteen sketchbooks document Alvarez and Lozano's graffiti and public art careers.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as one series.

- Series 1: Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano papers, 2005-2015 (Boxes 1-2; 1.3 linear feet)
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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Graffiti art  
Latino and Latin American artists  
Mural painting and decoration -- 20th century  
Muralists  
Public art  
Street art  
Women artists

### Types of Materials:

Drawings  
Scrapbooks  
Sketchbooks

### Names:

Lozano, Geraldine, 1981-

### Occupations:

Graffiti artists -- New York (State) -- New York

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Jari "WERC" Alvarez and Geraldine "Gera" Lozano papers, 2005-2015

#### 1.3 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Fifteen sketchbooks make up the bulk of the series. The sketchbooks include sketches and drawings in pencil, marker, and other media that are interspersed with notes on projects, travel plans, journal entries, and poetry. Four scrapbooks contain travel ephemera, photographs, correspondence envelopes, and printed material. Drawings, a small amount of personal and professional correspondence regarding funding, and two self-published art books by Lozano are also in the series.

Box 1, Folder 1	Artwork, Drawings and Sketches, circa 2010
Box 1, Folder 2	Book, Poems for Frida by Lozano, 2005
Box 1, Folder 3	Book, Thinking Flow by Lozano, 2007
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, Personal, circa 2006-2014
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, Professional, 2010
Box 2, Folder 1-2	Scrapbooks, 2005, 2008 Notes: 2 books
Box 1, Folder 6	Scrapbook, 2010
Box 1, Folder 7	Scrapbook, 2012
Box 1, Folder 8-19	Sketchbooks, 2006-2012 Notes: 13 books
Box 2, Folder 3-4	Sketchbooks, circa 2010, 2011 Notes: 2 books

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