



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the William Anthony Papers, 1956-2003, in the Archives of American Art

Jean Fitzgerald

April 2004

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>	William Anthony papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.anthwill
<b>Date:</b>	1956-2003
<b>Creator:</b>	Anthony, William, 1934-
<b>Extent:</b>	1.5 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of contemporary painter and author William Anthony measure 1.5 linear feet and date from 1956 to 2003. Found within the papers are scattered biographical materials; correspondence files; exhibition files; original art work; files of reproductions of his art work; a file for his book <i>A New Approach to Figure Drawing</i> ; clippings; photographs; a recorded lecture and announcements of Anthony's slide talks.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The William Anthony papers were donated by Anthony from 2001 to 2003. In 1976, he lent miscellaneous photocopied material for microfilming. The loaned materials do not duplicate the later gifts except for single letters from Jasper Johns (1972), William King, Claes Oldenburg, Theodoros Stamos, and a book endorsement comment signed by Larry Rivers. [Note: Reel 1094 is not described in this finding aid.]

### Alternative Forms Available

The collection is available on 35 mm microfilm reels 1094, 5875-5877 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed by Jean Fitzgerald in April 2004.

### Preferred Citation

William Anthony papers, 1956-2003. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research. Patrons must use microfilm copy.

### Terms of Use

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## Biographical Note

American painter William Graham Anthony was born on September 25, 1934 in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. While majoring in history at Yale University, Anthony attended a few art courses, one of which was taught by Josef Albers. He also attended the Art Students' League in 1958 and 1961.

After graduating from Yale, he joined his family in California, where he attended the San Francisco Art Institute. In 1962, Anthony taught figure drawing at a commercial art school in San Francisco, where he developed a method of drawing that resulted in his book *A New Approach to Figure Drawing*. Two years later he moved to New York City.

From 1977 to 1978, Anthony made a series of drawings for magazine *Andy Warhol's Interview*, and published another book *Bible Stories*. In 1983, he married Norma Neuman, and continued to produce and exhibit his art work, including solo exhibitions in New York, California, and Europe. In 1988, the Jargon Society published an additional book, *Bill Anthony's Greatest Hits*. Anthony also teaches painting to senior citizens.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of contemporary painter and author William Anthony measure 1.5 linear feet and date from 1956 to 2003. Found within the papers are scattered biographical materials; correspondence files; exhibition files; original art work; files of reproductions of his art work; a file for his book *A New Approach to Figure Drawing*; clippings; photographs; a recorded lecture and announcements of Anthony's slide talks. This material offers a comprehensive record of the works and exhibitions of this prolific painter.

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## Arrangement

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1976-2001 (Box 1; 2 folders; Reel 5875)
  - Series 2: Correspondence Files, 1961-2001 (Box 1; 16 folders; Reel 5875)
  - Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1961-2003 (Box 1, OV 3; 32 folders; Reel 5875)
  - Series 4: Art work, 1961-2003 (Box 1, OV 3; 6 folders; Reel 5875)
  - Series 5: Reproductions of Art Work Created in 1976-2003, undated (Box 1, 2; 25 folders; Reels 5875-5877)
  - Series 6: File for Book, *A New Approach to Figure Drawing*, 1965 (Box 2; 2 folders; Reel 5877)
  - Series 7: Clippings, 1956-2002, undated (Box 2; 2 folders; Reel 5877)
  - Series 8: Photographs, 1965-2000, undated (Box 2; 3 folders; Reel 5877)
  - Series 9: Recorded Lecture and Announcements of Slide Talks, 1985-1990, undated (Box 2; 1 folder; Reel 5877 and unfiled)
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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:

Painters -- New York (State) -- New York  
Painting, American -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Drawings  
Photographs

Names:

Carpenter, Charles Hope, 1916-  
Johns, Jasper, 1930-  
Lichtenstein, Roy, 1923-1997  
Little, Carl  
Masheck, Joseph  
Rosenblum, Robert  
Ross, David A., 1949-  
Schwabsky, Barry

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1976-2001

*2 Folders (Box 1; reel 5875)*

**Scope and Contents:** Biographical material consists primarily of biographical accounts that include listings of Anthony's exhibitions. The chronology provides more detailed information concerning events in Anthony's life.

**Available Formats:** Biographical materials are on reel 5875.

Box 1, Folder 1      Biographical Accounts, 1981-2001

Box 1, Folder 2      Chronology, 1976-2001

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## Series 2: Correspondence Files, 1961-2001

16 Folders (Box 1; reel 5875)

**Scope and Contents:** Correspondence consists primarily of alphabetically-arranged folders of letters from colleagues who maintained a long-term contact with Anthony. Single letters from other colleagues have been placed in a separate alphabetical arrangement and filed in miscellaneous correspondence and includes letters from Jules Feiffer, William King, Alfred Leslie, Sol Lewitt, Claes Oldenburg, Harold Rosenberg, and Theodoros Stamos.

**Available Formats:** Correspondence is on reel 5875.

Box 1, Folder 3-5	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1961-2001
Box 1, Folder 6	Charles Carpenter, 1979-2001
Box 1, Folder 7	James Duffy, Jr., 1975-1998
Box 1, Folder 8	Jasper Johns, 1972-2000
Box 1, Folder 9	Roy Lichtenstein, 1977-2000
Box 1, Folder 10	Carl Little, 1989-2000
Box 1, Folder 11	Joe Masheck, 1981-1991
Box 1, Folder 12	Robert Rosenblum, 1981-2000
Box 1, Folder 13	David Ross, 1978-1992
Box 1, Folder 14	Barry Schwabsky, 1990-1992
Box 1, Folder 15	Leo Steinberg, 1981-2001
Box 1, Folder 16-18	Jonathan Williams, 1972-2000

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## Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1961-2003

*32 Folders (Box 1, OV 3; reel 5875)*

**Scope and Contents:** Exhibition files primarily contain printed material concerning exhibitions of Anthony's work. Some files also contain letters, price lists, and photographs. The file for the Cokkie Snoei Gallery of Rotterdam contains an original drawing for the exhibition announcement. There is also a file for an exhibition of other artist's works owned and exhibited by Anthony.

**Available Formats:** Exhibition files are on reel 5875.

Box 1, Folder 19-49	Exhibition Files for Exhibitions of Anthony's Work, 1961-2003
Box 1, Folder 50	Exhibition Files for Exhibitions of Other Artist's Works Owned by Anthony, 1997
Box OV 3	Four oversize posters for Now Gallery, New York, 1985-1987
Box OV 3	Oversize poster and a duplicate for the Robert Berman Gallery, Santa Monica, California, 1998

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## Series 4: Art work, 1961-2003

*6 Folders (Box 1, OV 3; reel 5875)*

Scope and Contents: Artwork primarily consists of pencil drawings, but also includes 2 tempera sketches and a silkscreen line self-portrait.

Available: Art work is on reel 5875.

Formats:

Box 1, Folder 51	Drawings, 1961-1963
Box 1, Folder 52	Drawings, tempera paintings, and silkscreen, 1964-1969
Box 1, Folder 53-56	Drawings, 1971-2003
Box OV 3	Eleven oversize drawings, 1971-2000

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## Series 5: Reproductions of Art Work Created in 1976-2003, undated

*25 Folders (Box 1, 2; reels 5875-5877)*

Scope and Contents: Files of photocopies and photographs of Anthony's drawings and paintings created from 1976 to 2003 offer a comprehensive overview of his work.

Available Formats: Reproductions of art work created in 1976-2003 are on reels 5875-5877.

Formats:

Box 1, Folder 57-73 Reproductions of Art Work Created in 1976-1995

Box 2, Folder 1-8 Reproductions of Art Work Created in 1996-2003

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## Series 6: File for Book, *A New Approach to Figure Drawing*, 1965

2 Folders (*Box 2; reel 5877*)

Scope and Contents: A file concerning Anthony's book, *A New Approach to Figure Drawing*, contains letters, printed material, and original art work. Also included is an endorsement comment signed by Larry Rivers.

Available: The file for book, *A New Approach to Figure Drawing* is on reel 5877.

Formats:

Box 2, Folder 9-10	File for A New Approach to Figure Drawing, 1965
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## Series 7: Clippings, 1956-2002, undated

*2 Folders (Box 2; reel 5877)*

Scope and Contents: Clippings consist of cartoons, articles about Anthony, and a copy of *Public Illumination* Magazine.

Available Formats: Clippings are on reel 5877.

Box 2, Folder 11-12 Clippings, 1956-2002, undated

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## Series 8: Photographs, 1965-2000, undated

*3 Folders (Box 2; reel 5877)*

Scope and Contents: The majority of photographs are of Anthony and of his students and colleagues, including Dore Ashton. Four photographs are photocopies.

Available: Photographs are on reel 5877.

Formats:

Box 2, Folder 13	Photographs of Anthony's parents, undated
Box 2, Folder 14	Photographs of Anthony, 1965-2000
Box 2, Folder 15	Photographs of Anthony with friends and colleagues, 1987-1998

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## Series 9: Recorded Lecture and Announcements of Slide Talks, 1985-1990, undated

*1 Folder (Box 2; reel 5877 and unfiled)*

Available Recorded lectures and announcements of slide talks are on reel 5877.

Formats:

Scope and Contents: This file contains an undated 21-minute audio cassette of one of Anthony's slide talk lectures and announcements for other talks.

Box 2, Folder 16	Recorded Lecture and Announcements, 1985-1990
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