



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Beth and James Arient papers

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
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Beth and James Arient papers
Date:	1979-1988
Identifier:	AAA.arieth
Creator:	Arient, Beth, 1946- Arient, James, 1946-
Extent:	1 Microfilm reel (147 items on 1 partial microfilm reel)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1988 by the Arients.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to the lenders, Beth and James Arient, after microfilming.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the oral history interview with James and Beth Arient, 1988 April 27-29.

Other Finding Aids

A list of the photographs is available on microfilm.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4189 available at all Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Beth Arient (1946-) and James "Jim" Arient (1946-) are folk art collectors in Naperville, Illinois.

Scope and Contents

The microfilmed Beth and James Arient papers contain 23 letters from self-taught painter Howard Finster and Pauline Finster to the Arients (1979-1987); and photographs of folk artists, some with the Arients,

and their work (1980-1988). Among the artists photographed are Elijah Pierce, Mary Borkowski, Jesse Howard, Joe "The Welder" Janosik, Eunice McCloskey, Dow Pugh, Howard Finster, Minnie Black, Nellie Mae Rowe, Lanier Meaders, B.C. Craig, William Dawson, Carl McKenzie, Denzil Goodpaster, S.L. Jones, Carlton Garrett, Frank Pickle, Sam Doyle, David Butler, Luster Willis, "Daddy Boy" Williams, Kid Mertz, Dilmus Hall, James "Son" Thomas, Derek Webster, Raymond Coins, James Harold Jennings, Sarah Mary Taylor, Mary T. Smith, and Clyde "Jungle Boy" Jones.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Folk art -- Collectors and collecting

Names:

Finster, Howard, 1916-2001

Occupations:

Collectors -- Illinois -- Chicago