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Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to Joellen Bard's, Ruth Fortel's,
and Helen Thomas' Exhibition Records of
Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s,
1953-1977, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Joellen Bard's, Ruth Fortel's, and Helen Thomas' exhibition records of <i>Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s</i>
Date:	1953-1977
Identifier:	AAA.bardjoel
Creator:	Bard, Joellen
Extent:	0.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	Joellen Bard's, Ruth Fortel's, and Helen Thomas' exhibition records of <i>The Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s</i> measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1953-1977. The collection documents the research for, and organization of, this exhibition held at Amos Eno Gallery, 14 Sculptors Gallery, Noho Galley, Pleiades Galley, and Ward-Nasse Gallery, December 20, 1977 through January 7, 1978. Records consist of a grant proposal and related documentation; printed material including an exhibition catalog and poster; research files including 35-mm color slides and photographs; and 2 scrapbooks containing biographical information, printed matter, and photographs of works of art relating to the corollary exhibition, <i>Tenth Street</i> in 1977.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Gift of Joellen Bard, coordinator of the Association of Artist-Run Galleries and curator of *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s*, 1977-1978.

Processing Information

The collection was processed by Catherine S. Gaines in 2003.

Preferred Citation

Joellen Bard's, Ruth Fortel's, and Helen Thomas' exhibition records of *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s*, 1953-1977. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research. Use requires an appointment and is limited to the Washington, D.C. research facility.

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Biographical Note

Tenth Street between Third and Fourth Avenues, was an artist community that was home to many of the first generation Abstract Expressionists. The neighborhood was also home to The Club and the Cedar Tavern. After 1953, many of younger artists--the second and third generations of Abstract Expressionists--came to live and work near Tenth Street. They organized and ran a number of cooperative galleries that became an important focus and provided much needed exhibition opportunities for the large number of young artists lured to New York City in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Researched and organized by painter and art instructor Joellen Bard, Ruth Fortel and Helen Thomas in co-operation with the Association of Artist-Run Galleries and Pleiades Gallery, *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s*, was held at Amos Eno Gallery, 14 Sculptors Gallery, Noho Galley, Pleiades Galley, and Ward-Nasse Gallery, December 20, 1977 through January 7, 1978. A corollary exhibition, *Tenth Street in 1977*, was shown at Landmark Gallery, Inc., December 20, 1977 through January 8, 1978. An expanded version of the exhibition was circulated by The Gallery Association of New York State.

Scope and Content Note

Joellen Bard's, Ruth Fortel's, and Helen Thomas' exhibition records of *The Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s* measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1953-1977. The collection documents the research for, and organization of, this exhibition held at Amos Eno Gallery, 14 Sculptors Gallery, Noho Galley, Pleiades Galley, and Ward-Nasse Gallery, December 20, 1977 through January 7, 1978. Records consist of a grant proposal and related documentation; printed material including an exhibition catalog and poster; research files including 35-mm color slides and photographs; and 2 scrapbooks containing biographical information, printed matter, and photographs of works of art relating to the corollary exhibition, *Tenth Street in 1977*.

Series 1: Exhibition records of *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s*, 1953-1977 (0.4 linear ft.) documents the exhibition that was held December 20, 1977 through January 7, 1978 at Amos Eno Gallery, 14 Sculptors Gallery, Noho Gallery, Pleiades Gallery, and the Ward-Nasse Gallery. Included are the grant proposal, resumes, budget, and background information on the Association of Artist-Run Galleries, exhibition catalog and other printed matter, and congratulatory telegram from John Krushenick. Research files concerning Brata Gallery, Camino Gallery, Hansa Gallery, James Gallery, and Tanager Gallery contain a variety of printed items and historical notes. Of particular interest are administrative records of Camino Gallery that include its articles of agreement and minutes; and a reminiscence of Craig Hazlet who funded Tanager Gallery for 5 years, by daughter Sally Hazlet Drummond. Research files also include artist address lists, responses to a questionnaire about Tenth Street galleries circulated by Bard, and general printed matter about Tenth Street galleries and artists. Additional exhibition records consist of 35-mm color slides of works of art, and small number of black and white photographs of galleries and artists.

Series 2: Records of *Tenth Street in 1977*, December 20, 1977-January 8, 1978 (0.25 linear ft.) relates to the corollary exhibition shown at Landmark Gallery, Inc., December 20, 1977 through January 8, 1978. Records consist of 2 disbound scrapbooks, arranged alphabetically by artist, that contain biographical information, miscellaneous printed matter, and photographs of works of art.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 2 series. Material in Series 1 is arranged chronologically within each folder. Series 2 is arranged alphabetically by artist.

- Series 1: Records of *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s*, 1953-1977 (Box 1 and OV; 0.4 linear ft.)
 - Series 2: Records of *Tenth Street in 1977*, 1977 (Box 2; 0.25 linear ft.)
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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:

Art, American -- Exhibitions
Art, Modern -- Exhibitions
Group work in art -- United States -- Exhibitions
Women art dealers
Women artists
Women painters

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Scrapbooks
Video recordings

Names:

14 Sculptors Gallery
Amos Eno Gallery
Association of Artist-run Galleries
Brata Gallery
Camino Gallery
Fortel, Ruth
Hansa Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
James Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Noho Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Pleiades Gallery
Tanager Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Thomas, Helen
Ward-Nasse Gallery

Occupations:

Curators -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: *Tenth Street Days: The Co-ops of the 50s, 1953-1977*

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1 and OV)

(0.4 linear ft.; Box 1 and OV)

Scope and Contents: Research files concerning galleries consist mainly of printed matter, with some exceptions. The file for Camino Gallery includes administrative records such as legal documents and minutes. Also of particular interest are a Brata Gallery membership list, a brief history of the James Gallery, and a reminiscence of Craig Hazlet who funded the Tanager Gallery.

Photographs are of Milton Resnick's studio; a view of Tanager's Roof; Irving Sandler and Lois Dodd in Tanager Gallery; and Bill de Kooning, Lutz Sander, and Charles Cajori in de Kooning's Studio. Also included is a black and white negative of an unidentified, undated 9th Street Gallery exhibition installation. 35-mm color slides of works of art (1 slide box) is organized by gallery, with slides for each gallery arranged alphabetically by artist.

Box 1, Folder 1-2 Documentation of the Exhibition, 1977

Research Files

Box 1, Folder 3 Answers to a Questionnaire about Tenth Street Sent to Artists in the Exhibition--Sent by Joellen Bard Sept. 1976-June 1977, 1976-1977

Box 1, Folder 4 [Brata Gallery, 1958, undated](#)

Box 1, Folder 5 [Camino Gallery, 1956-1963, undated](#)

Box 1, Folder 6 "In celebration: the street," a poem by John Burnett Payne, undated

Box 1, Folder 7 Hansa Gallery (photocopies), 1953-1954

Box 1, Folder 8 James Gallery, 1958-1960, undated

Box 1, Folder 9 Tanager Gallery, 1952-1962, undated

Box 1, Folder 10 Tenth Street Artists Address List, circa 1977

Box 1, Folder 11 Tenth Street General Information, 1957-1977

Box 1, Folder 12 Tenth Street Reviews (See: OV 3), 1954-1959

Photographs

Box 1, Folder 13 35mm Color Slides of Works of Art (1 slide box), undated

Box 1, Folder 14 [Photographs \(copy prints\), 1956](#)

Box 1, Folder 15 Black and White Negatives, 1956, undated

Oversize OV 3 Tenth Street Reviews, 1954-1959

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Series 2: *Tenth Street in 1977* , 1977

0.25 Linear feet (Box 2)

(0.25 linear ft.; Box 2)

Box 2 Scrapbooks (2 disbound vols.)

Box 2, Folder 1-2 Volume 1: A-J, 1977

Box 2, Folder 3-4 Volume 2: K-Z, 1977

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