



# Smithsonian

## *Archives of American Art*

### A Finding Aid to the Edwin and Lindy Bergman Papers, 1949-2002, 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  
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2020 November 3

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Edwin and Lindy Bergman papers
<b>Date:</b>	1949-2002
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.bergedlin
<b>Creator:</b>	Bergman, Edwin Bergman, Lindy
<b>Extent:</b>	1.6 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	The collection is in English and French.
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of Chicago art collectors Edwin and Lindy Bergman measure 1.6 linear feet and date from 1949 to 2002. The papers document the collecting activities of the Bergmans through a collection of files on artists including Joseph Cornell, Jim Nutt, and Wilfredo Lam, and others including art dealers Julien and Jean Levy, and ballerina Tamara Toumanova.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The Edwin and Lindy Bergman papers were donated in 2016 by Robert H. Bergman, Carol B. Cohen, and Betty L. Rosenfield, Edwin and Lindy Bergman's children.

### Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is the Edwin Bergman Interview, August 21-December 21, 1984. Possible video duplicates of the interview are in the Edwin and Lindy Bergman papers

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Ricky Gomez in 2020.

### Preferred Citation

Edwin and Lindy Bergman papers, 1949-2002. 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

Chicago, Illinois, art collectors Edwin Bergman (1917-1986) and Lindy (Betty Jane) Bergman (1918-2014) shared a particular interest in surrealist art and over a sixty year period assembled a major art collection which included some of Joseph Cornell's most famous works. The Bergmans began collecting art in the 1950s, and established the Bergman Gallery, designed as both a studio for undergraduates and an exhibition center. In 1982 they also established the Edwin and Lindy Bergman Joseph Cornell Gallery at the Art Institute of Chicago. Edwin Bergman was a founder and past president of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of Chicago art collectors Edwin and Lindy Bergman measure 1.6 linear feet and date from 1951 to 2002. The collection includes documents filed by subject/name. Files may include both personal and business correspondence; personal business records such as price lists, inventories, and invoices; clippings, exhibition announcements, exhibition catalogs, and other printed material; and photographs of artists and their artwork. Also found is a video recording of an interview of Edwin and Lindy Bergman, August 24, 1984, produced by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

A significant portion of the series relates to Joseph Cornell, and material includes general correspondence, correspondence from Betty Benton and Anthony Peluso, clippings, and exhibition announcements and catalogs. Also represented are artists Jim Nutt and Wilfredo Lam, art dealers Julian and Jean Levy, and ballerina Tamara Toumanova. There are also files on art galleries including the Museum of Modern Art, Sidney Janis Gallery, and Galerie du Dragon in Paris.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as one series.

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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 -- Collectors and collecting

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Video recordings

### Names:

Cornell, Joseph

Occupations:

Collectors -- Illinois -- Chicago

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Edwin and Lindy Bergman Papers, 1949-2002

#### 1.6 Linear feet (Boxes 1-3)

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**Arrangement:** The papers are arranged with the Joseph Cornell files at the beginning followed by the artists and subject files in chronological order. After the artist and subject files are the VHS recordings and general correspondence, clippings, and photographic materials.

#### Joseph Cornell

Box 2, Folder 1-5	Correspondence, 1951-1988
Box 2, Folder 6-8	Pasta Dossier, 1953-1975
Box 2, Folder 9	Fourcade, Droll Inc., 1974-1975
Box 2, Folder 10-11	Betty Benton Regarding Joseph Cornell, 1975-1986
Box 2, Folder 12	Anthony Peluso, 1976
Box 2, Folder 13	Leo Castelli, 1976-1986
Box 2, Folder 14	Cornell Gift to Art Institute of Chicago, 1983-1989
Box 2, Folder 15	Articles, 1965-1990
Box 2, Folder 16	Clippings, 1967-1978
Box 2, Folder 17	Exhibition Announcements, 1972-1989
Box 2, Folder 18	Exhibition Catalogs, 1949-1984
Box 2, Folder 19	"Joseph Cornell: Windows of the Mind" by Geraldine Baskin, undated

Box 2, Folder 20	Photographs, circa 1982
Box 2, Folder 21	Miscellaneous, circa 1976
Box 2, Folder 22	Galerie du Dragon, Paris, 1952-1978
Box 2, Folder 23-26	Wilfredo Lam, 1956-2002
Box 2, Folder 27	Sidney Janis Gallery, 1958-1976
Box 2, Folder 28	Hyde Park Art Center, 1958, 1963
Box 2, Folder 29-30	Marisol, 1958-1970
Box 2, Folder 31	Galerie Furstenberg, Paris, 1959-1965
Box 2, Folder 32	Edouard and Albert Loeb, 1959-1967
Box 2, Folder 33	Enrico Baj, 1959-1967
Box 2, Folder 34	Hans Bellmer, 1959
Box 2, Folder 35	William Copley, 1959-1975
Box 2, Folder 36	Bodley Gallery, 1960-1976
Box 2, Folder 37	Julian and Jean Levy, 1961-1981
Box 2, Folder 38-39	Museum of Modern Art, 1961-1994
Box 1, Folder 1	Douglas Cooper, 1965-1967
Box 1, Folder 2	Richard Hunt, 1966-1976
Box 1, Folder 3	Jim Nutt, 1968-1969
Box 1, Folder 4	Nicole Lam, 1969-1990
Box 1, Folder 5	Howard Hussey, 1972-1981
Box 1, Folder 6-7	Lynda Hartigan, 1976-1988
Box 1, Folder 8	The Israel Museum, 1980-1981
Box 1, Folder 9	Tamara Toumanova, 1981-1987
Box 1, Folder 10	Ed and Lindy Bergman Interview, 1984 August 24

## 2 Videocassettes (VHS)

Notes: This video interview may be a copy of the audio interview donated to the Archives of American Art as the Edwin Bergman Interview August 21-December 21, 1984.

Box 3, Folder 1	Correspondence, 1965-1998
Box 3, Folder 2	Clippings, 1963-1986
Box 3, Folder 3	Photographs, circa 1957
Box 3, Folder 4	Miscellaneous, 1967, 1986

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