



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Harry Bouras 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

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Harry Bouras papers
<b>Date:</b>	1949-1990
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.bourharr
<b>Creator:</b>	Bouras, Harry
<b>Extent:</b>	5 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 2004 by Arlene Bouras, Harry Bouras' widow.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Sculptor, calligrapher, and collagist; art critic for WFMT radio; Chicago, Ill.; b. 1931; d. 1990 Harry Bouras (1931-1990) was an artist, critic, teacher, and radio personality in Chicago. For 25 years he hosted "Art and Artists" (originally called "Critic's Choice"), a weekly radio program on art criticism on WFMT in Chicago. He was artist-in-residence at the University of Chicago from 1962 to 1964, and at Northwestern University from 1965 to 1967. He taught at Columbia College in Chicago from 1964 until 1989. He was a frequent lecturer at colleges and universities and published numerous articles on art and literature.

---

## Scope and Contents

Biographical material; writings by and about Bouras; 38 notebooks and sketchbooks by Bouras, 1957-1984; radio audio recordings for WFMT by Bouras; photographs of Bouras and his works of art; exhibition catalogs and announcements; newspaper and magazine clippings; other printed material; and miscellany. Including birth, death and marriage certificates; passports; correspondence including letters from Joseph Epstein, William Russo, Jacques Mousseau, Tom and Dana Strobel, Annette Pinsler, George Simonon, James T. Farrell, Aaron Bohrod, Peggy Burrows, James T. Maher, Alec Wilder, and others; published writings by and about Bouras; notes and unpublished writings including a bound typescript of "Dies Irae," by Bouras 1949; 2 engagement calendars 1982-1984; 2 telephone address books; 38 notebook/sketchbooks, 1957-1984; audio recordings including Bouras on Philip Guston, 1990; Bouras WFMT Broadcast, "The Little White Bird," 1990; an interview with Peter Agostini on The Critic's Choice, WFMT, 1965; Bouras at UICC "Passion Pit," 1972; Bouras's Memorial service, October 13, 1990; and other recordings. There are also photographs of Bouras and his works of art, as well as negatives and slides; a proposal for a television series, 1969.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Types of Materials:

- Sketchbooks
- Sketchbooks
- Sound recordings

### Occupations:

- Sculptors -- Illinois -- Chicago