



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Louise Bourgeois Papers, circa 1937-1994, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

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Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-7950
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Louise Bourgeois papers
Date:	circa 1937-1994
Identifier:	AAA.bourloup
Creator:	Bourgeois, Louise, 1911-2010
Extent:	0.4 Items
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of sculptor Louise Bourgeois measure 0.4 linear feet and date from circa 1937 to 1994. The bulk of the papers consist of printed material including three clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a menu, and meeting notices. Also found are modern copyprints of photographs taken by Bourgeois in Paris and the United States.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material was loaned for microfilming by Louise Bourgeois in 1971 and originals were returned to the donor. Bourgeois donated additional material to the Archives of American Art in 1994.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds microfilm of material lent for microfilming on Reels 54 and 90, including circa 500 drawings and sketches; prints, portraits, and correspondence including a letter from Rene d'Harnoncourt; catalogs, clippings, and other printed material; and miscellany. Originals were returned to lender after microfilming and are not described in the collection Container Inventory.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Louise Bourgeois Photographs of Willem de Kooning], [ca. 1955], Oral history interview with Louise Bourgeois, 1968, and Interview with Louise Bourgeois, 1986 Apr. 9.

Available Formats

Material lent for microfilming is available on 35mm microfilm reels 54 and 90 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Louise Bourgeois papers, circa 1937-1994. 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.

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Conditions Governing Use

Photographs: Authorization to publish, quote, or reproduce must be obtained from Wendy Williams, Managing Director, Louise Bourgeois Studio. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

French-American sculptor Louise Bourgeois (1911-2010) was known primarily for her large-scale sculpture but was also a painter and printmaker. She studied at the Sorbonne and other schools in Paris and moved to New York City with her husband Robert Goldwater in 1938. Bourgeois exhibited extensively throughout the United States and worldwide.

Scope and Contents

The papers of sculptor Louise Bourgeois measure 0.4 linear feet and date from circa 1937 to 1994. The bulk of the papers consist of printed material including three clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a menu, and meeting notices. Also found are modern copyprints of photographs taken by Bourgeois in Paris and the United States.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women painters
- Women printmakers
- Women sculptors

Occupations:

- Painters -- New York (State) -- New City

Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York
Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Louise Bourgeois Papers, circa 1937-1994

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Modern copyprints of photographs dating from 1922 to 1953 are of Bourgeois, family and friends, and her work. Printed materials include three clippings; exhibition announcements and catalogs for Bourgeois's installations, and group and solo exhibitions; a menu for Cafe de Flore in Paris; and meeting notices of The Club.

Box 1, Folder 1	Photographs, 1994
Box 1, Folder 2	Printed Material, Clippings, circa 1960-1988
Box 1, Folder 3-8	Printed Material, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1945-1994
Box 1, Folder 9	Printed Material, Menu, circa 1937
Box 1, Folder 10	Printed Material, Notices, 1967

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