



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Peter A. Bradley Papers, 1966-1976, 2003, 2014, in the Archives of American Art

Candice Yates

Funding for the processing of this collection
was provided by the Henry Luce Foundation.

2019/06/13

Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | Peter A. Bradley papers |
| Date: | 1966-1976 2003 2014 |
| Identifier: | AAA.bradpete |
| Creator: | Bradley, Peter, 1940- |
| Extent: | 0.3 Linear feet |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | <p>The papers of African American painter and former art dealer Peter A. Bradley measure 0.3 linear feet and date from 1966 to 1976 with additional material dating from 2003 and 2014. The papers include correspondence from Klaus Perls, Anthony Caro, Robert Gelfman and attorney Karl S. Lowenthal. Included with correspondence is a recommendation for Bradley written by Klaus Perls. The papers include photographs of Alexander Calder and his family, as well as a photograph of Bradley with Calder's work at Perls Galleries, Bradley with Kenneth Noland and Bradley with Steven Cannon. Printed material consists of a 1971 Picasso exhibition catalog and a 2014 issue of <i>Gulf Coast</i>. Also included are architectural plans and notes for Bradley's studio designed by John Johansen as well as personal financial information.</p> |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by Peter A. Bradley in 2009 and 2018.

Processing Information

This collection was minimally processed and a finding aid prepared in 2019 by intern Candice Yates, supervised by Rayna Andrews, with funding from the Henry Luce Foundation.

Preferred Citation

Peter A. Bradley papers, 1966-1976, 2003, 2014. 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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Biographical / Historical

Peter A. Bradley (1940–) is an African American painter and former art dealer in New York. He served as the associate director of the Perls Galleries in New York from 1968 to 1975.

Bradley was born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania and grew up alongside celebrated jazz musicians such as Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk, whose music influenced the colorful abstract work he is known for. He is credited with influencing the "New New Painters" movement in the late 1970s and curated The Deluxe Show in 1971, which is viewed as one of the earliest racially integrated modernist art exhibitions. His work is held in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, as well as The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, among others. He is a recipient of an Andy Warhol Foundation Exhibition Grant and a two-time recipient of the Pollock Krasner Award.

Scope and Contents

The papers of African American painter and former art dealer Peter A. Bradley measure 0.3 linear feet and date from 1966 to 1976 with additional material dating from 2003 and 2014. The papers include correspondence from Klaus Perls, Anthony Caro, Robert Gelfman and attorney Karl S. Lowenthal. Included with correspondence is a recommendation for Bradley written by Klaus Perls. The papers include photographs of Alexander Calder and his family, as well as a photograph of Bradley with Calder's work at Perls Galleries, Bradley with Kenneth Noland and Bradley with Steven Cannon. Printed material consists of a 1971 Picasso exhibition catalog and a 2014 issue of *Gulf Coast*. Also included are architectural plans and notes for Bradley's studio designed by John Johansen as well as personal financial information.

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:

African American artists

Names:

Calder, Alexander, 1898-1976
Gelfman, Robert
Lowenthal, Karl S.
Noland, Kenneth, 1924-2010

Perls Galleries

Occupations:

Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York

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

Container Listing

Series 1: Peter A. Bradley Papers, 1966-1976, 2003, 2014

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1, OV 2)

Scope and Contents: The papers include correspondence from Klaus Perls, Anthony Caro, Robert Gelfman and attorney Karl S. Lowenthal. Included with correspondence is a recommendation for Bradley written by Klaus Perls. The papers include photographs of Alexander Calder and his family, as well as a photograph of Bradley with Calder's work at Perls Galleries, Bradley with Kenneth Noland and Bradley with Steven Cannon. Printed material consists of a 1971 Picasso exhibition catalog and a 2014 issue of *Gulf Coast*. Also included are architectural plans and notes for Bradley's studio designed by John Johansen as well as personal financial information.

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|----------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Correspondence, 1965-2009 Notes: Bulk of correspondence is with staff at Perls Galleries. |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Material Related to Alexander Calder, 1966-1975 |
| Oversize 2, Folder 1 | Material Related to Peter Bradley Studio, 2003-2004 |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Personal Financial Information, 1970-1972 Notes: Some documents containing personal financial information have not been scanned. |
| Oversize 2, Folder 2 | Photograph of Peter Bradley and Steven Cannon, 1971 |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Printed Material, 1971, 2014 Notes: Includes 1971 Picasso exhibition catalog and <i>Gulf Coast</i> volume 26, issue 1. |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Transparency of Peter Bradley and Kenneth Noland, 1976 |

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