



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Coalition of Women's Art Organization Records, circa 1961-1981, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from the Judith Godwin Arts Foundation

2024/11/120

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Coalition of Women's Art Organization Records
Date:	circa 1961-1981
Identifier:	AAA.coalof
Creator:	Coalition of Women's Art Organizations
Extent:	1 Linear foot
Language:	English .
Summary:	The records of the Coalition of Women's Art Organization measure 1.0 linear feet and date from circa 1961 to 1981. Found are biographical materials on the founders including Gertrude Barnstone; administrative records; planning documents and recordings of a conference and meetings; correspondence; membership records; subject files regarding public policy on art; and printed material. Also found are slides belonging to Gertrude Barnstone with painter Forrest Bess.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gertrude Barnstone, President of the Coalition of Women's Art Organization, donated the records to the Archives of American Art in 1982.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reels 3317-3319 available at Archives of American Art offices. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The collection was arranged upon receipt and microfilmed onto reels 3317-3319 as part of the Archives of American Art's Texas project. Later, the collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2024 with received support from the Judith Godwin Arts Foundation

Preferred Citation

Coalition of Women's Art Organization Records, circa 1961-1981. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

The Coalition of Women's Art Organization was founded in 1977 with a goal of achieving equality for women in the art world. The CWAO sought to unite organizations throughout the United States and advocate at a national level and reduce or eliminate discrimination of women by grant awarding boards and commissions.

Scope and Contents

The records of the Coalition of Women's Art Organization measure 1.0 linear feet and date from circa 1961 to 1981. Found are biographical materials on the founders including Gertrude Barnstone; administrative records; planning documents and recordings of a conference and meetings; correspondence; membership records; subject files regarding public policy on art; and printed material. Also found are slides belonging to Gertrude Barnstone with painter Forrest Bess.

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

Functions:

Arts organizations -- New York (State)

Container Listing

Series 1: Coalition of Women's Art Organization Records, circa 1961-1981

1 Linear foot (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Resumes and biographical sketches are found for Gertrude Barnstone, Janice Koenig Ross, and June Wayne, founding members of the Coalition of Women's Art Organization.

Administrative records include bylaws, fundraising and financial records, and draft form letters. The Coalition of Women's Art Organization conference in 1979 is documented with panelist resumes, three cassette tapes of lectures and meetings, and correspondence regarding the planning of lectures.

Correspondence consists of copies of letters from the Coalition of Women's Art Organization to politicians concerning public policy regarding the arts. Some scattered incoming correspondence is from institutions, government agencies, and members of the Coalition of Women's Art Organization.

Membership records include inquiries from potential members, membership lists, letters sent to new members, and records relating to the election of officers.

Subject files were compiled by the Coalition of Women's Art Organization and may include correspondence; printed material including announcements, congressional bills, and press releases; and writings and notes. The bulk of the subjects concern public policy for the arts on a national level.

Printed materials consist of brochures, newsletters, and press releases produced by the Coalition of Women's Art Organization and scattered other organizations.

Slides depict Forrest Bess and Gertrude Barnstone at a marina after Hurricane Carla.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, Gertrude Barnstone, 1977
Box 1, Folder 2	Biographical Material, Janice Koenig Ross, 1977
Box 1, Folder 3	Biographical Material, June Wayne, 1977
Box 1, Folder 4	Administrative Records, Bylaws, circa 1977
Box 1, Folder 5	Administrative Records, Form Letters, circa 1977
Box 1, Folder 6-8	Administrative Records, Financial Material, 1977-1979
Box 1, Folder 9	Administrative Records, Publicity, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 10	Administrative Records, Stationery, circa 1977
Box 1, Folder 11-12	Conferences and Lectures, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 13	Conferences and Lectures, Tapes, 1979

	3 Sound cassettes
Box 1, Folder 14-16	Correspondence, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 17-20	Membership Records, 1977-1979
Box 1, Folder 21	Subject Files, American Art Alliance, 1978
Box 1, Folder 22	Subject Files, Art Bank Bill, 1977-1978
Box 1, Folder 23	Subject Files, Art Criticisms of Howardena Pindell, 1979 Notes: Some language in this file may be offensive to viewers. It is presented as it exists in the original documents for the benefit of research. This material in no way reflects the views of the Archives of American Art or the Smithsonian Institution.
Box 1, Folder 24	Subject Files, Art Politics, 1979
Box 1, Folder 25	Subject Files, Chicago Groups and Information, 1977-1979
Box 1, Folder 26	Subject Files, Congressman John Brademas, 1976-1978
Box 1, Folder 27	Subject Files, Education and Culture, 1978
Box 1, Folder 28	Subject Files, General Services Administration, 1977
Box 1, Folder 29	Subject Files, International Artists Festival, 1979-1981
Box 1, Folder 30	Subject Files, Legislation Information, 1977-1979
Box 1, Folder 31	Subject Files, National Endowment for the Arts, 1977-1978
Box 1, Folder 32	Subject Files, White House Conference on the Arts, 1979
Box 1, Folder 33-35	Printed Material, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 36	Slides, circa 1961

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