



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Priscilla Cunningham Papers regarding Sue Fuller, 1982-2006 in the Archives of American Art

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

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Biographical Note..... | 2 |
| Scope and Content Note..... | 2 |
| Arrangement..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | 4 |
| Series 1: Letters, 1982-2006..... | 4 |
| Series 2: Writing, 1993..... | 5 |
| Series 3: Printed Material, 1982-2004..... | 6 |
| Series 4: Photographs, 1983-2005..... | 7 |

Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | Priscilla Cunningham papers regarding Sue Fuller |
| Date: | 1982-2006 |
| Identifier: | AAA.cunnpris |
| Creator: | Cunningham, Priscilla |
| Extent: | 0.2 Linear feet |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | Priscilla Cunningham papers regarding Sue Fuller measure 0.2 linear feet and are dated 1982-2006. The friendship between Cunningham and Fuller and Fuller's sculpture are documented by letters and photographs. Also included is a written version of Fuller's reminiscences of Atelier 17 in New York City that she presented at the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center in 1993. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Priscilla Cunningham, 2007.

Related Material

Oral history interview with Sue Fuller conducted by Paul Cummings for the Archives of American Art in 1975.

Processing Information

The collection was processed by Catherine S. Gaines in 2011.

Preferred Citation

Priscilla Cunningham papers regarding Sue Fuller, 1982-2006. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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Biographical Note

Art historian and art collector Priscilla Cunningham is the daughter of art museum director Charles Cunningham. For over twenty years, she was a close friend of Sue Fuller. Ms. Cunningham lives in Hampton Bays, New York.

Sue Fuller (1914-2006) was a printmaker and sculptor in New York City and Southampton, New York. She served as Stanley William Hayter's assistant at Atelier 17 in New York City in the mid 1940s. Fuller later became known for three-dimensional constructions composed of string and in the 1960s patented a method for embedding thread constructions in plastic.

Scope and Content Note

Priscilla Cunningham papers regarding Sue Fuller measure 0.2 linear feet and are dated 1982-2006. The friendship between Cunningham and Fuller and Fuller's sculpture are documented by letters and photographs. Also included is a written version of Fuller's reminiscences of Atelier 17 in New York City that she presented at the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center in 1993.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 4 series:

- Series 1: Letters, 1982-2006 (Box 1; 0.1 linear ft.)
- Series 2: Writing, 1993 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 3: Printed Material, 1982-2004 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 4: Photographs, 1983-2005 (Box 1; 1 folder)

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
Women art historians
Women artists
Women authors
Women printmakers
Women sculptors

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Atelier 17
Fuller, Sue (1914-2006)

Occupations:

Art historians -- New York (State) -- New York

Collectors -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Letters, 1982-2006

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: All but two letters are addressed to Priscilla Cunningham. Most are from Sue Fuller or were sent jointly by Sue Fuller and Alice Crocker. A few of Fuller's letters are illustrated. Christmas cards sent by Fuller and Crocker were designed by Fuller and featured drawings of their cats.

Other correspondents are: Suzanne Folds McCullagh (Art Institute of Chicago), Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, Martha Lou Schove (Fuller's sister), Susan Teller Gallery, Aleko von C., and Women's Caucus for Art. Both Robert Stitt and Peter Difenbeck wrote about the memorial service for Fuller's good friend, John Leeper; Stitt sent related printed material.

One letter written by Priscilla Cunningham is about the condition of artwork stored in Fuller's attic and expresses concern about their eventual disposition. The other is addressed to a Museum of Modern Art curator asking why he never replied to her previous letters about Sue Fuller.

Box 1, Folder 1-4 Letters, 1982-2006, undated
4 Folders

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Writing, 1993

1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Writings consist of the text of Fuller's reminiscences of Atelier 17 presented at the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, July 11, 1993.

Box 1, Folder 5 "Atelier 17 and the New York Avant Garde 1940-'55", 1993

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Printed Material, 1982-2004

1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: All items in this series are about or mention Fuller. Included are reviews and articles, exhibition announcements and catalogs, an autographed copy of the Women's Caucus for Art 7th Annual Exhibition catalog and awards ceremony program, entries from biographical dictionaries, and an obituary.

Box 1, Folder 6 Printed material, 1982-2004, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Photographs, 1983-2005

1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Photographs include views of Fuller at home, Fuller at the 1986 Women's Caucus for Art exhibition, and her altarpiece for All Souls Unitarian Church, New York City.

Box 1, Folder 7 Sue Fuller and her Work, 1983-2005, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)