



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Gloria Dale Papers, 1952-1970, in the Archives of American Art

Sarah Mundy

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Gloria Dale papers
Date:	1952-1970
Identifier:	AAA.daleglor
Creator:	Dale, Gloria
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of London textile designer Gloria Dale measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1952 to 1970. The collection provides scattered documentation of Dale's life through correspondence, photocopies of printed material, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Gloria Dale papers were donated in 2001 by Gloria S. Finn Dale (Lady Gloria Dale) as part of the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Gloria Dale papers, 1952-1970. 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

New York native Gloria Dale (1922 -2013) was a textile designer in London, England, known for her artistry in rug designs.

Dale taught herself rug tufting while living in Washington, D.C. in her late 20s, and would sometimes employ modern painters to create designs for her rugs. She became interested in crafts throughout the Americas after traveling to Mexico and Cuba in 1957 and organized a 1962 exhibition, *Magic Carpets*, featuring rug designs by María Luisa Pacheco, Carlos Mérida, and several other artists from Central and South America.

In 1966, Dale married Sir William Dale, a prominent British lawyer. The couple lived in the Middle East in the 1970s, where Dale began designing bead jewelry inspired by the antique beads she found locally. She continued exploring new materials into her late 80s, taking up felting and creating abstract felts from wool which led to her membership in Britain's Contemporary Applied Arts in 2012. Dale was also a longtime patron of the British Crafts Council.

Dale died in London in 2013.

Scope and Contents

The papers of London textile designer Gloria Dale measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1952 to 1970. The collection provides scattered documentation of Dale's life through correspondence, photocopies of printed material, and photographs.

The papers comprise photocopies of clippings about Dale; correspondence with Theodoros Stamos, Anni Albers, Irene Rice Pereira, Jimmy Ernst, Sally Avery, Lloyd Goodrich, and others; photocopies of the catalog for the *Magic Carpets* (1962) exhibition; photographs of Dale and rugs; and a typescript draft by Dale regarding the National Collection of Fine Art. Also found is a file for the exhibition *Tapestries and Rugs by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors* (1966-1967) at the Museum of Modern Art which includes a catalog introduction draft, loan forms, artwork checklists, and a form documenting the donation of a tapestry by Theodoros Stamos.

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 designers

Names:

Albers, Anni
Avery, Sally
Ernst, Jimmy, 1920-1984
Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
Pereira, I. Rice (Irene Rice), 1902-1971
Stamos, Theodoros, 1922-1997

Occupations:

Textile designers -- England

Container Listing

Series 1: Gloria Dale Papers, 1952-1970

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: The series comprises photocopies of clippings regarding Dale; correspondence with Theodoros Stamos, Anni Albers, Irene Rice Pereira, Jimmy Ernst, Sally Avery, Lloyd Goodrich, and others; photocopies of the *Magic Carpets* (1962) exhibition; correspondence, a catalog introduction draft, loan forms, artwork checklists, and a form for the donation of a tapestry by Theodoros Stamos in a file for the exhibition *Tapestries and Rugs by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors* (1966-1967) at the Museum of Modern Art; photographs of rugs and Dale; and a typescript draft by Dale regarding the National Collection of Fine Art.

Box 1, Folder 1	Clippings, circa 1967 Notes: Photocopies
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence from Theodoros Stamos to Dale, circa 1954-circa 1966
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, Chronological, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, Chronological, 1952-1954 Notes: Includes typescripts by I. Rice Pereira.
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, Chronological, 1955-1970
Box 1, Folder 6	Exhibition, <i>Magic Carpets</i> (1962) Photocopies of Catalog, circa 1962
Box 1, Folder 7	Exhibition, <i>Tapestries and Rugs by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors</i> (1966-1967), circa 1966
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs of Rugs and Dale, 1963
Box 1, Folder 9	Typescript Draft on National Collection of Fine Art by Dale, circa 1960s

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