



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Dilexi Gallery records, 1959-1969, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Dilexi Gallery records
Date:	1959-1969
Identifier:	AAA.dilegall
Creator:	Dilexi Gallery
Extent:	0.9 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Dilexi Gallery records measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1959 to 1969. The collection sheds light on the gallery's operations through correspondence with artists, museums, and other galleries; several artist and exhibition files; and some photographs and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1974 by James Newman, the founder and director of the Dilexi Gallery.

Related Materials

Also in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview, 1974 May 13, with Dilexi Gallery founder and director James Newman.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reels 1101-1102 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Christopher DeMairo in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Dilexi Gallery Records, 1959-1969. 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

The Dilexi Gallery was founded in San Francisco, California, in 1958 by ethnomusicologist and musician James Newman. The gallery exhibited a wide range of artists in various media, from abstract expressionists to portraitists. From 1962 to 1963, the gallery operated a satellite location in Los Angeles overseen by Rolf Nelson. From its beginning, Dilexi had a loose association with Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles, sharing artists, interests, and exhibitions until Ferus' closing in 1966. Artists frequently shown at Dilexi included Hassel Smith, Charles Ross, Roy De Forest, Tony Delap, Sidney Gordin, Wilfrid Zogbaum, and Deborah Remington. Newman closed his gallery in 1969, at which point he started the Dilexi Foundation to support non-traditional artists' projects, happenings, performances, and films.

Scope and Contents

The Dilexi Gallery records measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1959 to 1969. The collection sheds light on the gallery's operations through correspondence with artists, museums, and other galleries; several artist and exhibition files; and some photographs and printed material.

Artist files consist of price lists, resumes, loan records, financial documents, and some printed material. Two photographs and one slide of Jess Collin's artwork, a photograph of Leslie Kerr, and one unknown subject are also present. Correspondence files shed light on gallery sales, exhibitions, and loans of artwork; the careers and personal lives of artists, including Jess Collins, Roy De Forest, Tony DeLap, Norman Kantor, and Wilfrid Zogbaum; and the gallery's relations with other museums and galleries, in particular, Walter Hopps and Irving Blum of Ferus Gallery. Exhibition files include insurance documents, press releases, price lists, and artist instructions; items related to the exhibition, *Second International Exhibition of Pilot Galleries* (1966), include catalog drafts, shipping information, memos, press releases, and some printed ephemera. The bulk of correspondence related to the *Second International Exhibition of Pilot Galleries* and Dilexi Gallery's *G. O. P. Show* (1964) can be found in the collection's correspondence files. Also included are three oversized Dilexi exhibition posters for artists Richard Shaw, William Dubin, and Fred Martin; and one advertising poster by Ron Nagle.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the records 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:

Names:

Blum, Irving, 1930-
Ferus Gallery (Los Angeles, Calif.)
Hopps, Walter
Newman, James, 1933-

Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- California

Container Listing

Series 1: Gallery Records, 1959-1969

0.9 Linear feet (Box 1-2, OV 3)

Scope and Contents: Artist files consist of price lists, resumes, loan records, financial documents, and some printed material. Two photographs and one slide of Jess Collin's artwork, a photograph of Leslie Kerr, and one unknown subject are also present. Correspondence files shed light on gallery sales, exhibitions, and loans of artwork; the careers and personal lives of artists, including Jess Collins, Roy De Forest, Tony DeLap, Norman Kantor, and Wilfrid Zogbaum; and the gallery's relations with other museums and galleries, in particular, Walter Hopps and Irving Blum of Ferus Gallery. Exhibition files include insurance documents, press releases, price lists, and artist instructions; and items related to the exhibition, *Second International Exhibition of Pilot Galleries* (1966), consist of catalog drafts, shipping information, memos, press releases, and some printed ephemera. The bulk of correspondence related to the *Second International Exhibition of Pilot Galleries* and Dilexi Gallery's *G. O. P. Show* (1964) can be found in the collection's correspondence files. Also included are three oversized Dilexi exhibition posters for artists Richard Shaw, William Dubin, and Fred Martin; and one advertising poster by Ron Nagle.

Box 1, Folder 1	Artists, Jeremy Anderson, 1962-1965
Box 1, Folder 2	Artists, Jess Collins, 1960-1968
Box 1, Folder 3	Artists, William Dubin, 1966-1968
Box 1, Folder 4	Artists, Mixed Papers, 1960-1967, undated
Box 1, Folder 5-7	Correspondence, 1959-1965
Box 2, Folder 1-4	Correspondence, 1966-1969, undated
Box 2, Folder 5	Exhibitions, Second International Exhibition of Pilot Galleries (1966), 1966
Box 2, Folder 6	Exhibitions, Mixed Papers, 1962-1968
Oversize 3	Posters, Ron Nagle and Dilexi Gallery, 1969
Box 2, Folder 7	Press Releases, Other Museums and Galleries, 1959, 1966-1967

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