



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts Records, 1973-2005, bulk 1974-1987, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts records
Date:	1973-2005 (bulk 1974-1987)
Identifier:	AAA.fibecenf
Creator:	Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts
Extent:	3.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts records measure 3.2 linear feet and date from 1973-2005, with the bulk of the records dating from 1974-1987. The collection documents the textile arts school, gallery, and studio through administrative records, photographs, printed matter, and audiovisual material. Records include meeting minutes; photographs of artwork, events, and the Fiberworks community; brochures, announcements, newsletters, and clippings; and sound and video recordings from symposiums, lectures, and interviews.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Gyongyi Laky, founder of Fiberworks, in 2006.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid written by Christopher DeMairo in 2019.

Preferred Citation

Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts records, 1973-2005. 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.

Researchers interested in accessing audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

Fiberworks Center for the Textile Arts was a textile arts school in Berkley, California, established in 1973 by artist Gyöngy Laky. Fiberworks operated a studio, a gallery, and a school until 1987.

Fiberworks held exhibitions and symposiums, housed resident-artists, and organized workshops, adult education classes, and trips all over the world for interested textile artists. Additionally, Fiberworks partnered first with Lone Mountain College in San Francisco, California, and then with John F. Kennedy University in Pleasant Hill, California, to provide an M.F.A. degree.

Scope and Contents

The Fiberworks, Center for the Textile Arts records measure 3.2 linear feet and date from 1973-2005, with the bulk of the records dating from 1974-1987. The collection documents the textile arts school, gallery, and studio through administrative records, photographs, printed matter, and audiovisual material. Records include meeting minutes; photographs of artwork, events, and the Fiberworks community; brochures, announcements, newsletters, and clippings; and sound and video recordings from symposiums, lectures, and interviews.

Administrative records include meeting minutes from the board of trustees and advisory committee as well as an exhibition file. Printed material includes exhibition announcements, posters, and catalogs; event posters and schedules; Fiberworks course catalogs and brochures; publications; and clippings. Photographs and slides depict artwork, exhibition installations, and events. Also included is a series composed of papers, photographs, video, and sound recordings from Fiberworks symposiums as well as recordings of interviews and lectures hosted by the organization.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 4 series.

- Series 1: Administrative Records, 1974-1987
- Series 2: Symposiums, Lectures, and Interviews, circa 1978-1989
- Series 3: Printed Material, 1973-2005, bulk 1974-1987
- Series 4: Photographs, 1974-1987

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Fiber artists -- California

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings
Video recordings

Names:

Laky, Gyöngy, 1944-

Functions:

Art Schools -- California

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Records, 1974-1987

8 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: This series includes meeting minutes for the board of trustees and advisory committee, and exhibition papers composed of some printed material, artwork insurance papers, correspondence, and photographs.

Box 1, Folder 1 Advisory Committee, 1975-1978

Box 1, Folder 2 Official Book of Minutes, 1974-1979

Box 1, Folder 3-5 Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1977-1987

Box 1, Folder 6-7 Exhibitions, 1977-1987

Box 1, Folder 8 Historical, Miscellaneous, 1977-1985

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Series 2: Symposiums, Lectures, and Interviews, 1978-1989

0.9 Linear feet (Boxes 1, 4-5)

Scope and Contents: This series includes papers, slides, photographs, and a videocassette from a 1978 Fiberworks "Symposium on Contemporary Art," as well as audio recordings of lectures, interviews, and a panel discussion.

Box 1, Folder 9-10	Symposium on Contemporary Art, 1978
Box 1, Folder 11	Symposium on Contemporary Art, 1978 1 Videocassettes (U-matic)
Box 4, Item 1	Al-Hilali, Neda, Interview, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 2	Austin, Carole, "Context, Concept, Process", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 3	Brandford, Joanne, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 4	Connor, Marandel, Seeman-Robinson, "Influences: Artists in Fiber/of Fiber", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 5	Constantine, Mildred, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 6	Graffin, Daniel, 1979 October 5 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 7	Jacobs, Ferne, Interview, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 8	Kozel, Ina, Interview, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 9	Larsen, D. conversation with Laky, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 10	Mah, Chere Lai, "Air" Lecture, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 11	O'banion, Nance, "Air" Lecture, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 12	Seventy, Sylvia, "Miniature" Lecture, 1981 October 30 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 13	Shaw, Kendall and Marie Lyman, undated

	1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 14	Sklandany and Malloy, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 15	Thalaker, Don, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 15	"Museum Acquisitions," III, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 16	Westphal, Katherine, "Indonesia and Singapore Through My Third Eye", 1979 December 3 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 17	Westphal, Katherine, "Tiger Balm Garden Etc.", 1989 January 7 1 Sound cassette
Box 4, Item 18	"The Art Context Within Which We Function: Personal Imperatives", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 1	"The Changing Nature of Loom Weaving", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 2	"Development of an Art Form", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 3	"Education/Future Approaches", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 4	"Museum Acquisitions," I & II, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 5	"Origins Transformed", undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 6-8	Symposium, "Perspectives on Pattern", 1981 January 10 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 9	Symposium, Press Conference, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 10	Fiberworks Conference, Marge Goldstein, John Steinbacher, Cynthia Shira, Jim Melzhert; Lia Cook, Mark Trieb, Mary Zlot, Louise Aurich, Ann Kaiser, 1982 January 9 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 11	Fiberworks Conference, Ann Kaiser; Panel Discussion, 1982 January 9 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 12	Fiberworks Conference, Keynote Speaker Max Protech, 1982 January 9

1 Sound cassette

Box 5, Item 13	Fiberworks Conference, Panel Discussion, 1982 January 9 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 14	Panel Discussion, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 5, Item 15-16	Unidentified, undated 1 Sound cassette

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Series 3: Printed Material, 1973-2005 (bulk 1974-1987)

1 Linear foot (Boxes 1-2, BV 6)

Scope and Contents: Printed material includes exhibition announcements, catalogs, and posters; event posters and schedules; travel brochures; workshop and course catalogs and listings; clippings; Fiberworks published booklets; and a bound volume used for public relations.

Box 1, Folder 12	Course Brochures , 1974-1980s
Box 1, Folder 13-15	Ephemera, circa 1974-1976
Box 1, Folder 16-25	Event Announcements and Brochures, 1974-1987
Box 1, Folder 26-41	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1973-1987, undated
Box 1, Folder 42	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, Fiberworks Students, 1974-1980s
Box 2, Folder 1	Fiberfinder: A Guide to Bay Area Sources, by Nance O'Banion and Cindy Sagen, ed., Mildred Howard, 1977, 1984
Box 2, Folder 2-3	Newsletter, 1979-1987
Box 2, Folder 4	Slide Packet Series: "Textiles in Ritual and Performance," by Tina Martin, 1980
Box 2, Folder 5	Slide Packet Series: "Wax Resist," by Tina Martin, 1980
Box 2, Folder 6	Slide Packet Series: "Plaiting," by Tina Martin, 1980
Box 2, Folder 7	Slide Packet Series: Textiles as Containers," by Tina Martin, 1980
Box 2, Folder 8-9	Articles on Fiberworks, circa 1975-1987, 2005
Volume 6	Fiberworks Scrapbook, Public Relations, undated

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Series 4: Photographs, 1974-1987

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 2-3)

Scope and Contents: Series is comprised of photographs and slides documenting events, artwork, exhibitions, and the Fiberworks community. Also included are slides of Fiberworks M.F.A. student projects, and a booklet containing images from exhibitions.

Box 2, Folder 10-11	Artwork and Exhibitions, 1970s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 12	Fiberworks Events and Community, 1970s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 13-15	Slide Library: Exhibitions Through 1983, 1973-1983
Box 2, Folder 16-18	Slide Library: Exhibitions, 1980-1987
Box 2, Folder 19	Exhibition Booklet, circa 1978
Box 3, Folder 1-3	M.F.A. Graduates' Artwork, 1974-1978

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