Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Virginia Field papers, 1951-1973, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2023/06/13

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Virginia Field papers
Date:	1951-1973
Identifier:	AAA.fielvirg
Creator:	Field, Virginia
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of arts administrator Virginia Field measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1951 to 1973. The material concerns Field's association with the American Federation of Arts, Asia House, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Found are business records relating to grants, correspondence, photographs, printed material, and writings. Of note are illustrated letters by John Von Wicht and a photograph of Andy Warhol with Richard Brown Baker.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Virginia Field, 1981-1988.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reel 2804 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. 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 papers were microfilmed on reel 2804 after receipt. The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Virginia Field papers, 1951-1973. 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

Arts administrator Virginia Field was active in New York City, New York. She served as assistant director for Asia House.

Scope and Contents

The papers of arts administrator Virginia Field measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1951 to 1973. The material concerns Field's association with the American Federation of Arts, Asia House, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Found are business records relating to grants, correspondence, photographs, printed material, and writings. Of note are illustrated letters by John Von Wicht and a photograph of Andy Warhol with Richard Brown Baker.

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:

Names:

American Federation of Arts
Baker, Richard Brown
Von Wicht, John, 1888-1970
Warhol, Andy, 1928-1987

Occupations:

Arts administrators -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Virginia Field Papers, 1951-1973

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Business records consist of grant applications and written reports for the American Federation of Arts, Asia House, and National Endowment for the Arts. The bulk of Field's correspondence is with arts institutions and organizations. Of note are illustrated letters from John Von Wicht to Field. Von Wicht writes of exhibiting his work, of seeing Field in New York, and of her newsletter. In the last letter of 1968, written two years before his death, he writes of being in the hospital, returning home soon, and returning to work. Photographs include a photo of Von Wicht by I. Grippe and a snapshot of Andy Warhol peeking through a Henry Moore sculpture at the Museum of Modern Art with Richard Brown Baker taken by Field. Clippings and newsletters concern various arts organizations. Writings include a report by Field for the American Federation of Arts domestic exhibition program, a notebook, and loose notes.

Box 1, Folder 1	Business Records, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1951-1973
Box 1, Folder 3	Photographs, 1963-1966
Box 1, Folder 4	Printed Material, 1955-1973
Box 1, Folder 5	Writings and Notes, 1963

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