A Finding Aid to the Galerie Darthea Speyer Records, 1953-2010, in the Archives of American Art

Erin Kinhart
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Galerie Darthea Speyer records
Identifier: AAA.galedars
Date: 1953-2010
Extent: 17.2 Linear feet
1.58 Gigabytes
Creator: Galerie Darthea Speyer (Paris, France)
Language: English
Summary: The records of Galerie Darthea Speyer measure 17.2 linear feet and 1.58 GB and date from 1953 to 2010. The majority of the collection consists of artists' files containing a wide variety of materials documenting the Paris gallery's relationship with American and European artists, as well as gallery exhibitions. Also found are scattered financial records, guestbooks, documentation on the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome art collection, exhibition announcements, posters, and additional photographs.

Administrative Information

Provenance
Records were donated in 2010 by Emmanuelle Gelzer, owner of Galerie Darthea Speyer.

Related Material
Also found in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Darthea Speyer conducted by Paul Cummings, June 28, 1976.

Processing Information
The collection was processed to an intermediate level and a finding aid prepared by Erin Kinhart in 2011. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2019 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
Use of original papers requires an appointment.
Ownership and Literary Rights

The Galerie Darthea Speyer records are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Historical Note

Galerie Darthea Speyer was founded in 1968 by Darthea Speyer at 6, rue Jacques Callot, Paris, France. The gallery was notable for promoting American painting and sculpture in France until it closed in 2009.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Darthea Speyer began collecting art at the age of 15. She studied art history at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and in 1950 went to Paris as a cultural attaché for the United States Information Services (USIS). In 1953 she helped organize the exhibition 12 Modern American Painters and Sculptors at the Musée National D’Art Moderne, a show that initiated a change in the way Europeans viewed American Art. While working for the USIS, Speyer founded the Centre Culturel Americain where she gave many American artists their first European exhibition. She continued to work for the USIS until 1965.

Speyer opened Galerie Darthea Speyer during the May 1968 riots in Paris with an inaugural show of works by Deborah Remington. The gallery was designed by her brother, A. James Speyer, and primarily exhibited sculpture and paintings by Americans, as well as works by some European artists. Over the next 40 years Darthea Speyer remained a powerful advocate for American artists in the European market.

Scope and Content Note

The records of Galerie Darthea Speyer measure 17.2 linear feet and 1.58 GB and date from 1953 to 2010. The majority of the collection consists of artists’ files containing a wide variety of materials documenting the Paris gallery’s relationship with American and European artists, as well as gallery exhibitions. Also found are scattered financial records, guestbooks, documentation on the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome art collection, exhibition announcements, posters, and additional photographs.

Artists’ files are varied but may contain biographical materials, correspondence and business records, printed materials, photographs, digital photographs, and slides. Correspondence is with artists and others primarily concerning the exhibition or sale of the artists’ work. Also filed with the correspondence are other scattered business records regarding the artists’ dealing with the gallery including exhibition documents and sales records. Photographs depict artists, artwork, exhibition installations and exhibition openings at Galerie Darthea Speyer. Printed material includes exhibition announcements, catalogs, and extensive press clippings. Files for prominent American artists such as Roy De Forest, Beauford Delaney, Llyn Foulkes, Leon Golub, Sam Gilliam, Richard Luboski, Ed Paschke, Peter Saul, Deborah Remington, and others, document a long relationship between the artist and the gallery.

This collection also includes scattered financial records from 2000 to 2002. Eight gallery guestbooks, and documentation on the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome art collection, which was organized by Darthea Speyer.

Printed material consists of posters and Galerie Darthea Speyer exhibition announcements. Included with the exhibition announcements are lists of exhibitions by year. Many of the posters advertise exhibitions organized by Darthea Speyer at the Musée National D’Art Moderne and Centre Culturel Americain, including 12 Modern American Painters and Sculptors (1953). Additional posters advertise exhibitions at
Galerie Darthea Speyer and elsewhere for artists such as Leon Golub, Beauford Delaney, Ed Paschke, Peter Saul, Hugh Weiss, and several others.

Photographs include an unidentified exhibition opening, exhibition installations at Galerie Darthea Speyer, and artwork.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series:

• Series 1: Artists’ Files, 1955-2010 (Boxes 1-15; 14.8 linear feet, ER01-ER07; 1.58 GB)
• Series 2: Financial Records, 2000-2002 (Box 15; 6 folders)
• Series 3: Guestbooks, 1997-2009 (Box 16; 8 folders)
• Series 4: Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome Art Collection, circa 1980s-2009 (Box 16; 4 folders)
• Series 5: Printed Material, 1953-2008 (Boxes 16, 17, OV 19-22; 0.8 linear feet)
• Series 6: Photographs, circa 1960s-1970s (Boxes 17-18; 0.7 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Art galleries, Commercial -- France -- Paris

Types of Materials:
Photographs
Visitors’ books

Names:
De Forest, Roy, 1930-2007
Delany, Beauford, 1901-
Foulkes, Llyn, 1934-
Gilliam, Sam
Golub, Leon, 1922-2004
Luboski, Richard, 1934-
Musée national d'art moderne (France)
Paschke, Ed
Remington, Deborah
Saul, Peter, 1934-
Speyer, Darthea
Weiss, Hugh, 1925-
Series 1: Artists' Files, 1955-2010

(Boxes 1-15; 14.8 linear feet, ER01-07; 1.58 GB)

Artists' files are varied for each artist, but may include biographical material, correspondence, gallery business records, photographs, digital photographs, slides, and printed material. Biographical material may include bibliographies, resumes, and chronologies. Correspondence is with artists and others primarily concerning the exhibition or sale of the artists' work. Found with the correspondence are other scattered business records regarding the artists' dealing with the gallery, such as shipping and sales documents, planning documents for exhibitions, and price lists. Photographs, slides, and transparencies include photographs of the artists, artwork, exhibition installations and exhibition openings at Galerie Darthea Speyer. Printed material includes exhibition announcements, catalogs, and extensive press clippings about the artists.

The gallery maintained extensive files for prominent American artists such as Roy De Forest, Beauford Delaney, Llyn Foulkes, Leon Golub, Sam Gilliam, Richard Luboski, Ed Paschke, Peter Saul, Deborah Remington, and others, often documenting a long relationship between the artist and the gallery.

Files are arranged alphabetically by artist's name. Documents within each file are arranged in rough chronological order. The gallery kept correspondence and other business records for each artist within one set of files, and that original arrangement has been maintained.

Box 1, Folder 1-3  Alex, Kosta, 1966-1975
(3 folders)

Box 1, Folder 4  Arnold, Anne, circa 1971-1972

Box 1, Folder 5-10  Baum, Don, 1981-2007
(6 folders)

Box 1, Folder 11  Berlant, Tony, 1974-1978

Box 1, Folder 12-13  Beasley, Bruce, 1970-1973
(2 folders)

Box 1, Folder 14-17  Brown, Roger, 1970-1994
(4 folders)

Box 1, Folder 18  Burchman, Jerrold, 1972-1978

Box 1, Folder 19  Canin, Martin, 1972-1973

Box 1, Folder 20-22  Carlson, Cynthia, 1967-1977
(3 folders)

Box 1, Folder 23-24  Cei, Marcos, 2001
Box 1, Folder 25  Comby, 1970-1971

Box 1, Folder 26-30  Day, John, 1962-1972  
(5 folders)

Box 1, Folder 31-34  Dean, Peter, 1971-circa 2000  
(4 folders)

Box 2, Folder 1-7  De Forest, Roy, 1972-2007  
(7 folders)

Box 2, Folder 8  Biographical Documentation, circa 1992-2002  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 9  Correspondence, 1969-1973  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 10  Correspondence, 1973-1979  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 11  Correspondence, 1991-2001  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 12  Correspondence, 1993-2003  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 13  Correspondence, 1993-1998  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 14  Correspondence, 1994-1999  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 15  Correspondence, 1992-2001  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 16  Correspondence, 1972, 1991-2002  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 17  Exhibition Files, "The Color Yellow: Beauford Delaney", 2001-2003  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 18  Exhibition Files, "The Color Yellow: Beauford Delaney", 2001-2003
Box 2, Folder 19  Photographs, 1972-1973

Box 2, Folder 20  Photographs, circa 1970-1990s

Box 2, Folder 21  Photographs, circa 1972-1990s

Box 2, Folder 22  Printed Material, circa 1963-1997

Box 2, Folder 23  Printed Material, 1961-2004

Box 2, Folder 24  Printed Material, 1960-1988

Box 2, Folder 25  Slides and Transparencies, circa 1973-1999

Box 2, Folder 26-29  Delfino, Leonardo, 1968-2000
(4 folders)

Box 3, Folder 1-2  Delfino, Leonardo, 1968-2000
(2 folders)

Box 3, Folder 8  Miscellaneous Documentation, circa 1991-2010

Box 3, Folder 9-11  Photographs, 1990-2007

Folder ER01  Photographs of Sculptures, Digital Photographs, 2007
0.29 Gigabytes (82 computer files)

Box 3, Folder 12-13  Printed Material, circa 1991-2010
(3 folders)

Box 3, Folder 14  Slides, circa 1990s-2005
Box 3, Folder 15  Transparencies, circa 1990s-2005

Box 3, Folder 16-22  Ferrer, Rafael, 1974-2001  
(7 folders)

Box 3, Folder  4  Llyn, Foulkes

Box 3, Folder 23-27  Correspondence and Business Records, 1967-2000  
(5 folders)

Box 3, Folder 28  Miscellaneous Documentation, 1976-1996

Box 3, Folder 29  Photographs, circa 1966-2001

Box 4, Folder 1-2  Printed Material, circa 1966-2001  
(2 folders)

Box 4, Folder 3  Slides and Transparencies, 1973-1985

Box 4, Folder 4-6  Fromboluti, Iona, circa 1990s-2004

Folder ER02  Photographs of Iona Fromboluti, Digital Photographs, 2003  
0.001 Gigabytes (Two computer files)

Folder ER03  Paintings by Iona Fromboluti, Digital Photographs, 2003-2004  
0.09 Gigabytes (22 computer files)

Box 4, Folder  4  Fromboluti, Sideo

Box 4, Folder 7-11  Correspondence and Business Records, 1969-2003  
(5 folders)

Box 4, Folder 12-14  Photographs, circa 1969-2003  
(3 folders)

Box 4, Folder 15-17  Printed Material, circa 1969-2000  
(3 folders)

Box 4, Folder 18  Slides, circa 1969-2000

Box 4, Folder 19  Transparencies, circa 1969-2000

Box 4, Folder 20-21  Georges, Paul, 1988-1995  
(2 folders)
Box 4, Folder 22-25  Gilhooly, David, 1975-1986  
(4 folders)

Box 4, Folder 26-30  Correspondence and Business Records, 1970-1986  
(5 folders)

Box 5, Folder 1-3  Correspondence and Business Records, 1990-2007  
(3 folders)

Box 5, Folder 4-7  Photographs, 1969-1983, circa 2007

Folder ER04  Artwork by Sam Gilliam, Digital Photographs, 2006-2007  
1.04 Gigabytes (98 computer files)

Box 5, Folder 8  Price Lists, circa 1978-1986

Box 5, Folder 9-11  Printed Material, 1970-2007  
(3 folders)

Box 5, Folder 12  Slides, circa 1970s-1990s

Box 5, Folder 13  Transparencies, circa 1970s-1980s

Box 5, Folder Golub, Leon

Box 5, Folder 14  Biographies and Curriculum Vitae, 1970s-2001

Box 5, Folder 15-26  Correspondence and Business Records, 1965-1997  
(12 folders)

Box 6, Folder 1-7  Correspondence and Business Records, 1998-2005  
(7 folders)

Box 6, Folder 8-10  Photographs, circa 1960s-1990s  
(3 folders)

Box 6, Folder 11-17  Printed Material, 1960-2007  
(7 folders)

Box 6, Folder 18  Slides, circa 1970s-2000s

Box 6, Folder 19  Transparencies, circa 1990s-2000s
Box 6, Folder 20-30  Granet, Roseline, 1974-1997
(11 folders)

Box 7, Folder 1-8  Granet, Roseline, circa 1974-2007
(8 folders; contains born-digital records, see ER05)

Folder ER05  Artwork by Roseline Granet (2005-2007), Digital Video Recording and Photographs, 2005
0.111 Gigabytes (167 computer files)

Box 7, Folder 9-11  Green, Art, 1969-1974
(3 folders)

Box 7, Folder 12-14  Hill, Clinton, 1972-1981
(3 folders)

Box 7, Folder 15  Hilson, Douglas, 1973-1975

Box 7, Folder 16  Hosiasson, Philippe, circa 1989-1990

Box 7, Folder 17  Hull, Richard, 1989-1992

Box 7, Folder 18  Isham, Sheila, 1971-1980

Box 7, Folder 19  Kauffman, Craig, Correspondence, 1970-1973
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 20  Kauffman, Craig, Correspondence, 1973-1980, 1998
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 21  Kauffman, Craig, Biographies, Clippings, and Photographs, circa 1973-1983
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 22  Kauffman, Craig, Photographic Material, 1970s
Image(s)

(4 folders)

Box 7, Folder 27-32  Lee, Caroline, 1958-1976
(6 folders)

Box 7, Folder 33  Locascio, Peter, 1990-1991

Box 7, Folder 34-35  Luboski, Richard, 1962-1982
Box 8, Folder 1-5  Luboski, Richard, 1962-1982
(5 folders)

Box 8, Folder 6-10  Madden, Anne, 1965-1979
(5 folders)

Box 8, Folder 11-16  Palmore, Tom, 1971-1995
(6 folders)

Box 8, Folder 17  Paschke, Ed

Box 8, Folder 18-31  Bibliographies, circa 1980s-1993

Box 9, Folder 1-3  Correspondence and Business Records, 1971-2002
(14 folders)

Box 9, Folder 4  Interview Transcript, 1998

Box 9, Folder 5-6  Photographs, circa 1970s-2005

Folder ER06  Artwork by Ed Paschke, Digital Photographs, 2004
0.045 Gigabytes (Five computer files)

Folder ER07  Ed Paschke, Digital Presentation, 2002-2005
0.045 Gigabytes (Five computer files; See the AUTOPLAY.EXE file to access contents.)

Box 9, Folder 7-9  Printed Material, 1970-2005
(3 folders)

Box 9, Folder 10  Writings about Ed Paschke, 1989

Box 9, Folder 11-18  Pierluca, 1965-1979
(8 folders)

Box 9, Folder 19-26  Pikoula, Vassiliki, circa 1974-1989
(8 folders)

Box 10, Folder 1-3  Pikoula, Vassiliki, circa 1974-1989
(3 folders)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Name and Dates</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>10, 4</td>
<td>Poncet, Antoine, 1997-2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>10, 5-13</td>
<td>Remington, Deborah, 1965-circa 1993 (9 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 14</td>
<td>Rossi, Barbara, circa 1973-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, Saul</td>
<td>Saul, Peter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 15</td>
<td>Biographical Material, circa 1972-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 16-24</td>
<td>Correspondence and Business Records, 1969-2007 (9 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 25-27</td>
<td>Photographs, circa 1965-1990s (3 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 1-6</td>
<td>Printed Material, 1963-2009 (6 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 7</td>
<td>Slides and Transparencies, circa 1963-1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 8-9</td>
<td>Schwedler, William, 1967-1989 (2 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 10-17</td>
<td>Segal, George, 1967-1976 (8 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 18-21</td>
<td>Serrano, Pablo, circa 1977-1982 (4 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, Sigg</td>
<td>Sigg, Irmgard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 22-24</td>
<td>Correspondence and Business Records, 1981-2005 (3 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12, 1</td>
<td>Photographs, 1996-1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12, 2</td>
<td>Price Lists and Lists of Works, 1986-2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12, 3-5</td>
<td>Printed Material, 1981-2005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 12, Folder 6  Slides, 1986-2004
Box 12, Folder 7  Transparencies, circa 1990s-2000s
Box 12, Folder 8-12  Sigg, Thierry, 1984-2008
(5 folders)
Box 12, Folder  Speyer, Nora
Box 12, Folder 13-16  Correspondence and Business Records, 1968-2002
(4 folders)
Box 12, Folder 17-19  Photographs, 1956-circa 2001
(3 folders)
Box 12, Folder 20-21  Printed Material, 1955-2001
(2 folders)
Box 12, Folder 22  Slides, circa 1970s-1980s
Box 12, Folder 23-24  Transparencies, circa 1980s-1990s
(2 folders)
Box 12, Folder 25  Speyer, Tilly, 1973, circa 1970s
Box 13, Folder  Stahly, Francois
Box 13, Folder 1  Biographical Material, circa 1970s-1989
Box 13, Folder 2-7  Correspondence and Business Records, 1968-1978, 1994
(6 folders)
Box 13, Folder 8-23  Photographs, 1960s-1980s
(16 folders)
Box 13, Folder 24-27  Printed Material, circa 1956-1997
(4 folders)
Box 14, Folder 1-3  Printed Material, circa 1960-1980s
(3 folders)
Box 14, Folder 4  Slides, circa 1960s-1980s
Box 14, Folder 5-7  Tobey, Mark, circa 1970s  
(3 folders)

Box 14, Folder 8  Ursula

Box 14, Folder 9-10  Biography, 1996

Box 14, Folder 11-13  Correspondence and Business Records, 1983-2000  
(2 folders)

Box 14, Folder 14-17  Photographs, circa 1970s-1990s  
(3 folders)

Box 14, Folder 18-19  Printed Material, circa 1969-2000  
(4 folders)

Box 14, Folder 20-27  Slides and Transparencies, circa 1990s  
(2 folders)

Box 15, Folder 1  Viswanadhan, Velu, 1977-2006  
(8 folders)

Box 15, Folder 2-5  Weiss, Hugh, circa 1974-1995  
(4 folders)

Box 15, Folder 6-8  Zapkus, Kes, circa 1973-1988  
(3 folders)

Box 15, Folder 9  Correspondence and Business Records, 1985-1989

Box 15, Folder 10-14  Photographs, 1968-1993  
(5 folders)

(2 folders)

Box 15, Folder 17  Slides, circa 1974-2005

Box 15, Folder 18  Transparencies, circa 1970s-2000s

(Box 15; 6 folders)

This series contains scattered financial records from 2000 to 2002. Included are inventories, account statements, tax records, shipping records, and correspondence regarding finances. Documents in this series are in French.

(6 folders)
Series 3: Guestbooks, 1997-2009

(Box 16; 8 folders)

Found here are eight gallery guestbooks. Each book documents at least a year of exhibitions at the gallery and includes notes and signatures from visitors. Exhibition announcements are pasted within the books to indicate the opening of new exhibitions.

Guestbooks are arranged chronologically.

Box 16, Folder 1-8  Guestbooks, 1997-2009
(8 volumes)
Series 4: Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome Art Collection, circa 1980s-2009

(Box 16; 4 folders)

This series contains documentation of the works of art that were selected by Darthea Speyer for the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome hotel. Found here is a contract, press releases which include lists of artists in the collection, new clippings documenting the hotel's opening, and photographs and transparencies of artwork. Documents in this series are in French.

Box 16, Folder 9  "Bon de Commande", circa 2001
Box 16, Folder 10  Press Releases and Clippings, 2002-2009
Box 16, Folder 11  Photographs of Artwork, circa 2000s
Box 16, Folder 12  Transparencies, circa 1980s-2000s

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Series 5: Printed Material, 1953-2008

(Boxes 16, 17, OV 19-22; 0.8 linear feet)

Printed material consists of posters and Galerie Darthea Speyer exhibition announcements. Included with the exhibition announcements are lists of exhibitions by year. Researchers should note that this set of announcements is incomplete. Additional announcements and catalogs may be found within Series 1: Artists' Files. Many of the posters advertise exhibitions organized by Darthea Speyer at the Musee National D'Art Moderne and Centre Culturel Americain, including 12 Modern American Painters and Sculptors (1953). Additional posters advertise exhibitions at Galerie Darthea Speyer and elsewhere for artists such as Leon Golub, Beauford Delaney, Ed Paschke, Peter Saul, Hugh Weiss, and several others.

Exhibition announcements and posters for exhibitions at Musee National D'Art Moderne and Centre Culturel Americain are arranged chronologically. Additional posters are arranged alphabetically by artist.

Box 16, Folder 13-18  Exhibition Announcements, 1968-2003
                     (6 folders)

Box 17, Folder 1    Exhibition Announcements, 2004-2008

Box OV 19, Folder   Posters, Musee National D'Art Moderne, 1953-1964

Box OV 20, Folder   Posters, Centre Culturel Americain, 1958-1963


Box OV 22, Folder   Posters, Alphabetical by Artist, P-Z, 1960-2001

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Series 6: Photographs, circa 1960s-1970s

*(Boxes 17-18; 0.7 linear feet)*

Photographs include an unidentified exhibition opening, exhibition installations at Galerie Darthea Speyer, and numerous photographs of artwork. Also found are a few photographs of Beauford Delaney and several of his paintings. Most of the photographs of exhibition installations include handwritten annotations with the name and date of exhibition. Researchers should note that many additional photographs can be found in Series 1: Artists files.

| Box 17, Folder 2 | Unidentified Exhibition Opening, circa 1970s |
| Box 17, Folder 3-7 | Exhibition Installations, Identified, 1968-1977  
*(5 folders)* |
| Box 17, Folder 8-10 | Exhibition Installations, Unidentified, circa 1968-1977  
*(3 folders)* |
| Box 18, Folder 1 | Beauford Delaney and Artwork, circa 1970s |
| Box 18, Folder 2 | Beauford Delaney and Artwork, Negatives, circa 1972 |
| Box 18, Folder 3-5 | Photographs of Artwork, circa 1960s-1970s  
*(3 folders)* |
| Box 18, Folder 6-7 | Photographs of Artwork, Negatives, circa 1960s-1970s  
*(2 folders)* |