



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Gallery 256 Records, 1954-1955, in the Archives of American Art

Ricky Gomez

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Gallery 256 records
Date:	1954-1955
Identifier:	AAA.gall256
Creator:	Gallery 256 (Provincetown, Mass.)
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered records of the Provincetown, Massachusetts cooperative Gallery 256 measure 0.2 linear feet and cover the gallery's brief period of existence from 1953 to 1955. Administrative records include a list of member addresses, a statement of the gallery's legal status, financial records, and an attendance book. Also found are printed material and a several photos of artwork.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Archives of American Art by Myron Stout, who served as secretary of Gallery 256.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Ricky Gomez in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Gallery 256 records, 1954-1955. 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

Gallery 256 was a cooperative art gallery in Provincetown, Massachusetts, housed under the movie house next to town hall for a brief period from 1953-1955. The gallery aimed to display "paintings and sculpture expressing significant trends in contemporary American art," and members included Will Barnet, Cameron Booth, Leo Manso, Louise Nevelson, and Hale Woodruff.

Scope and Contents

The scattered records of the Provincetown, Massachusetts cooperative Gallery 256 measure 0.2 linear feet and cover the gallery's brief period of existence from 1953 to 1955. Administrative records include a list of member addresses, a statement of the gallery's legal status, financial records, and an attendance book. Also found are printed material and a several photos of artwork.

Arrangement

The collection is 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:

Barnet, Will, 1911-2012
Booth, Cameron, 1892-1980
Manso, Leo
Nevelson, Louise, 1899-1988
Woodruff, Hale, 1900-1980

Functions:

Artist-run galleries -- Massachusetts -- Provincetown

Container Listing

Series 1: Gallery 256 Records, 1954-1955

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Series includes a list of addresses of members Will Barnet, Henry A. Botkin, Byron Browne, Peter Busa, Kenneth Campbell, Victor Candell, Eve Clendenin, Lawrence Kupferman, Leo Manso, Seong Moy, Louise Nevelson, Therese Schwartz, Myron S. Stout, John Von Wicht and Hale Woodruff. Other administrative records include a statement regarding the legal status of "Group 256" as a voluntary association and its relationship to "Gallery 256," and an attendance book containing names and addresses.

Financial records include an account book of member expenses, dues, and commissions; a ledger of sales and attendance; a bank checkbook and deposit slip; and 4 cancelled checks, 2 invoices, and 2 financial statements of receipts and disbursements. Also found is a file on Louise Nevelson containing a magazine clipping, an exhibition announcement, and one photograph each of the following sculptures: "The Figure that Walked on the Mountain Tops," "Figure from the Great Beyond," "Portrait of a Friend," and "Ancient Cat Form."

Box 1, Folder 1	Statement Relating to "Group 256", circa 1954
Box 1, Folder 2	Louise Nevelson, 1954
Box 1, Folder 3	Attendance Book, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Addresses of Members, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Account Book, 1954
Box 1, Folder 6	Bank Check Book, 1954-1955
Box 1, Folder 7	Cancelled Checks, 1954
Box 1, Folder 8	Invoices, 1955
Box 1, Folder 9	Financial Statements, 1954
Box 1, Folder 10	Ledger of Sales, undated

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