



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Nancy Goldring Papers,  
circa 1950-2015, in the Archives of American Art

Hilary Price

2016 June 20

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	3
Container Listing .....	4
Series 1: Biographical Material, 1957-2014.....	4
Series 2: Correspondence, 1962-2015.....	5
Series 3: Writings, circa 1955-2014.....	8
Series 4: Project and Exhibition Files, 1970-2015.....	9
Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1950-2015.....	11
Series 6: Scrapbooks, 1955-circa 1956.....	13
Series 7: Artwork, circa 2006.....	14
Series 8: Photographic Material, circa 1955-2015.....	15
Series 9: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1967-2020.....	16

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Nancy Goldring papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.goldnanc
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1950-2020
<b>Extent:</b>	5.1 Linear feet 0.213 Gigabytes
<b>Creator:</b>	Goldring, N. (Nancy)
<b>Language:</b>	English; Italian
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of New York artist Nancy Goldring measure 5.1 linear feet and 0.213 GB and date from circa 1950-2020. Her career and personal life are documented through biographical material; personal and professional correspondence; writings; project and exhibition files; printed and digital material; scrapbooks; artwork; and photographic material. Notable correspondents include Lawrence Alloway, Robert Lax, and Leo Steinberg. There is a 0.4 linear foot unprocessed addition to this collection donated in 2020 that includes printed material, artwork, correspondence (emails, handmade cards), poetry, photographs of friends and family, and misc. Materials date from circa 1967-2020.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Nancy Goldring donated her papers to the Archives of American Art in 2015 and 2021.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimal level and a finding aid prepared by Hilary Price in 2016. Born-digital material was processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2019 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

### Preferred Citation

Nancy Goldring papers, circa 1950-2020. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

## Terms of Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the [Smithsonian's Terms of Use](#) for additional information.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Nancy Goldring (1945- ) is an American artist working in New York. Raised in St. Louis, Missouri where her father was a professor of cardiology at Washington University, Goldring attended Smith College, receiving a BA in art history in 1967. She spent a year in Italy on a Fulbright fellowship and was later enrolled in the MFA program at New York University. She has been teaching at Montclair State University since the early 1970s. In 1994, Goldring traveled in India and Sri Lanka on another Fulbright fellowship.

In 1969, Goldring co-founded SITE (Sculpture in the Environment) with several other artists interested in developing public art projects. Within a few years, Goldring moved on to explore other forms of artmaking and subsequently developed a technique she calls "foto-projection" which combines photography, drawing, models, and slide projection. She is influenced by travel, location, memory.

---

## Scope and Contents

The papers of New York artist Nancy Goldring measure 5.1 linear feet and 0.213 GB and date from circa 1950-2020. Her career and personal life are documented through biographical material; personal and professional correspondence; writings; project and exhibition files; printed and digital material; scrapbooks; artwork; and photographic material. Notable correspondents include Lawrence Alloway, Robert Lax, and Leo Steinberg. There is a 0.4 linear foot unprocessed addition to this collection donated in 2020 that includes printed material, artwork, correspondence (emails, handmade cards), poetry, photographs of friends and family, and misc. Materials date from circa 1967-2020.

---

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as nine series

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1957-2014 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1962-2015 (1.2 linear feet; Box 1-2)
- Series 3: Writings, circa 1955-2014 (0.3 linear feet; Box 2)
- Series 4: Project and Exhibition Files, 1970-2015 (0.5 linear feet; Box 2-3)
- Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1950-2015 (1.6 linear feet; Box 3-4, OV 6, 0.213 GB; ER01)
- Series 6: Scrapbooks, 1955-circa 1956 (0.3 linear feet; Box 4)
- Series 7: Artwork, circa 2006 (1 folder; OV 7)
- Series 8: Photographic Material, circa 1955-2015 (0.5 linear feet; Box 5, OV 8)
- Series 9: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1967-2020 (0.4 linear feet; Box 9)

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women artists -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Photographs  
Scrapbooks

Names:

Alloway, Lawrence, 1926-1990  
Lax, Robert  
Steinberg, Leo

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1957-2014

#### *0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Biographical material dates from 1957 to 2014 and includes address books, agendas, an autograph book from summer camp, school documents, interviews, and a resume.

Box 1, Folder 1	Address Books, 1970s
Box 1, Folder 2	Agendas, 1970-1971, 1979, 1994
Box 1, Folder 3	Autograph Book, Camp Taum Sauk, 1957
Box 1, Folder 4	Certificates and Diplomas, 1963, 1967
Box 1, Folder 5	Grades, 1966-1967
Box 1, Folder 6	Interview with Goldring by Beatrice Colormina, Transcripts, 2010
Box 1, Folder 7	Interview with Goldring by Unknown Interviewer for Museum in Beijing, China, Transcripts, 2010
Box 1, Folder 8	Resume, 2014

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 2: Correspondence, 1962-2015

### 1.2 Linear feet (Box 1-2)

Correspondence dates from 1962-2015 and is personal and professional in nature. Found here are letters, emails, postcards, holiday cards, invitations, and exhibition announcements from friends, some of whom Goldring met while traveling in Italy. Notable correspondents include Leo Steinberg whom Goldring studied with at New York University, and Robert Lax, whose letters include many poems. Also included is one letter from Lawrence Alloway. Letters and postcards sent to the Goldring family while Goldring was in Europe provide frequent and detailed descriptions of her travels. Professional correspondence is with galleries, museums, colleges, and others regarding exhibitions, articles, teaching positions, and other opportunities. The first folder includes an index created by Goldring identifying each correspondent.

Box 1, Folder 9	Correspondent Index, 2015
Box 1, Folder 10	Lawrence Alloway, 1979
Box 1, Folder 11	Alessandro Anselmi, 1977-1979
Box 1, Folder 12	A, Miscellaneous, 1983, 1976
Box 1, Folder 13	Paolo Barbero, 2005-2014
Box 1, Folder 14	H. Stafford Bryant, circa 1970-1980
Box 1, Folder 15	Jack Burnham, 1971-1976
Box 1, Folder 16	B, Miscellaneous, 2006-2015, 1978-1988
Box 1, Folder 17	Dennis Crompton, 2009-2015
Box 1, Folder 18	Roger Cutforth, 1980s
Box 1, Folder 19	C, Miscellaneous, 2002-2015, 1987
Box 1, Folder 20	Massimo d'Alessandro, 1984-2015
Box 1, Folder 21	D, Miscellaneous, 1977-2015
Box 1, Folder 22	Carlos Estevez, 2001-2015
Box 1, Folder 23	F, Miscellaneous, 2011-2015
Box 1, Folder 24	Heiner Gimmler, 1978-1983
Box 1, Folder 25	G, Miscellaneous, 2008-2014

Box 1, Folder 26	Ed Hill and Suzanne Bloom, 1990-1992
Box 1, Folder 27	H, Miscellaneous, 2010-2015, 1976-1988
Box 1, Folder 28	Robert Kaupelis, 1979-1992
Box 1, Folder 29	Udo Kultermann, 1985-1988
Box 1, Folder 30	K, Miscellaneous, circa 2000-2015
Box 1, Folder 31-32	Robert Lax, 1978-2003
Box 1, Folder 33	Gianni Martini, 2010-2015
Box 1, Folder 34	M, Miscellaneous, 2009-2014, circa 1970-1986
Box 1, Folder 35	N, Miscellaneous, 1977, 1999
Box 1, Folder 36	O, Miscellaneous, 2014-2015
Box 1, Folder 37-38	Jeffrey Paine, 1970s-2000s
Box 1, Folder 39	P, Miscellaneous, 1978-1979, 2011-2015
Box 1, Folder 40	James Rosen, 1976-1980
Box 1, Folder 41	R, Miscellaneous, 1989
Box 1, Folder 42	Anne Markham Schulz, 1968-1991
Box 1, Folder 43	Leo Steinberg, 1970s-1990s
Box 1, Folder 44	David Levi Strauss, 1998-2015
Box 2, Folder 1	S, Miscellaneous, 1970s, 2005-2015
Box 2, Folder 2	Michael Taussig, 2009-2015
Box 2, Folder 3	Jay Tolson, circa 1980-2014
Box 2, Folder 4	Michael Webb, 1978-2015



Box 2, Folder 5	Jeff Weiss, 2012-2014
Box 2, Folder 6	Peter Lamborn Wilson, circa 2001
Box 2, Folder 7	V, Miscellaneous, 1990
Box 2, Folder 8	Outgoing, Letters to Goldring Family from Israel, 1962
Box 2, Folder 9	Outgoing, Letters to Goldring Family from Italy, 1965-1967
Box 2, Folder 10	Outgoing, Postcards to Goldring Family from Italy and Europe, 1965-1967
Box 2, Folder 11	Surname or Sender Unidentified, 1970s-2000s
Box 2, Folder 12	Professional Correspondence, 1967, 1979
Box 2, Folder 13-14	Professional Correspondence, 1980s
Box 2, Folder 15	Professional Correspondence, 1990s
Box 2, Folder 16	Professional Correspondence, 2000s
Box 2, Folder 17	Professional Correspondence, 2010s
Box 2, Folder 18	Letters Regarding Goldring's Work, circa 2000-2010

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 3: Writings, circa 1955-2014

### 0.3 Linear feet (Box 2)

Writings date from circa 1955-2014 and consist of published articles and exhibition reviews, two travel diaries, a lecture, an essay written while a student at New York University, and several writings from adolescence, which include illustrated stories and literary papers. The last folder holds a writing by Jay Tolson about Goldring's work.

Box 2, Folder 19-20	Articles, 1970s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 21	Articles for Italian Magazine <i>PresS/Tletter</i> , 2009-2012
Box 2, Folder 22	Articles, 2011-2012
Box 2, Folder 23	Travel Diaries, Israel, 1962
Box 2, Folder 24	Lecture, circa 2000
Box 2, Folder 25	Exhibition Reviews, 2014, 1988, 2008
Box 2, Folder 26	Essay, "After the Curtain Falls," for Leo Steinberg's Criticism Course, circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 27	Writings from Adolescence, circa 1955-1960s
Box 2, Folder 28	Writing by Jay Tolson Regarding Goldring's Work, 1983

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 4: Project and Exhibition Files, 1970-2015

### 0.5 Linear feet (Box 2-3)

Project and exhibition files date from 1970-2015 and include correspondence, photographic material, proposals, schedules, exhibition plans, and a variety of printed material. Printed material relating to exhibitions without any corresponding primary documents is in Series 5: Printed Material. The folder titled "Montclair State University" relates to the many functions Goldring serves there, including teaching and exhibiting.

Box 2	Project Files
Box 2, Folder 29	SITE (Sculpture in the Environment), 1970-1973
Box 2, Folder 30	Montclair State University, 1970-2015
Box 2, Folder 31	Set Design for <i>ODE</i> , 1985-1988
Box 2, Folder 32	Ellis Island Project, 1989
Box 2, Folder 33	Fulbright, India and Sri Lanka, 1992-1996
Box 2	Exhibition Files
Box 2, Folder 34	<i>Image of the Home</i> (1978), Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, Nassau County Museum, New York, 1978
Box 2, Folder 35	<i>Drawings with Foto-Projections</i> (1980), SoHo 20, New York, 1980
Box 2, Folder 36	<i>Independent American Photography</i> (1980), Poland, 1980
Box 3, Folder 1	<i>The Photographer's Hand</i> (1980-1983), Traveling Exhibition, 1979-1983
Box 3, Folder 2	<i>Drawings with Foto-Projections</i> (1981), University of Haifa, Israel, 1981-1982
Box 3, Folder 3	<i>International Terra 2</i> (1981), Poland, 1981
Box 3, Folder 4	<i>Studio in Stromboli</i> (1983), Mississippi Museum of Art, 1983
Box 3, Folder 5	<i>Recent Works</i> (1988), Drury College, Missouri, 1988
Box 3, Folder 6	<i>Cibachrome Foto-Projections</i> (1991), Jayne H. Baum Gallery, New York, 1990-1991
Box 3, Folder 7	<i>Drawings and Foto-Projections</i> (1991), Meridian Gallery, San Francisco, California, 1990-1991

- Box 3, Folder 8                    *LEGEND* (1991), ALVA Gallery, New London, Connecticut, 1991-2002
- Box 3, Folder 9                    *Cibachrome Foto-Projections* (1991), Elliot Smith Gallery, St. Louis, Missouri, 1991-1992
- Box 3, Folder 10                   *Images of Myanmar* (1992), Grand Central Terminal, New York, 1991-1992
- Box 3, Folder 11                   *Distillations* (1997), Centre for Photography as an Art-Form, Mumbai, India, 1997
- Box 3, Folder 12                   *Diverse Visions//photographic perspectives* (1997), Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Pennsylvania, 1997
- Box 3, Folder 13                   *Eye of the Beholder* (1997), International Center of Photography, New York, 1997
- Box 3, Folder 14                   *Distillations: Re-Visiting South Asia* (2001), Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona Beach Community College, Florida, 2000-2001
- Box 3, Folder 15                   *Isurumuniya* (2003), Bratislava, Slovakia, 2003
- Box 3, Folder 16                   *Palimpsest* (2006), Various Iterations, 2004-2006

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1950-2015

1.6 Linear feet (Box 3-4, OV 6)

0.213 Gigabytes (ER01)

Printed material dates from circa 1950 to 2015 and includes clippings, ephemera, exhibition material, lecture announcements, periodicals, postcards, yearbooks, and posters. Ephemera is primarily from Goldring's adolescence and includes programs from high school and commencements. Exhibition material includes announcements, brochures, press, and exhibition catalogs relating to exhibitions Goldring participated in, curated, or juried. One exhibition catalog is in digital format. Periodicals are primarily magazines and journals featuring Goldring's work or reviews of her work. Goldring's postcard collection has been assembled during the course of her world travel.

Box 3, Folder 17	Clippings, circa 1950-2014
Box 3, Folder 18	Ephemera, 1958-1982
Box 3, Folder 19	Exhibition Material, 1960s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 20-21	Exhibition Material, 1980s
Box 3, Folder 22-24	Exhibition Material, 1990s
Box 3, Folder 25-26	Exhibition Material, 2000s <i>Includes born-digital materials, see ER01</i>
Folder ER01	<i>Snapshot, An Exhibition of 1,000 Artists, Contemporary Museum, Baltimore, MD (November 2000-January 2001), Digital Photographs and Documents, 2000</i> <i>0.213 Gigabytes (One computer file; See the READ ME file to access contents.)</i>
Box 3, Folder 27-28	Exhibition Material, 2010s
Box 3, Folder 29	Lecture Announcements, 1984-2004
Box 3, Folder 30	Periodicals, 1980s
Box 4, Folder 1-2	Periodicals, 1990s
Box 4, Folder 3	Periodicals, 2000s
Box 4, Folder 4	Periodicals, 2010s
Box 4, Folder 5-6	Postcards, 1960s-2000s
Box 4, Folder 7-9	Yearbooks, 1962-1964

Box OV 6

Posters, 1981-2012

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 6: Scrapbooks, 1955-circa 1956

### *0.3 Linear feet (Box 4)*

Two scrapbooks from Goldring's adolescence date from 1955 and circa 1956. One is titled "Sixth Grade Memories," and contains drawings and signatures from classmates. The other is untitled and incorporates a variety of printed material and ephemera. Many items are not affixed to the page, but placed in between the pages.

Box 4, Folder 10	Scrapbook, 1955
Box 4, Folder 11	"Sixth Grade Memories", circa 1956

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 7: Artwork, circa 2006

*1 Folder (OV 7)*

Artwork dates from circa 2006 and includes preliminary sketches and photographic collages.

Box OV 7

Sketches and Test Prints, circa 2006

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*



## Series 8: Photographic Material, circa 1955-2015

*0.5 Linear feet (Box 5, OV 8)*

Photographic material is primarily photographs and copy prints, with a few slides of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 and Goldring's close friend Robert Lax. Goldring has organized the photographs into "packets" A-G and has provided a detailed inventory of each packet. Found here are many images of Goldring throughout all stages of her life, with friends, traveling, working, and at exhibition openings. "Packet F" includes copy prints of family photographs from the early twentieth century.

Box 5, Folder 1	"Packet A", 1973-2001
Box 5, Folder 2	"Packet B", 1961-2005
Box 5, Folder 3	"Packet C", 1982-1996
Box 5, Folder 4	"Packet D", 2005-2015
Box 5, Folder 5	"Packet E", 1965-2015
Box 5, Folder 6	"Packet F", 1956-1967 Oversized material housed in OV 8
Box 5, Folder 7	"Packet G", circa 2000s-2015
Box 5, Folder 8	Photo Album, Birch Trail Camp, circa 1955
Box 5, Folder 9	Robert Lax, 1970s-2000s
Box OV 8	Oversize "Packet F," from Box 5, Folder 6

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 9: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1967-2020

*0.4 Linear feet*

Box 9

Unprocessed Papers, circa 1967-2020

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*