



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Louis Goodman Papers,
circa 1926 -1975, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Louis Goodman papers
Date:	circa 1926-1975
Identifier:	AAA.goodlou
Creator:	Goodman, Louis, 1905-1973
Extent:	0.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of inventor and assemblage artist Louis Goodman measure 0.7 linear feet and date from circa 1926 to 1975. The papers document Goodman's career in New York City and California through biographical material, correspondence, writings, personal business records, printed materials, photographs, and artwork.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Louis Goodman papers were donated to the Archives of American Art in 1976 by Hal Glicksman, whose relationship to Goodman is unclear.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reel 3990 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Rihoko Ueno in 2020.

Preferred Citation

Louis Goodman papers, circa 1926-1975. 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

Louis Goodman (1905-1973) was an assemblage artist and inventor based in New York, N.Y. and Los Angeles, California. Goodman was born in 1905 in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. He and his family immigrated to the U.S. in 1922 and settled in California. Based on a short biographical statement written by Goodman that can be found in the collection, he had no formal art or technical training. He created many inventions through his own ingenuity and a few of his inventions were patented. He also worked with found objects to create his artwork assemblages. He lived in New York for a time but eventually returned to California, where he passed away in 1973.

Scope and Contents

The papers of inventor and assemblage artist Louis Goodman measure 0.7 linear feet and date from circa 1926 to 1975. The papers document Goodman's career in New York City and California through biographical material, correspondence, writings, personal business records, printed materials, photographs, and artwork.

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:

Types of Materials:

Drawings

Occupations:

Assemblage artists -- California -- Los Angeles
Assemblage artists -- New York (State) -- New York
Inventors -- California -- Los Angeles
Inventors -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Louis Goodman papers, circa 1926-1975

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 3)

Scope and Contents: This collection includes limited biographical records, such as a biographical sketch and exhibitions lists and price lists; awards, correspondence concerning the development of inventions, Marsha Goodman's address book, a disbound binder of material on the American Rocket Society, notes and writings on inventions and other subjects, applications for patents for inventions, receipts and invoices, income tax returns, art works, designs for inventions, printed material, business cards, and photographs of Goodman, his family and friends, and works of art.

Arrangement: The papers are arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Box 1, Folder 1	American Rocket Society Binder (Disbound), 1932-1939
Box 1, Folder 2	Applications for Patents for Inventions, circa 1930-circa 1958
Oversize 3, Folder 1	Artwork - Collages, circa 1935-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 3	Artwork - Collages and Drawings, circa 1935-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 4	Awards, 1965, 1973
Box 1, Folder 5	Biographical Records, Exhibition Lists, and Price Lists, circa 1942-circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 6	Business Cards, circa 1950-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence, 1932-1973
Oversize 3, Folder 2	Designs for Inventions, 1928-1936
Box 1, Folder 8	Designs for Inventions, 1931-1932
Box 1, Folder 9	Designs for Inventions, 1935-1936
Box 1, Folder 10	Designs for Inventions, 1936-1937
Box 1, Folder 11	Family Records, circa 1926-1972
Box 1, Folder 12	Income Tax Records, 1942-1964
Box 1, Folder 13	Invoices and Receipts, circa 1957-1972
Box 1, Folder 14	Marsha Goodman's Address Book, circa 1950-circa 1970

Box 1, Folder 15	Miscellaneous Notes, circa 1935-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 16	Notebook, circa 1935-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 17	Photographs - Artwork and Inventions, circa 1960-circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 18	Photographs and Negatives - Artwork and Inventions, circa 1960-circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 19	Photographs, Negatives, and Transparencies - Artwork and Inventions, circa 1960-circa 1973
Box 2, Folder 1	Photographs - Family and Friends, circa 1930-circa 1970
Box 2, Folder 2	Photographs - Family and Friends, circa 1930-circa 1970
Box 2, Folder 3	Photographs - Louis Goodman and His Artwork and Inventions, circa 1973
Box 2, Folder 4	Photographs - Louis Goodman and His Artwork and Inventions, 1973
Box 2, Folder 5	Photographs - Miscellaneous, 1960-1973
Box 2, Folder 6	Printed Material - Clippings, 1941-1943
Box 2, Folder 7	Printed Material - Clippings, 1946-1947
Box 2, Folder 8	Printed Material - Clippings, 1956-1973
Box 2, Folder 9	Printed Material - Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1965-1975
Box 2, Folder 10	Printed Material - Miscellaneous, circa 1941-circa 1973

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