



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Grace Borgenicht Gallery Records, circa 1953-1996, in the Archives of American Art

Sarah Mundy

Funding for the processing of this collection was provided by the
Smithsonian Institution Collections Care and Preservation Fund

2015 May 18

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Grace Borgenicht Gallery Records
Identifier:	AAA.gracborg
Date:	circa 1953-1996
Creator:	Grace Borgenicht Gallery
Extent:	18.2 Linear feet
Language:	The collection is in English.
Summary:	The records of New York City Grace Borgenicht Gallery date from circa 1953 to 1996 and measure 18.2 linear feet. The records include administrative files, correspondence, financial and legal records, exhibition files, printed material, two scrapbooks, and photographic negatives of artwork. The majority of the collection consists of artists' files.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Owner Grace Borgenicht Brandt originally lent material for microfilming in 1963. She donated additional papers in 1996.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds microfilm of material lent for microfilming (reel D112) including 72 letters from artists Leonard Baskin, Edward Corbett, Sidney Gordin, Wolf Kahn and Elbert Weinberg. They are addressed to gallery director Grace Borgenicht (Grace Borgenicht Brandt), and regard the artists' their work, travels, exhibition plans, and other activities. Also included is a photograph of Brandt and a resume. Loaned materials were returned to the lender and are not described in the collection container inventory.

Separated Materials

Material lent for microfilming is available on 35mm microfilm reel D112 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Related Materials

Also found at the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Grace Borgenicht Brandt conducted by Dorothy Seckler on January 10, 1963.

Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimal level and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2015, with funding provided by the Smithsonian Institution Collections Care and Preservation Fund. The Archives of American Art has implemented minimal processing tactics when possible to increase information about and access to more of our collections.

Minimal processing included arrangement to the series, subseries, and folder levels. Generally, items within folders were simply verified with folder titles, but not arranged further. Folders within boxes may not be numbered. The collections was rehoused in archival containers and folders, but not all staples and clips were removed.

Preferred Citation

Grace Borgenicht Gallery records, circa 1953-1996. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Washington, D.C. Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

In May 1951 Grace Borgenicht Brandt (1915-2001) opened the Grace Borgenicht Gallery on 57th Street in New York City with an exhibition of Jimmy Ernst. At that time, the gallery was one of a handful that represented contemporary American artists. Jimmy Ernst, Milton Avery, Ilya Bolotowsky, Edward Corbett, Jose de Rivera, Roy Gussow, Wolf Kahn, and Gabor Peterdi were among the artists represented by the gallery.

The gallery held multiple exhibitions for individual artists such as Milton Avery, Wolf Kahn, Paul Burlin, and Stuart Davis. Although Borgenicht's main focus was American contemporary artists, the gallery also held several exhibitions featuring artists from Canada, Germany, Japan, Korea, and Mexico.

The Grace Borgenicht Gallery closed in 1995.

Scope and Contents

The records of New York City Grace Borgenicht Gallery date from circa 1953 to 1996 and measure 18.2 linear feet. The records include administrative files, correspondence, financial and legal records, exhibition files, printed material, two scrapbooks, and photographic negatives of artwork. The majority of the collection consists of artists' files.

Administrative files focus on advertising, events, gallery renovation, artists' insurance, and writings about the gallery. Correspondence concerns galleries, artists, works of art, and gallery prints and includes correspondence with the Library of Congress, Hokin Gallery, and Raab Gallery in Berlin. Exhibition files are found for exhibitions of Milton Avery, Paul Burlin, Stuart Davis, and Wolf Kahn, and several artists from Germany, Japan, Korea, Mexico, and Canada, as well as for international art fairs. Artists' files mainly contain correspondence with galleries and patrons regarding the artists and their work, and with artists. Files are found for Milton Avery, Charles Biederman, Ilya Bolotowsky, Martin Chirino, Stuart Davis, Jose De Rivera, Roy Gussow, Philip Grausman, and Wolf Kahn, among many others. Financial and legal records include sales and operations ledgers, artists' contracts, and documents concerning arts organizations. Printed materials consist of exhibition announcements and catalogs. Two scrapbooks include clippings and other printed materials. Also found are photographic negatives of artwork.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 8 series.

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Administrative Records, 1970-1995 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1950s-1995 (2 linear feet; Boxes 1-3)
- Series 3: Exhibition Files, circa 1970-1996 (1.3 linear feet; Boxes 3-4)
- Series 4: Artists Files, circa 1950s-1995 (11.2 linear feet; Boxes 4-13, 16-22)
- Series 5: Financial and Legal Records, 1953-1995 (1.4 linear feet; Boxes 13-15)
- Series 6: Printed Material, circa 1950s-1995 (0.8 linear feet; Box 15)
- Series 7: Scrapbooks, circa 1950s-circa 1980s (0.3 linear feet; Box 23)
- Series 8: Photographic Materials, circa 1950s-circa 1980s (0.8 linear feet; Boxes 24-25)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Scrapbooks

Names:

Avery, Milton, 1885-1965
Biederman, Charles Joseph, 1906-2004
Bolotowsky, Ilya, 1907-1981
Brandt, Grace Borgenicht, 1915-2001
Burlin, Paul, 1886-1969
Chirino, Martín, 1925-
Davis, Stuart, 1892-1964
De Rivera, José Ruiz, 1904-1985
Grausman, Philip, 1935-
Gussow, Roy, 1918-2011
Hokin Gallery
Kahn, Wolf, 1927-
Library of Congress
Raab Gallery (London, England)

Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- New York (State)

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Records, 1970-1995

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Files concern advertising, private events, gallery renovation plans, artists' insurance, and writings about the gallery.

Box 1, Folder 1 Advertising, 1993-1995

Box 1, Folder 2 Advertising Proofs, circa 1985-circa 1987

Box 1, Folder 3 Artists Insurance Letters, 1970

Box 1, Folder 4 Events, circa 1985-circa 1987

Box 1, Folder 5 Renovation Documents, 1990

Box 1, Folder 6 Writings and Notes About the Grace Borgenicht Gallery, circa 1980s

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Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1950s-1995

2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Arrangement: General correspondence is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents: Correspondence includes general chronological correspondence, letters with the Hokin Gallery and Raab Gallery, and correspondence regarding gallery prints for the Library of Congress. Artists and works of art are typically discussed in general correspondence.

Box 1, Folder 7	Gallery Prints, 1970-1971
Box 1, Folder 8-11	General Correspondence, 1950s-1969
Box 1, Folder 12-20	General Correspondence, 1970-1979
Box 1, Folder 21-23	General Correspondence, 1980-1986
Box 2, Folder 1-3	General Correspondence, 1987-1989
Box 2, Folder 4-15	General Correspondence, 1990-1995
Box 3, Folder 1	Hokin Gallery, 1975-1979
Box 3, Folder 2	Museums, 1953-1975
Box 3, Folder 3	Prints for Library of Congress , 1956-1966
Box 3, Folder 4	Raab Gallery, Berlin, 1995

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Series 3: Exhibition Files, circa 1970-1996

1.3 Linear feet (Boxes 3-4)

Scope and Contents: There are exhibition files for Milton Avery ("Avery in Mexico," "Milton Avery and His Friends," "Milton Avery: Impressions of Mexico"), Paul Burlin ("Paul Burlin: Late Paintings"), Stuart Davis ("Stuart Davis: The Formative Years 1910-1930"), and Wolf Kahn's exhibition at the Arts Club of Chicago. Additional files cover exhibitions of from Germany ("Die Brücke: Major Paintings and Works on Paper," "Selected German Prints," "German Prints 1900-1984: A Selected Survey"), Japan ("Techno-Metaphysics"), Korea ("Six Artists from Korea"), Mexico ("10 Artistas de Mexico"), and Canada ("Fifty Years of Canadian Landscape Painting: A Selection"). The gallery's participation in the ARCO (Feria Internacional de Arte Contemporaneo) art fair, the Art Dealers Association of America's "The Art Show," and the Messe Basel International Art Fair are also documented. Other significant exhibitions include "The Gloucester Years," "Pastel Anthology II," and "Still Life Anthology."

Box 3, Folder 5-6	"10 Artistas de Mexico" (1993), 1992-1995
Box 3, Folder 7	ARCO (Feria Internacional de Arte Contemporaneo) Art Fair (1992), circa 1992-1992
Box 3, Folder 8-9	ARCO (Feria Internacional de Arte Contemporaneo) Art Fair (1993), 1992-1993
Box 3, Folder 10	ARCO (Feria Internacional de Arte Contemporaneo) Art Fair, Organizing Committee, circa 1992
Box 3, Folder 11	"Art 1994 Chicago: The New Pier Show" (1994), 1993-1994
Box 3, Folder 12	Art Dealers Association of America, "The Art Show" (1990, 1992)
Box 3, Folder 13	Art Dealers Association of America, "The Art Show" (1993-1996), 1992-1996
Box 3, Folder 14	"Avery in Mexico" (1981-1982), 1980-1981
Box 3, Folder 15	Chirino Traveling Show (1990-1991), 1988-1989
Box 3, Folder 16	"Die Brücke: Major Paintings and Works on Paper," "Selected German Prints" (1992), 1992-1993
Box 3, Folder 17	"Fifty Years of Canadian Landscape Painting: A Selection" (1987)
Box 3, Folder 18	"German Prints 1900-1984: A Selected Survey" (1984), circa 1984-1985
Box 3, Folder 19-20	"The Gloucester Years" (1982), circa 1981- circa 1982
Box 4, Folder 1	"The Gloucester Years" (1982), Reviews, 1982
Box 4, Folder 2	"Invitational Exhibition" (1983), circa 1983

Box 4, Folder 3	"Landscape Anthology" (1988), circa 1988
Box 4, Folder 4	Messe Basel International Art Fair , "Art 25 '94" (1994), 1993
Box 4, Folder 5	"Milton Avery and His Friends" (1978), circa 1978
Box 4, Folder 6	"Milton Avery: Impressions of Mexico" (1984), circa 1983-1984
Box 4, Folder 7	"Pastel Anthology II" (1987), circa 1987
Box 4, Folder 8	"Paul Burlin: Late Paintings" (1981), circa 1970, 1980-1981
Box 4, Folder 9	"Sculpture for Architecture" (1974), 1974
Box 4, Folder 10	"Six Artists from Korea" (1995), 1994-1995
Box 4, Folder 11	"Still Life Anthology" (1990), circa 1990
Box 4, Folder 12	"Stuart Davis: The Formative Years 1910-1930" (1983), 1983
Box 4, Folder 13-14	"Techno-Metaphysics" (1989), 1989-1990
Box 4, Folder 15	Wolf Kahn, Arts Club of Chicago (1981), 1979-1980

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Series 4: Artists Files, circa 1950s-1995

11.2 Linear feet (Boxes 4-13, 16-22)

Arrangement: The files are arranged alphabetically by artist surname.

Scope and Contents: Artists' files consist mainly of correspondence with galleries and patrons regarding the artists and their work, and with many artists. The files on Milton Avery include documents for the Milton Avery Trust and writings about Avery. Jose de Rivera's files include preliminary writings by Dore Ashton for the book *Jose de Rivera Constructions*. Other artists' files are found for Max Beckmann, Charles Biederman, Martin Chirino, Jimmy Ernst, Janet Fish, Philip Grausman, Roy Gussow, Hans Hokanson, Angelo Ippolito, Rueben Kadish, David Lund, Gabor Peterdi, David Saunders, Sandy Walker, and Elbert Weinberg.

Box 4, Folder 16	Artists Curriculum Vitaes, circa 1980s-1990s
Box 4, Folder 17-24	Avery, Milton, General, 1950s-1985
Box 5, Folder 1-16	Avery, Milton, General, 1986-1995
Box 6, Folder 1	Avery, Milton, Correspondence Regarding Publications, circa 1980-1990
Box 6, Folder 2-5	Avery, Milton, Milton Avery Trust, circa 1989-1990
Box 6, Folder 6	Avery, Milton, Writings About Avery, circa 1960s-1980s
Box 6, Folder 7-12	Beckmann, Max, 1980s-1995
Box 6, Folder 13-16	Biederman, Charles, 1970s-1988
Box 7, Folder 1-2	Biederman, Charles, 1989-1995
Box 7, Folder 3	Biederman Port Authority Commission, 1980
Box 7, Folder 4-5	Bolotowsky, Ilya, Publicity Documents, 1960s-1980s
Box 7, Folder 6	Bolotowsky, Ilya, Trois Anges Ltd. Graphics Contract, 1969-1971
Box 7, Folder 7-9	Brown, David Lee, 1969-1995
Box 7, Folder 10-11	Burlin, Paul, 1962-1995
Box 7, Folder 12-13	Bush, Jack, 1987-1995
Box 7, Folder 14	Canadian Artists, 1987-1995
Box 7, Folder 15-19	Chirino, Martin, 1960-1980s
Box 8, Folder 1-3	Chirino, Martin, 1980s-1990s

Box 8, Folder 4-6	Corbett, Edward, 1950s-1990s
Box 8, Folder 7-9	Cuevas, Jose Luis, 1969-1982
Box 8, Folder 10	Currie, Steve, 1988-1995
Box 8, Folder 11	D'Arcangelo, Allan, 1982
Box 8, Folder 12-15	Davis, Stuart, 1978-1990
Box 8, Folder 16	Derain, Andre, 1987-1995
Box 8, Folder 17-18	De Rivera, Jose, General, 1950s-1970s
Box 9, Folder 1-7	De Rivera, Jose, General, 1970s-1990s
Box 9, Folder 8	De Rivera, Jose, Bibliography Cards, circa 1980s
Box 9, Folder 9-10	De Rivera, Jose, Documents on Book Constructions, 1970s-1980s
Box 9, Folder 11	De Rivera, Jose, Library of Congress Copyright Office, 1979
Box 9, Folder 12	De Rivera, Jose, Writings by Others, circa 1980
Box 9, Folder 13	De Rivera, Jose, Writings by Dore Ashton, circa 1980
Box 9, Folder 14-15	Ernst, Jimmy, 1969-1988
Box 9, Folder 16	Fetting, Rainer, 1994-1995
Box 10, Folder 1-2	Fish, Janet, 1993-1995
Box 10, Folder 3	Gill, John, 1986-1995
Box 10, Folder 4	Grausman, Philip, 1965-1980
Box 10, Folder 5	Grillo, John, 1975-1980
Box 10, Folder 6	Gussow, Roy, 1975-1991
Box 10, Folder 7	Hokanson, Hans, 1976-1990
Box 10, Folder 8	Howes, Royce, 1987-1995
Box 10, Folder 9-10	Hull, John, 1985-1995
Box 10, Folder 11	Ippolito, Angelo, 1972-1991

Box 10, Folder 12-18	Kahn, Wolf, 1956-1980s
Box 11, Folder 1-6	Kahn, Wolf, 1980s-1995
Box 11, Folder 7	Kadish, Reuben, 1979-1995
Box 11, Folder 8-10	Kirchner, Ernst Ludwig, 1982-1991
Box 11, Folder 11	Lee, Jenny, 1993-1994
Box 11, Folder 12	Lehmbruck, Wilhelm, circa 1990s
Box 11, Folder 13	Leonard, Ruth, 1989-1991
Box 11, Folder 14	Lund, David, 1959-1991
Box 11, Folder 15	Mason, Emily, 1988-1995
Box 11, Folder 16	Milne, David, 1989-1994
Box 11, Folder 17-18	Opper, John, 1966-1995
Box 12, Folder 1-4	Peterdi, Gabor, 1953-1995
Box 12, Folder 5	Pozzi, Lucio, 1992-1995
Box 12, Folder 6-7	Radford, Matthew, 1993-1995
Box 12, Folder 8	Romberger, James, 1988-1995
Box 12, Folder 9	Roos, Gabriele, 1976-1981
Box 12, Folder 10	Rosen, Jane, 1988-1995
Box 12, Folder 11	Salemme, Attilio, 1977-1984
Box 12, Folder 12	Santomaso, Giuseppe, 1982-1984
Box 12, Folder 13-15	Saunders, David, 1983-1995
Box 12, Folder 16-18	Smith, Houghton Cranford, 1988-1995
Box 13, Folder 1	Thomas, Gwenn, 1988-1992

Box 13, Folder 2	Toepp, Wayne, 1988-1992
Box 13, Folder 3	Walker, Sandy, 1977-1983
Box 13, Folder 4-9	Weinberg, Elbert, 1960s-1995
Box 13, Folder 10	Welz, Rebecca, 1989-1995
Box 13, Folder 11	White, Rodney, 1989-1991
Box 16	Bolotowsky, Ilya, Publicity Albums, 1963-1976
Box 16	Brown, David Lee, Publicity Album, 1970-1978
Box 18	Burlin, Paul, Publicity Album, 1962-1981
Box 18	Corbett, Edward, Publicity Album, 1959-1973
Box 18	Cuevas, Jose Luis, Publicity Album, 1976-1978
Box 19	De Rivera, Jose, Publicity Albums, 1946-1975
Box 19	Grausman, Philip, Publicity Album, 1974-1978
Box 20	Gussow, Roy, Publicity Album, 1963-1978
Box 20	Hokanson, Hans, Publicity Album, circa 1968-1980
Box 20	Ippolito, Angelo, Publicity Album, circa 1968-1980
Box 20	Kadish, Reuben, Publicity Album, circa 1971-1978
Box 17	Kahn, Wolf, Publicity Albums, 1954-1979
Box 17	Lund, David, Publicity Album, 1954-1983
Box 22	Opper, John, Publicity Album, 1966-1978
Box 22	Peterdi, Gabor, Publicity Album, 1951-1977
Box 22	Saunders, David, Publicity Album, 1979-1983
Box 22	Walker, Sandy, Publicity Album, 1977-1979
Box 21	Weinberg, Elbert, Publicity Albums, circa 1966-1982

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Series 5: Financial and Legal Records, 1953-1995

1.4 Linear feet (Boxes 13-15)

Scope and Contents: The bulk of the series consists of sales and operations ledgers. Also included are files for artists contracts, documents regarding the Instituto de Artes Graficas de Caxaca/Francisco Toledo Non-Profit, and the London Arts Group.

Box 13, Folder 12-13	Artists Contracts, circa 1955-1978
Box 13, Folder 14	Instituto de Artes Graficas de Caxaca/Francisco Toledo Non-Profit, 1990
Box 14, Folder 1	Ledgers, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1975-1985
Box 14, Folder 2	Ledgers, General, 1985-1986
Box 14, Folder 3-6	Ledgers, Operations, 1976-1985
Box 14, Folder 7	Ledgers, Sales by Month, 1979-1985
Box 14, Folder 8-10	Ledgers, Sales by Name, A-C, circa 1953-1985
Box 14, Folder 11-12	Ledgers, Sales by Name, D-F, circa 1953-1985
Box 14, Folder 13-14	Ledgers, Sales by Name, G-I, circa 1953-1985
Box 14, Folder 15-16	Ledgers, Sales by Name, J-L, circa 1953-1985
Box 14, Folder 17-18	Ledgers, Sales by Name, M-O, circa 1953-1985
Box 14, Folder 19-20	Ledgers, Sales by Name, P-S, circa 1953-1985
Box 15, Folder 1	Ledgers, Sales by Name, P-S, circa 1953-1985
Box 15, Folder 2-3	Ledgers, Sales by Name, T-Z, circa 1953-1985
Box 15, Folder 4	London Arts Group, 1973-1974

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Series 6: Printed Materials, circa 1950s-1995

0.8 Linear feet (Box 15)

Arrangement: This series is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents: Printed materials consist of exhibition catalogs and exhibition announcements.

Contents:

Box 15, Folder 5-8 Exhibition Announcements, 1950s-1990s

Box 15, Folder 9-15 Exhibition Catalogs, 1960s-1995

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Series 7: Scrapbooks, circa 1950s-circa 1980s

0.3 Linear feet (Box 23)

Scope and Contents: Two scrapbooks contain clippings, certificates, photographs, and other printed material.

Box 23	Scrapbooks, circa 1950s-circa 1980s
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Series 7: Photographic Materials, circa 1950s-circa 1980s

0.8 Linear feet (Boxes 24-25)

Scope and Contents: Photographic negatives of artwork are found here. A majority are labeled with the artist's name.

Box 24	Negatives of Artwork, circa 1950s-circa 1980s
Box 25	Negatives of Artwork, circa 1950s-1980s

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