



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Grand Central Art
Galleries records, 1931-1968, bulk circa 1952-
circa 1965, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Grand Central Art Galleries records
Identifier:	AAA.grancent
Date:	1931-1968 (bulk circa 1952-circa 1965)
Extent:	1.3 Linear feet
Creator:	Grand Central Art Galleries
Language:	English The collection is in English.
Summary:	The records of New York City's Grand Central Art Galleries measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 1931 to 1968, with the bulk of the material from circa 1952 to circa 1965. The majority of the records are related the Grand Central Moderns, the modern art division of Grand Central Art Galleries. The collection includes group exhibition files, artists' files, printed material and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Grand Central Art Galleries loaned materials for microfilming in 1966. Addition records were donated to the Archives of American Art by Grand Central Art Galleries in 1966 and 1967.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds microfilm of material lent for microfilming (reels NGCAG1-NGCAG2) including 23 yearbooks, 1928-1945, and exhibition catalogs, 1923-1929. The originals were returned to Grand Central Art Galleries after microfilming and are not described in the the container listing of this finding aid.

Available Formats

Material lent for microfilming is available on microfilm reels NGCAG1-NGCAG2 at Archives of American Art offices, and for interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Rihoko Ueno in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Grand Central Art Galleries, 1931-1938, bulk circa 1952-circa 1965. 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.

Biographical / Historical

Grand Central Art Galleries (1923-1994) was a large New York-based art gallery, which also had a modern art division called Grand Central Moderns (1947-circa 1967).

The Grand Central Art Galleries was founded in 1923 and operated as the exhibition space of the Painters and Sculptors Gallery Association in New York City. Grand Central Art Galleries was located at Grand Central Terminal for nearly 30 years before moving on to the Biltmore Hotel at 40 Vanderbilt Avenue, then relocating to 24 West 57th Street. The Galleries regularly exhibited the works of its members and sometimes boasted as many as thirty to forty exhibitions annually.

From its establishment in 1923, Edwin S. Barrie was the director of Grand Central Art Galleries and he founded Grand Central Moderns in 1947, which he also managed until the early 1950s. The gallery moved from one address to another before ultimately relocating to 130 East 56th Street. Colette Roberts was the curator and she took over as director in 1952 until roughly 1965, about two years before Grand Central Moderns closed. Byron Browne, Kenneth Campbell, Lamar Dodd, Xavier Gonzalez, George Morrison and Louise Nevelson were a few of the artists represented by the gallery.

Erwin S. Barrie retired from his position as director of Grand Central Art Galleries in 1975. The gallery closed in 1994.

Scope and Contents

The records of New York City's Grand Central Art Galleries measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 1931 to 1968, with the bulk of the material from circa 1952 to circa 1965. The majority of the records are related to the Grand Central Moderns, the modern art division of Grand Central Art Galleries. The collection includes group exhibition files, artists' files, printed material and photographs.

Group exhibition files consist of catalogs, announcements, clippings, artist biographies, correspondence and photographs. The art exchange exhibition between Grand Central Moderns and Galerie Jeanne Bucher is especially noteworthy.

Artists' files include exhibition catalogs, announcements, resumes, clippings, photographs and limited correspondence. The bulk of the material is on artists who had exhibitions at Grand Central Moderns. Notable artists include Elise Asher, Byron Browne, Victor Candell, Joseph De Martini, Xavier Gonzalez, Jacob Kainen, Jennett Lam, Seong Moy, Arthur Osver, Herman Rowan, Lucia Salemme, and Robert Watts, among others.

Printed material mostly consists of exhibition catalogs and announcements of other galleries. There are a few clippings on Grand Central Art Galleries.

There are a few photographs of artwork.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 4 series.

- Series 1: Group Exhibition Files, 1952-1957 (Box 1, OV 3; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 2: Artists' Files, 1940-1968 (Box 1, 0.7 linear feet)
- Series 3: Printed Material, 1951-1965 (Boxes 1-2; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 4: Photographs, 1931, circa 1960-circa 1965 (Box 2; 2 folders)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art galleries, Commercial -- New York (State) -- New York
Art, Modern -- United States

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Asher, Elise, 1914-
Barrie, Erwin S., 1886-1983
Browne, Byron, 1907-1961
Candell, Victor, 1903-1977
DeMartini, Joseph, 1896-1984
Galerie Jeanne Bucher
Gonzalez, Xavier, 1898-1993
Grand Central Moderns (Gallery)
Kainen, Jacob
Lam, Jennett, 1911-
Moy, Seong
Osver, Arthur, 1912-2006
Roberts, Colette, 1910-
Rowan, Herman
Salemme, Lucia A.
Watts, Robert M., 1923-1988

Container Listing

Series 1: Group Exhibition Files, 1952-1957

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1, OV 3)

Group exhibition files consist of catalogs, announcements, clippings, artist biographies, limited correspondence and a few photographs. The art exchange exhibition between Grand Central Moderns and Galerie Jeanne Bucher in Paris, France, is especially noteworthy and includes 3 pages of a scrapbook with short biographies of artists in the show, a nine page guest register, announcements and newspaper clippings.

The material in this series is arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 1	<i>Prize Winners, 1947-1952 (1952 March), 1952</i>
Box 1, Folder 2	<i>Members Summer Exhibition (1952), 1952</i>
Box 1, Folder 3	<i>Guest Sculptors Show (1953 January), 1953</i>
Box 1, Folder 4	<i>Spring Gallery Group Exhibition (1953 May), 1953</i>
Box 1, Folder 5	Grand Central Moderns and Galerie Jeanne Bucher Exchange Exhibition (1953 October), 1953 Oversized material housed in OV 3.
Box 1, Folder 6	<i>Twentieth Century American Graphic Arts (1956), 1956-1957</i>
Box OV 3	Oversized Exchange Exhibition Scrapbook Pages and Guest Register from Box 1, Folder 5, 1953

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Series 2: Artists' Files, 1940-1968

0.7 Linear feet (Box 1)

Artists' files is the largest series in the collection and includes exhibition catalogs, announcements, resumes, clippings, photographs and limited correspondence. The bulk of the material is related to artists who had exhibitions at Grand Central Moderns, which focused on modern art. Notable artists include Samuel Adler, Elise Asher, Byron Browne, Victor Candell, Kenneth Campbell, Fred Conway, Joseph De Martini, Lamar Dodd, Milton Goldring, Peter Golfinopoulos, Xavier Gonzalez, Burton Hasen, Jacob Kainen, Stanely Kearl, Albert Kotin, Jennett Lam, Richard Letham, Leo Manso, George Morrison, Seong Moy, Mike Nevelson, Alan Lunak, Arthur Osver, Robert Reid, Hugo Robus, Jack Roth, Herman Rowan, Lucia Salemme, Don Stacey, Russell Twiggs, Sybil Wilson, Robert Watts, and Conrad Woods, among others.

Box 1, Folder 7	Adler, Samuel, 1959-1960
Box 1, Folder 8	Asher, Elise, 1958
Box 1, Folder 9	Browne, Byron - General, 1953-1961
Box 1, Folder 10-11	Browne, Byron - Photographs, circa 1962
Box 1, Folder 12	Campbell, Kenneth , 1962-1963
Box 1, Folder 13	Candell, Victor, 1952-1957
Box 1, Folder 14	Chadbourne, Alfred, 1954
Box 1, Folder 15	Conway, Fred, 1952-1964
Box 1, Folder 16	Cook, Howard, 1956
Box 1, Folder 17	De Martini, Joseph, 1940-1964
Box 1, Folder 18	Dodd, Lamar, 1961-1962
Box 1, Folder 19	Fine, Albert, 1966
Box 1, Folder 20	Freborg, Stan, 1961
Box 1, Folder 21	Goldring, Milton, 1956-1958
Box 1, Folder 22	Golfinopoulos, Peter, 1959
Box 1, Folder 23	Gonzalez, Xavier, 1954-1955

Box 1, Folder 24	Grant, James, 1963
Box 1, Folder 25	Hasen, Burt, 1958-1961
Box 1, Folder 26	Houser, Jim, 1967-1968
Box 1, Folder 27	Kainen, Jacob, 1953
Box 1, Folder 28	Kearl, Stanley, 1956-1965
Box 1, Folder 29	Kotin, Albert, 1958
Box 1, Folder 30-31	Lam, Jennett, 1964-1966
Box 1, Folder 32	Lethem, Richard, 1963
Box 1, Folder 33	Lunak, Alan, 1959
Box 1, Folder 34	Madrigal, August, 1968
Box 1, Folder 35	Manso, Leo, 1963-1964
Box 1, Folder 36	Moffitt, Elizabeth, 1966
Box 1, Folder 37	Morrison, George, 1953-1958
Box 1, Folder 38	Moy, Seong, 1957-1964
Box 1, Folder 39	Nevelson, Louise, 1958-1966
Box 1, Folder 40-41	Nevelson, Mike, 1967
Box 1, Folder 42	Osver, Arthur, 1955-1959
Box 1, Folder 43	Reid, Robert, 1961-1967
Box 1, Folder 44	Robus, Hugo, 1946-1960
Box 1, Folder 45	Roth, Jack, 1962-1963
Box 1, Folder 46	Rowan, Herman, 1960-1965
Box 1, Folder 47	Salemme, Attilio, 1955-1962

Box 1, Folder 48	Salemme, Lucia, 1960
Box 1, Folder 49	Stacey, Don, 1959-1960
Box 1, Folder 50	Stoltenberg, Donald, 1955
Box 1, Folder 51	Twiggs, Russell, 1957-1960
Box 1, Folder 52	Watts, Robert M., 1960-1963
Box 1, Folder 53	Wilson, Sybil, 1962-1965
Box 1, Folder 54	Woods, Conrad, 1958
Box 1, Folder 55	Zuka, 1968

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Series 3: Printed Material, 1951-1965

0.2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

There are a few clippings, bulletins and other material about Grand Central Art Galleries and Grand Central Moderns, but the bulk of the series is comprised of other galleries' exhibition catalogs and announcements.

The material related to Grand Central Art Galleries and Grand Central Moderns is at the beginning of the series. The catalogs and announcements from other galleries come next in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 56	Grand Central Art Galleries Clippings, 1956-1965
Box 1, Folder 57	Other Galleries Catalogs and Announcements, 1951-1959
Box 1, Folder 58	Other Galleries Catalogs and Announcements, 1960-1962
Box 1, Folder 59	Other Galleries Catalogs and Announcements, 1963-1964
Box 2, Folder 1	Other Galleries Catalogs and Announcements, 1964-1964
Box 2, Folder 2	Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1952-1962

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Series 4: Photographs, 1931, circa 1960-circa 1965

2 Folders (Box 2)

There are a few photographs of artwork on display at an architectural firm and one miscellaneous photograph of a miniature portrait. Researchers should note that more photographs of artwork can be found among the artists' files.

Box 2, Folder 3 Artwork Displayed at Architectural Office, circa 1960-circa 1965

Box 2, Folder 4 *Miss Mary Shipman* Portrait by Margaret Foote Hawley, 1931

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