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Jack Rasmussen Gallery Records, 1936-1984,
bulk 1978-1982, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Jack Rasmussen Gallery records
Date:	1936-1984 (bulk 1978-1982)
Identifier:	AAA.jackrasm
Creator:	Jack Rasmussen Gallery (Washington, D.C.)
Extent:	8.3 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Jack Rasmussen Gallery records measure 8.3 linear feet and date from 1936 to 1984, with the bulk of the records dating from 1978 to 1982. The records shed light on the Washington, DC gallery's operations through administrative records, financial and legal records, artist files, and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1982 and 1997 by Jack Rasmussen.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Christopher DeMairo in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Jack Rasmussen Gallery records, 1936-1984. 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.

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Biographical / Historical

The Jack Rasmussen Gallery was established in 1978 in Washington, D.C. by painter and art dealer Jack Rasmussen. The gallery's first show was an exhibition of paintings by artist Reginald Pollack. Rasmussen

Gallery went on to exhibit contemporary painters, sculptors, and audiovisual artists, many of whom were from the D.C. area. Artists exhibited at the gallery include Annie Gawlak, Robert Gates, Tom Green, Sy Gresser, Taro Ichihashi, Walter Kravitz, and Reginald Pollack. Rasmussen closed the gallery in 1983.

Jack Rasmussen began his career in 1975 as assistant director of the Washington Project for the Arts under its founder Alice Denney. After closing the gallery, Rasmussen helped launch the Rockville Arts Place program in Rockville, Maryland, and then served as executive director of Maryland Art Place in Baltimore, Maryland for 10 years. Rasmussen served as director of di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art in Napa, California, and has served as Director and Curator of the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center, Washington, DC, since it opened in 2005.

Scope and Contents

The Jack Rasmussen Gallery records measure 8.3 linear feet and date from 1936 to 1984, with the bulk of the records dating from 1978 to 1982. The records shed light on the gallery's operations through administrative records, financial and legal records, artist files, and printed material.

Administrative records consist of files related to art organizations, several of the gallery's exhibitions, collectors, and Jack Rasmussen's career. Files include correspondence, an interview with Rasmussen conducted by Robert Bove, price lists, by-laws, guestbooks, memos, writings, and some sales records. Artist files are comprised of correspondence, exhibition announcements, price lists, slides and photographs of artwork and artists, sales records, statements, and agreements. Some newspaper clippings, sketches and illustrations, and loan agreements are also present. Financial and legal records consist of contracts, sales records, account ledgers, bills, invoices, and stationery. Printed materials include press releases, exhibition announcements, posters, and catalogs, newspaper and magazine clippings, and a couple of scrapbooks.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as four series.

- Series 1: Administrative Records, 1976-1984 (Box 1-3; 2.6 linear feet)
- Series 2: Artist Files, 1936-1983, bulk 1978-1982 (Box 3-6; 3.5 linear feet)
- Series 3: Financial and Legal Records, 1978-1983 (Box 6-9; 1.7 linear feet)
- Series 4: Printed Material, 1978-1982 (Box 8-9; .5 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Names:

Rasmussen, Jack

Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- Washington (D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Records, 1976-1984

2.6 Linear feet (Box 1-3)

Scope and Contents: Files in this series cover a variety of subjects, including exhibitions held at the gallery and elsewhere; involvement by Jack Rasmussen and his gallery in art organizations and institutions; donations; and publicity. Found in these files are correspondence, price lists, loan records, newspaper and magazine clippings, writings, artist resumes, and organizational records such as meeting minutes, memos, and by laws. General correspondence files consist of letters with artists, collectors, museums, and also include some sales records. A significant portion of this series is comprised of Patron/Artist cards that contain artist and collector contact information, prices, and some sales records.

This series also includes several files relating to the personal and professional life of Jack Rasmussen. These files consist of writings and a notepad; an interview transcript; correspondence with artists, colleagues, and friends; postcards; photographs from events; and scant appraisal records.

Box 1, Folder 1	Advertising, 1979-1982
Box 1, Folder 2	Building and Property, 1980-1982
Box 1, Folder 3	CityArt 1981, 1979-1981
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1979-1982
Box 1, Folder 5	Corcoran Gallery and School of Art, 1980-1983
Box 1, Folder 6	Denney, Alice, 1978-1981
Box 1, Folder 7	Designer, Marc Meadows, 1980-1981
Box 1, Folder 8	Donations, 1976-1982
Box 1, Folder 9-11	Exhibitions, Group Show 1980-1982, 1980-1982
Box 1, Folder 12-18	Exhibitions, Guest Books, 1978-1982
Box 1, Folder 19	Framing, 1979-1981
Box 1, Folder 20	Gallery Owners at Home, 1981
Box 1, Folder 21	Guest Informant, 1980-1982
Box 1, Folder 22	Internships, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 23	Landsburgh Department Store, Washington, D.C., 1978-1979

Box 1, Folder 24	Mailing List, 1982
Box 1, Folder 25	Montgomery College Art Gallery, 1982
Box 1, Folder 26	Museum of Temporary Art, 1980-1981
Box 2, Folder 1	Museums, 1978-1979
Box 2, Folder 2-10	Patron and Artist Cards, circa 1978-1982
Box 3, Folder 1-2	Patron and Artist Cards, circa 1978-1982
Box 3, Folder 3	Photographs, Miscellaneous, 1978, undated
Box 3, Folder 4	Rapoport, Sheldon, 1980
Box 3, Folder 5-6	Rasmussen, Jack, "Artist Survival Manual", 1978-1979
Box 3, Folder 7	Rasmussen, Jack, Interviewed by Robert Bove, 1980
Box 3, Folder 8	Rasmussen, Jack, Notepad, circa 1981
Box 3, Folder 9-10	Rasmussen, Jack, Personal and Professional Papers, 1978-1984
Box 3, Folder 11	Rasmussen, John A., "Access to Exhibition Space", undated
Box 3, Folder 12	Rosenthal, Benjamin, 1979
Box 3, Folder 13	Washington Art Dealers Association, 1981-1982
Box 3, Folder 14	Washington Project for the Arts, 1974-1981
Box 3, Folder 15	White House, 1978
Box 3, Folder 16	Workshops, Symposiums, and Happenings, 1979-1982

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Series 2: Artist Files, 1936-1983 (bulk 1978-1982)

3.5 Linear feet (Box 3-6)

Scope and Contents: Folders typically include correspondence, exhibition announcements, price lists, slides and photographs of artwork and artists, sales records, statements, and agreements. Some artist files also include images of exhibitions, illustrated letters and sketches, and loan agreements.

Box 3, Folder 17	Ayoroa, Rudy, 1977-1980
Box 3, Folder 18	Barnes, Mary, 1981
Box 3, Folder 19	Blee, John, 1981
Box 3, Folder 20	Bodnarchuk, Raya, 1980-1982
Box 3, Folder 21	Burns, Terry, 1981, undated
Box 3, Folder 22	Canas, Benjamin, 1977-1979
Box 3, Folder 23	Clark, Lucy, 1974-1980
Box 3, Folder 24	Davidov, Corinne, 1980-1981
Box 3, Folder 25	Davis, Douglas, 1979-1981
Box 3, Folder 26	Dendler, Royce, 1979-1983
Box 4, Folder 1	Dendler, Royce, 1978-1981
Box 4, Folder 2	Dutter, Bill, 1979-1981
Box 4, Folder 3	Firestone, Susan, 1981
Box 4, Folder 4	Frisbee, Phil, 1981
Box 4, Folder 5	Fullerton, Paul, 1978-1980
Box 4, Folder 6	Gair, Sondra, 1981-1982
Box 4, Folder 7	Gardner, Chris, 1980-1981
Box 4, Folder 8-10	Gates, Robert, 1936, 1978-1981
Box 4, Folder 11-12	Gawlak, Annie, 1975, 1979-1981
Box 4, Folder 13	Goldblatt, Joel, 1971-1981

Box 4, Folder 14	Grady, Ruby, 1978
Box 4, Folder 15-16	Green, Tom, 1978-1981
Box 4, Folder 17-18	Gresser, Sy, 1974-1980
Box 4, Folder 19	Haid, Nan, 1980
Box 4, Folder 20	Haner, Lee, Papers relating to Common Sense: A Proposal for Fractional Currency by Lee E. Haner (1981), 1981-1982
Box 4, Folder 21	Harmon, Hank and Lee, 1978-1979
Box 4, Folder 22	Haynie, Ron, 1978-1981
Box 4, Folder 23	Herzbrun, Helene McKinsey, 1978-1980
Box 4, Folder 24	Ichihashi, Taro, 1979-1982
Box 4, Folder 25	Jacobs, Herald, 1978-1983
Box 4, Folder 26	Kamen, Robert, 1978-1980
Box 4, Folder 27	Kaplowitz, Laurie, 1978-1982
Box 5, Folder 1	Keesing, Madeleine, 1980-1981
Box 5, Folder 2	Kelly, Ed, 1978-1980
Box 5, Folder 3-4	Kravitz, Walter, 1979-1981
Box 5, Folder 5	Kremgold, David, 1976-1980
Box 5, Folder 6	Kruvant, Steve, 1978-1981
Box 5, Folder 7	Kuhne, Dan, 1980-1982
Box 5, Folder 8	La Rouche, Marianne, 1977-1982
Box 5, Folder 9	Laureano, Roberto, 1979-1982
Box 5, Folder 10	Levy, Pamela, 1982
Box 5, Folder 11	Lundin, Norman, 1978-1981
Box 5, Folder 12	Mehutan, Hava, 1978-1981
Box 5, Folder 13	Montgomery, Nan, 1981-1982

Box 5, Folder 14	Moran, Doug, 1976-1981
Box 5, Folder 15	Ostovani, Farhad, 1979
Box 5, Folder 16	Palmer, Nancy Hetenyi, 1977-1980
Box 5, Folder 17-19	Pollack, Reginald, 1976-1982
Box 5, Folder 20	Pollack, Reginald, The Seasons (1981), 1980-1981
Box 5, Folder 21	Romano, Jaime, 1977-1981
Box 5, Folder 22	Shaffer, Mike, 1978-1981
Box 5, Folder 23	Shannon, Joe, 1980-1982
Box 6, Folder 1	Signature, Cynthia, "The Book of Suicide", 1981
Box 6, Folder 2	Staton, David, 1979-1980
Box 6, Folder 3	Stoddard, Ann, 1980
Box 6, Folder 4	Sundquist, Jim, 1981
Box 6, Folder 5	Velez, Maria, 1980-1981
Box 6, Folder 6	Walker, Sandy, 1978-1980
Box 6, Folder 7-9	Weisel, Mindy, 1978-1982
Box 6, Folder 9	Willis, Bill, 1981-1982
Box 6, Folder 10	Young, Phil, 1979
Box 6, Folder 11	Zerne, Ed, 1979-1980
Box 6, Folder 12-15	Artists, Mixed Papers, 1978-1982
Box 6, Folder 16-17	Artists, Resumes, circa 1978-1982
Box 6, Folder 18-19	Artists, Slides to be Returned, circa 1978-1982

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Series 3: Financial and Legal Records, 1978-1983

1.7 Linear feet (Box 6-9)

Scope and Contents: Financial records consist of gallery and artist account ledgers and statements, sales slips, bills, and invoices. Also present are sheets of sales form stationery. Legal records shed light on the gallery's partnership program through contracts, inventories, and correspondence; and also include drafts and blank copies of artist agreements.

Box 6, Folder 20-21	Account Ledgers, 1980-1981
Box 6, Folder 22	Agreement and Promissory Notes, 1979-1981
Box 6, Folder 23	Artist Accounts, 1979-1980
Box 9, Folder 1	Artist Accounts, 1979-1982
Box 7, Folder 1	Artist Agreements, 1978-1981
Box 7, Folder 2	Artist Financial Statements, 1979
Box 7, Folder 3	Asset and Liability Statements, 1981
Box 7, Folder 4	Bank Statements, 1978-1982
Box 7, Folder 5	Bills, Thomas More Associates, 1980-1982
Box 7, Folder 6	Bills, Art Transportation, 1979-1980
Box 7, Folder 7	Bills, Quicksilver Photographers, 1981-1982
Box 7, Folder 8	Bills, 1978-1983
Box 7, Folder 9	Cash Disbursement Journal, 1981
Box 7, Folder 10-12	Checkbook Balance Slips, 1978-1981
Box 7, Folder 13-17	Checks and Deposit Slips, 1978-1982
Box 7, Folder 18	Gallery Insurance, 1978-1982
Box 8, Folder 1	Invoices and Sales Records, 1978-1982
Box 8, Folder 2	Ledger Books, 1978-1979
Box 8, Folder 3	Limited Partnerships, Agreements, 1979-1981
Box 8, Folder 4	Limited Partnership, Income Tax, 1979-1982

Box 8, Folder 5	Loans, 1977, 1980
Box 8, Folder 6-7	Sales Records, Purchase Slips, 1978-1982
Box 8, Folder 8	Stationery, Sales Form, undated

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Series 4: Printed Material, 1978-1982

0.5 Linear feet (Box 8-9)

Scope and Contents: Found here are press releases; two scrapbooks comprised of newspaper clippings, exhibition announcements, and catalogs; and loose clippings related to Jack Rasmussen, his gallery, and general art- and business-related topics. Also present are a handful of exhibition posters, exhibition announcements for a majority of Rasmussen's shows, and exhibition catalogs from the solo shows of Farhad Ostovani, Havana Mehtan, John Blee, and Robert Gates.

Box 8, Folder 9-11	Rasmussen Gallery, Announcements, 1978-1982
Box 9, Folder 2	Rasmussen Gallery, Calendar, 1981
Box 8, Folder 12	Rasmussen Gallery, Exhibition Catalogs, 1979-1982
Box 8, Folder 13-14	Rasmussen Gallery, Exhibition Posters, 1978-1982
Box 8, Folder 15	Rasmussen Gallery, Press Releases, 1978-1981
Box 8, Folder 16	Rasmussen Gallery, Newspaper and Magazine Clippings, 1979-1981
Box 8, Folder 17	Rasmussen Gallery, Scrapbook, 1978-1979
Box 9, Folder 3	Rasmussen Gallery, Scrapbook, 1978-1981
Box 9, Folder 4	"Forty Eight Pages: Line", 1979
Box 9, Folder 5	Soho Baroque Opera, Event Program, 1982
Box 9, Folder 6	Miscellaneous Clippings and Publications, 1978-1981

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