



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the James Vigeveno Galleries Records, 1940-1975, in the Archives of American Art

Sarah Mundy

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provided by the Smithsonian Women's Committee.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	James Vigeveno Galleries records
Date:	1940-1975
Identifier:	AAA.jamevige
Creator:	James Vigeveno Galleries
Extent:	2.9 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The records of California gallery James Vigeveno Galleries measure 2.9 linear feet and date from 1940 to 1975. The collection comprises sales records consisting of photograph albums, negatives, and card files; printed materials containing exhibition announcements and catalogs, and scrapbooks documenting exhibitions held at the gallery; and two photographic portraits of Vigeveno.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The James Vigeveno Galleries photograph albums were donated in 1987 by Annie Vigeveno, James Vigeveno's widow. Other material was donated in 2001, 2002, and 2005 by Tim and Lynn Mason, collectors of California art.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2021.

Preferred Citation

James Vigeveno Galleries records, 1940-1975. 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.

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Biographical / Historical

The James Vigeveno Galleries operated in Los Angeles from 1940 to 1956 and Ojai, a music and art/craft community located just north of Los Angeles, from 1957 to 1975. From 1957 to 1964 there were also periodic exhibitions of works from the Vigeveno Collection at the Bel-Air Hotel. Vigeveno (1895-1977) dealt primarily with French "modern and primitive" works, including artists of the School of Paris. American art, especially artists from California, were also represented. In addition, Chinese ceramics and Dutch and Flemish old master paintings were exhibited. Artists represented included Grandma Moses, Everett Shinn, John O'Shea, Rouault, Picasso, Chagall, Utrillo, William Ritschell, and others.

Scope and Contents

The records of California gallery James Vigeveno Galleries measure 2.9 linear feet and date from 1940 to 1975. The collection comprises sales records consisting of photograph albums, negatives, and card files; printed materials containing exhibition announcements and catalogs, and scrapbooks documenting exhibitions held at the gallery; and two photographic portraits of Vigeveno.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as three series.

- Series 1: Sales Records, 1941-1981 (2.0 linear feet; Boxes 1-2, 4)
- Series 2: Printed Materials, 1941-1981 (0.8 linear feet; Boxes 2-3, 5)
- Series 3: Portraits of Vigeveno, 1941-1981 (2 folders; Boxes 3, 5)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Scrapbooks

Names:

Vigeveno, James, d. 1977

Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- California

Container Listing

Series 1: Sales Records, circa 1950-1975

2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, 4)

Scope and Contents: The series contains 41 photograph albums of paintings sold through the gallery, accompanied by a full content list of artist names along with the titles of artwork in chronological order. Also included are slides, transparencies, and 169 negatives of the French and European modernist paintings that were sold by the Vigeveno Galleries during its years of operation. These negatives are accompanied by a full list of artwork and artist names in alphabetical order.

Other sales records consist of two sets of index cards. The first set is arranged by artist name along with names of galleries or collectors. The second set is arranged by gallery or collector name along with the name of the artwork sold. None of the records in the series note any pricing information.

Arrangement: The photographs were removed from the albums in which they were received for preservation purposes, but the original order of the photographs has been retained.

Box 4, Folder 1	Card File by Artist Name, 1950s
Box 4, Folder 2	Card File by Gallery/Collector Name, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 1	Photograph Albums, Full Content List, 1975
Box 1, Folder 2-33	Photograph Albums, Books 1-32, circa 1960s
Box 2, Folder 1-9	Photograph Albums, Books 33-41, circa 1960s
Box 2, Folder 10	Negatives, Full List of Artwork, circa 1960s
Box 2, Folder 11	Negatives, Beauchant-Bufferet, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 12	Negatives, Chagall-Clave, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 13	Negatives, Degas-Jawlensky, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 14	Negatives, Kisling-Moore, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 15	Negatives, Picasso-Rouault, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 16	Negatives, Segonzac-Utrillo, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 17	Negatives, Valtat-Vuillard, circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 18	Miscellaneous Slides and Transparencies, circa 1960s

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Series 2: Printed Materials, 1940-1964

0.8 Linear feet (Boxes 2-3, 5)

Scope and Contents: Series consists of a complete set of chronologically arranged announcements and catalogs for exhibitions held at the James Vigeveno Galleries, and three scrapbooks containing clippings of articles about exhibitions held from 1940 to 1956. The series also includes a chronological list of the gallery's exhibitions.

Box 2, Folder 19	Chronological List of Exhibitions, 1955
Box 2, Folder 20	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1940-1941
Box 2, Folder 21	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1942
Box 2, Folder 22	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1943
Box 2, Folder 23	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1944
Box 2, Folder 24	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1945
Box 2, Folder 25	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1946
Box 2, Folder 26	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1947
Box 2, Folder 27	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1948
Box 2, Folder 28	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1949
Box 2, Folder 29	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1950
Box 2, Folder 30	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1951
Box 2, Folder 31	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1952
Box 2, Folder 32	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1953
Box 2, Folder 33	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1954
Box 3, Folder 1	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1955
Box 3, Folder 2	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1956-1959
Box 3, Folder 3	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1961-1964
Box 3, Folder 4	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Ojai, California Location, circa 1960s

Box 3, Folder 5 [Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Bel-Air Hotel Location, 1957-1964](#)

Box 5, Folder 2 Scrapbook for Exhibitions 1-39, 1940-1943

Box 5, Folder 3 Scrapbook for Exhibitions 40-108, 1944-1950

Box 5, Folder 4 Scrapbook for Exhibitions 109-154, 1950-1956

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Series 3: Portraits of Vigeveno, circa 1956

2 Folders (Boxes 3, 5)

Scope and Contents: Series consists of two photographic portraits of the gallery owner, James Vigeveno.

Box 3, Folder 6	Photograph of Vigeveno, 1940-1956
Box 5, Folder 1	Photograph of Vigeveno, circa 1956

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