



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Howard Kanovitz papers

Archives of American Art  
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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Howard Kanovitz papers
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1950-2009
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.kanohowa
<b>Creator:</b>	Kanovitz, Howard
<b>Extent:</b>	11.5 Linear feet 1 Gigabyte
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated in 2021 by Carolyn Oldenbusch, Kanovitz's widow and Director of the Howard Kanovitz Foundation.

### Restrictions

This collection is temporarily closed to researchers due to archival processing. Contact References Services for more information.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Howard Kanovitz (1929-2009) was a painter based in New York City and Southampton, NY. After beginning his career as an abstract expressionist, in the mid-1960s he became one of the early practitioners of photorealism.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of painter Howard Kanovitz measure 11.5 linear feet and 1 GB and date from the mid-1950s through Kanovitz's death in 2009, with the bulk from 1966 to 1990. The collection documents Kanovitz's work as a professional artist through biographical material, personal and professional correspondence, writings, interviews, personal business records, exhibition and project files, photographic material, printed matter, preparatory drawings, and other studies for artworks. Correspondence and photographic material

reflects relationships with friends and colleagues, including Frank O'Hara, Larry Rivers, Gregory Corso, B.H. Friedman, and others, as well as curators, museums, and galleries in the United States and Europe. Exhibition and project files contain records of museum and gallery exhibitions, commissions, and collaborations, and include catalogues, printed invitations, and clippings. The collection contains files of photographic source material and large-scale preparatory drawings for Kanovitz's photo-based paintings, as well as sketchbooks and smaller studies. Photographic materials are primarily comprised of slides and color and black and white prints.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Photo-realism

Types of Materials:

Drawings

Occupations:

Painters -- New York (State) -- New York