



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Glen Kaufman Papers, 1957-2011, in the Archives of American Art

Lindsay Alderman

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Glen Kaufman papers
Date:	1957-2011
Identifier:	AAA.kaufglen
Creator:	Kaufman, Glen
Extent:	4.9 Linear feet 0.124 Gigabytes
Language:	The collection is in English.
Summary:	The papers of fiber artist and educator Glen Kaufman measure 4.9 linear feet and 0.124 GB and date from 1957-2011. The papers primarily document his travels and student work through biographical material, journals, printed materials, digital photographs and artwork. Included are 15 travel journals, two handwoven knotted pile rug samples, and two sketchbooks. An unprocessed addition of 3.8 linear feet donated in 2015 includes biographical material, professional correspondence, teaching files, photographs of Kaufman and works of art, works of art including sketches and weaving samples, and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Glen Kaufman in 2012 and 2015.

Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimal level and a finding aid prepared by Lindsay Alderman in 2013. The collection has been minimally rearranged and retains the existing/original folder titles when possible. All materials have been rehoused in archival folders and boxes for long-term stability, but often staples and other fasteners have not been removed. Materials within folders have not been rearranged. Additional papers received in 2015 are unprocessed. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2019 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Glen Kaufman papers, 1957-2011. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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Biographical / Historical

Glen Kaufman (1932-) is a textile artist who lives and works in Athens, Georgia and Kyoto, Japan. He was also a Professor of Art at the University of Georgia, Athens from 1967-2008.

After graduating with honors from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Kaufman went on to attend the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan and to obtain his MFA in 1959. The following year he attended the State School of Arts and Crafts in Copenhagen, Denmark on a Fulbright Grant.

In 1967 he began teaching fiber arts at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia where he continued teaching until 2008. In 1979 he traveled extensively throughout Asia and became enamored with Japan and their fiber arts traditions. By 1985 he was spending six months every year in Japan where he continued to work and show his art. His work from this time was heavily influenced by Japanese motifs such as the grid, which was predominately featured in his pieces. He continues to produce fiber art and display his work today in places such as the Lyndon House Arts Center in Athens, Georgia where he recently held an exhibition entitled "Kaunakes: Ghosts of Mesopotamia" in 2011.

Scope and Contents

The papers of fiber artist and educator Glen Kaufman measure 4.9 linear feet and 0.124 GB and date from 1957-2011. The papers primarily document his travels and student work through biographical material, journals, printed materials, digital photographs and artwork. Included are 15 travel journals, two handwoven knotted pile rug samples, and two sketchbooks. An unprocessed addition of 3.8 linear feet donated in 2015 includes biographical material, professional correspondence, teaching files, photographs of Kaufman and works of art, works of art including sketches and weaving samples, and printed material.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 4 series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1957-2011 (5 folders; Box 1, 0.124 GB; ER01)
 - Series 2: Travel Journals, 1987-1993 (0.4 linear feet; Boxes 1-2)
 - Series 3: Printed Material, 1976-2011 (5 folders; Box 2)
 - Series 4: Artwork, 1958-circa 1974 (0.4 linear feet; Boxes 2-3)
 - Series 5: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1957-2011 (3.8 linear feet; Boxes 4-9)
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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:

Fiber artists -- Georgia
Fiber artists -- Japan

Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks
Travel diaries

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, 1957-2011

5 Folders (Box 1)

0.124 Gigabytes (ER01)

Scope and Contents: Found here are a curriculum vitae, digital photographs from an exhibit entitled "Kaunakes: Ghosts of Mesopotamia", a notebook of student notes and project documents including fiber samples, slides of an exhibit, an invoice and cost sheet, and a research notebook containing notes and some drawings.

Arrangement: Kaufman's graduate studies notebook was removed from the original binder and split into two folders. The original order of the documents was kept intact.

Box 1, Folder 1 Curriculum Vitae, 2011

Folder ER01 Exhibition Photographs, "Kaunakes: Ghosts of Mesopotamia", Digital Photographs, 2011
0.124 Gigabytes (15 computer files)

Box 1, Folder 3 Notebook, Graduate Studies Cranbrook Academy of Art, 1957-1960

Box 1, Folder 4 Notebook, Studies State School of Arts and Crafts, 1957-1960

Box 1, Folder 5 Research Notebook on Historic Fabrics, 1973

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Series 2: Travel Journals, 1987-1993

0.4 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Found here are accounts of the artist's time spent in Japan for roughly six months per year including thoughts, daily activities, people he spent time with, shows he saw, his own work, and travel within Asia. Also included is one journal specific to his time spent in Malaysia though it only appears to contain a few entries.

Arrangement: Original chronological order of notebooks was maintained and the volume numbers were assigned by Kaufman.

Box 1, Folder 6	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1987
Box 1, Folder 7	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1987
Box 1, Folder 8	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1988
Box 1, Folder 9	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1988
Box 1, Folder 10	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1989
Box 1, Folder 11	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1989
Box 1, Folder 12	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1990
Box 2, Folder 1	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1990
Box 2, Folder 2	Japan Journal, vol. III, 1990
Box 2, Folder 3	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1991
Box 2, Folder 4	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1991
Box 2, Folder 5	Japan Journal, vol. I, 1992
Box 2, Folder 6	Malaysia Journal, 1992
Box 2, Folder 7	Japan Journal, vol. II and I, 1992-1993
Box 2, Folder 8	Japan Journal, vol. II, 1993

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Series 3: Printed Material, 1976-2011

5 Folders (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Printed material consists of exhibition flyers and a newspaper clipping regarding his show, "Kaunakes: Ghosts of Mesopotamia"; an American Craft magazine in which the artist is featured on page 40; an annotated book of maps of London; and an annotated directory of the Royal College of Art from when the artist was a guest lecturer in 1976.

Box 2, Folder 9 Exhibition Flyers, "Kaunakes: Ghosts of Mesopotamia", 2011

Box 2, Folder 10 Newspaper Clipping, 2011

Box 2, Folder 11 American Craft Magazine, 1991

Box 2, Folder 12 London Guide, circa 1970s

Box 2, Folder 13 Directory, Royal College of Art, 1976

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Series 4: Artwork, 1958-circa 1974

0.4 Linear feet (Boxes 2-3)

Scope and Contents: Found here are samples of two of the artist's handwoven, knotted pile rugs made while a graduate student at Cranbrook Academy of Art. Researchers should note that sketches of these works can be found in Kaufman's graduate studies notebook in Series 1: Biographical Material. There are also two sketchbooks, the first of which contained sketches in preparation for a solo show and the second, from his time studying in Copenhagen at the State School of Arts and Crafts.

Box 2, Folder 14 Sketchbook, circa 1974

Box 3, Folder 1 Sketchbook, State School of Arts and Crafts, 1959-1960

Box 3, Folder 2 Handwoven Knotted Pile Rug Sample, 1958-1959

Box 3, Folder 3 Handwoven Knotted Pile Rug Sample, 1959-1960

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Series 5: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1957-2011

3.8 Linear feet (Boxes 4-9)

Scope and Contents: An addition of 3.8 linear feet donated in 2015 includes biographical material, professional correspondence, teaching files, photographs of Kaufman and works of art, works of art including sketches and weaving samples, and printed material.

Box 4	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011
Box 5	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011
Box 6	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011
Box 7	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011
Box 8	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011
Box 9	Glen Kaufman papers, Unprocessed, circa 1957-2011

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