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Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis Records, 1976-1981, in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis records
Date:	1976-1981
Identifier:	AAA.losangei
Creator:	Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis
Extent:	1.1 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered records of the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis date from 1976 to 1981 and measure 1.1 linear feet. Founded in 1975, the organization offered a venue for avant-garde and experimental film as well as special merit documentaries. The records consist of scattered business and administrative records, including member information, the constitution, and by-laws; one folder of correspondence; various notes; printed materials; and a large number of files on filmmakers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Amy Halpern, one of the founders of the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis donated the records in 1994.

Processing Information

The records were processed by Jayna Hanson in 2008.

Preferred Citation

Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis records, 1976-1981. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

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Historical Note

The Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis was founded by a group of independent filmmakers, critics, and theorists in March 1976. The mission of the non-profit organization was to provide a southern California venue for mostly experimental and avant-garde film.

The Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis operated as a member group, and in addition to showing film, offered the opportunity for new and established filmmakers to interact and exchange ideas, and to promote cinematography as a fine art. The Oasis held film screenings about twice monthly in the gallery of the Los Angeles Institute for Contemporary Art. Although most of the films were experimental or avant-garde, the members also showed some feature films and documentaries considered to be particularly important. The Oasis served as the only regular screening venue in Los Angeles at which new and unknown filmmakers could show their works. The Oasis was dissolved in 1981.

Members and founders of the Oasis included Paul Arthur, Roberta Friedman, Leslie Gehry, Lynn Gerry, Amy Halpern, Tom Lesser, Sandy Matthews, Beverly O'Neill, Pat O'Neill, Magdalena Rangel, Tim Shepard, Grahame Weinbren, Susan Rosenblum, Brent Wilcox, Diana Wilson, David Wilson and Arlene Zeichner.

The Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis showed films by Kenneth Anger, Bruce Baillie, John Baldessari, Stan Brakhage, Rudy Burckhardt, Bruce Conner, John Cornell, Maya Deren, Jules Engel, Morgan Fisher, Oskar Fischinger, Hollis Frampton, Robert Huot, Larry Jordan, Fernand Leger, William Moritz, Susan Pitt, Hans Richter, Michael Snow, Chick Strand, John Whitney, and Emerson Woelffer, among others.

Scope and Content Note

The scattered records of the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis date from 1976 to 1981 and measure 1.1 linear feet. The records consist of scattered business and administrative records, one folder of correspondence, various notes, printed materials, and a large number of files on filmmakers and cinematographers.

Scattered business and administrative records include the constitution and by-laws of the organization, founding information, contracts, member information, film rental documents, and film screening schedules. Resumes are found for Oasis members Morgan Fisher, Roberta Friedman, Leslie Gehry, Lyn Gerry, Amy Halpern, Beverly and Pat O'Neill, and William Moritz.

There is one folder of scattered correspondence dating from circa 1977-1981, financial notes, meeting notes, and program notes. Printed materials include announcements and posters, printed articles written by members, clippings, press releases, and film programs.

The largest series consists of compiled files on filmmakers and cinematographers, most of whom showed at the Oasis. Files contain a variety of materials, such as clippings, reviews, programs, biographies, and notes.

Arrangement

The records are arranged into five series:

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Scattered Business Records, 1976-1981 (Box 1; 13 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1977-1981 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 3: Notes, circa 1979-1980 (Box 1; 4 folders)
- Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1976-1981 (Box 1, OV 2; 0.25 linear feet)
- Series 5: Filmmakers' Files, 1976-1981 (Box 1; 0.5 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Experimental films
Filmmakers -- California -- Los Angeles

Names:

Fisher, Morgan, 1942-
Friedman, Roberta
Gehry, Leslie
Gerry, Lyn
Halpern, Amy
Möritz, William
O'Neill, Beverly
O'Neill, Pat, 1939-

Occupations:

Cinematographers

Container Listing

Series 1: Scattered Business Records, 1976-1981

(Box 1; 13 folders)

Scope and Contents: Scattered business records include contracts, grant proposals, film rental agreements, the constitution and by-laws, a check ledger, written histories of the organization, schedules of film screenings, tax information, a job description, forms, and publicity contacts. Also found are resumes of Oasis members Morgan Fisher, Roberta Friedman, Leslie Gehry, Lyn Gerry, Amy Halpern, Beverly and Pat O'Neill, and William Moritz.

See Appendix for a list of Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis screenings from Series 1.

Appendix: List of Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis Screenings from Series 1: Below is a list of all known film screenings held at the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis as documented within the records.

	Date	Film Screening
	1976 <i>March</i> 7	Norman Zammitt
	1976 <i>April</i> 8	<i>New Westerns</i>
	1976 <i>April</i> 22	<i>Films by Women Independent Filmmakers</i>
	1976 <i>May</i> 2	<i>Landscapes: An Exploration of Open Spaces</i>
	1976 <i>May</i> 16	Chick Strand
	1976 <i>May</i> 30	<i>Funny Business</i>
	1976 <i>June</i> 6	Werner Schroeter
	1976 <i>June</i> 6	Udo Serke
	1976 <i>June</i> 13	<i>Eastern Influences</i>
	1976 <i>July</i> 25	<i>House Blend</i>

1976 August 22	Thom Anderson
1976 August 22	David Lamelas
1976 August 22	Robert Nelson
1976 August 29	<i>An Evening of Deranged Funnies</i>
1976 October 3	Pat O'Neill
1976 October 17	Rudy Burckhardt
1976 October 31	William Raban
1976 November 21	<i>New British Avant-Garde, Part 1</i>
1976 November 28	<i>New British Avant-Garde, Part 2</i>
1976 December 12	<i>L.A. Today</i>
1977 January 9	<i>Trollstenen</i>
1977 January 23	<i>Night Cleaners</i>
1977 February 6	<i>L.A. Today</i>
1977 February 27	Jack Goldstein
1977 April 10	Robert Breer

1977 April 24	Hollis Frampton
1977 May 8	James McBride
1977 May 8	Kenneth Anger
1977 May 8	George Kuchar
1977 May 15	Robert Bresson
1977 May 29	<i>Films with Few Images</i>
1977 June 12	Michael Snow
1977 June 26	<i>The Naked and the Nude</i>
1977 July 10	<i>Eye Music, San Francisco</i>
1977 July 24	<i>Films by Jean-Marie Straub and Thom Anderson</i>
1977 September 18	Michael Snow
1977 September 18	Robert Nelson
1977 October 2	<i>The Films of Gary Beydler</i>
1977 October 16	Maya Deren
1977 October 16	Andrew Noren

1977 October 16	Dore O
1977 November 5	Paul Sharits
1977 November 6	Hollis Frampton
1977 November 6	David Wilson
1977 November 6	Victor Grauer
1977 November 6	Bruce Conner
1977 November 20	<i>Films by Women</i>
1977 December 4	<i>Juvenile Liason</i>
1977 December 18	Rosa von Praunheim
1978 January 15	<i>Artifacts from the Machine Age</i>
1978 January 29	Kenji Mizoguchi
1978 February 12	<i>The Present Remembered</i>
1978 February 26	<i>Films by Jean-Marie Straub</i>
1978 March 12	<i>Oasis Potluck</i>
1978 March 19	Warren Sonbert

1978 April 2	Dan Graham
1978 April 16	James Broughton
1978 April 30	Jon Jost
1978 May 21	John Whitney
1978 May 28	Hans Richter
1978 June 11	Hollis Frampton
1978 July 2	<i>White, Scorsese, Gutman</i>
1978 July 16	<i>Gottheim, Benning</i>
1978 July 23	Robert Nelson
1978 July 30	Lenny Lipton
1978 August 13	<i>Some Interesting New Films</i>
1978 August 27	<i>Super 8 Films</i>
1978 September 17	Kenji Mizoguchi
1978 September 24	Bruce Conner
1978 September 24	Bruce Baillie

1978 September 24	Danny Lyons
1978 October 1	Victor Faccinto
1978 October 15	Jon Rubin
1978 October 29	Lewis Hock
1978 November 19	<i>Films of Ernie Gehr and Vincent Grenier</i>
1978 November 26	Richard Meyers
1978 December 3	Yvonne Rainer
1978 December 10	Joseph Cornell
1979 January 14	Martha Haslanger
1979 January 28	William Moritz
1979 February 18	Roy Barge
1979 February 24-25	<i>Ondine with Chelsea Girls</i>
1979 March 11	James Benning
1979 April 1	Suzan Pitt
1979 April 8	Ericka Beckman

1979 April 22	Animation
1979 May 27	Ernie Gehr
1979 June 3	Babette Mangolte
1979 June 10	Robert Bresson
1979 June 17	Maya Deren
1979 June 24	Andrew Noren
1979 September 23	Stan Brakhage
1979 September 30	Emerson Woelffer
1979 October 7	Roberta Friedman
1979 October 7	Grahame Weinbren
1979 October 14	Larry Gottheim
1979 October 28	James Whitney
1979 November 4	Guvnor Nelson
1979 November 4	Dorothy Wiley
1979 November 11	George Griffin

1979 November 18	Bill Brand
1979 November 25	Chick Strand
1979 December 2	Malcolm Le Grice
1979 December 9	Suzan Pitt
1979 December 9	Tim Shepard
1979 December 9	Anita Thatcher
1979 December 16	<i>New Animated Shorts</i>
1980 January 1	Oskar Fischinger
1980 January 28	Roberta Friedman
1980 January 28	Grahame Weinbren
1980 February 10	Danny Lyons
1980 February 10	Chick Strand
1980 February 10	Bruce Conner
1980 February 17	Dennis Pies
1980 February 24	Amos Poe

1980 March 2	<i>Pat's Selection</i>
1980 March 9	Vincent Grenier
1980 March 16	Henry Hills
1980 March 23	<i>New Bay Area Films</i>
1980 March 30	Manuel De Landa
1980 April 6	Robert Huot
1980 April 13	<i>Oblowitz, McCall, Gordon</i>
1980 April 20	Lionel Soukaz
1980 April 20	Guy Hocquenhem
1980 April 27	J.J. Murphy
1980 May 11	Owen Land
1980 May 18	Rick Blanchard
1980 May 25	Yvonne Blanchard
1980 June 1	Larry Jordan
1980 June 15	Robert Frank

1980 June 22	<i>Oasis Group Show</i>
1980 June 29	<i>The Italian Olfactory Cinema of Gianikian and Ricci Lucchi</i>
1980 September 21	<i>Salt for Svanetia</i>
1980 September 28	John Baldessari
1980 October 5	Ann Arbor Film Festival
1980 October 12	Bruce Baillie
1980 October 19	<i>Birnbaum, Haslanger, Keller</i>
1980 October 26	<i>Ethnographic Films</i>
1980 November 2	Rob Danielson
1980 November 9	<i>Smithson, Serra, Oldenburg, Mangolte and Childs</i>
1980 November 16	Jonas Mekas
1980 November 23	<i>Saint Carmin's Choice</i>
1980 December 7	Jean Pierre Gorin
1980 December 14	Pat O'Neill
1981 March 15	Susan Kleckner

1981 June 21	Michael Snow
1981 June 28	<i>Polish Avant-Garde</i>
1981 July 5	Alex Cox
1981 July 5	Amy Halpern
1981 July 12	<i>Chicago Filmmakers; Edited by Harvey Nosowitz</i>
1981 July 19	<i>The Oasis Police Show</i>
1981 July 26	Stan Brakhage
1981 August 2	<i>Political Newsreels</i>
1981 August 23	Pat O'Neill

Box 1, Folder 1	Check Ledger, 1979-1981
Box 1, Folder 2	Constitution and By-Laws, circa 1976
Box 1, Folder 3	Contracts, 1981
Box 1, Folder 4	Film Rentals, 1981
Box 1, Folder 5	Grant Proposals, 1980
Box 1, Folder 6	Historical Information, circa 1970s
Box 1, Folder 7	Job Description, 1981
Box 1, Folder 8	Member Information, circa 1970s
Box 1, Folder 9	Memoranda, 1980
Box 1, Folder 10	Publicity Contacts, circa 1979

Box 1, Folder 11 Schedules of Film Screenings, 1976-1981

Box 1, Folder 12 Tax Information, 1977, 1979

Box 1, Folder 13 Work Schedules, circa 1980

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Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1977-1981

(Box 1; 1 folder)

Scope and Contents: There is one folder of scattered correspondence.

Box 1, Folder 14 General Correspondence, circa 1977-1981

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Series 3: Notes, circa 1979-1980

(Box 1; 4 folders)

Scope and Contents: This series consists of scattered notes relating to meetings, finances, and programs.

Box 1, Folder 15	Notes, 1970s
Box 1, Folder 16	Financial Notes, 1970s
Box 1, Folder 17	Meeting Notes, 1970s
Box 1, Folder 18	Program Notes, 1979-1980

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Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1976-1981

(Box 1, OV 2; 0.25 linear feet)

Scope and Contents: This series consists of announcements, posters, printed articles by and about Oasis, clippings, newsletters from the Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art (LAICA), film programs, business cards, Oasis letterhead, and press releases.

Box 1, Folder 19	Announcements and Posters, 1976-1981 (Oversized Items housed in OV2)
Box 1, Folder 20	Articles Written by Oasis Members, 1976-1979
Box 1, Folder 21	Business Cards, circa 1970s
Box 1, Folder 22	Clippings, circa 1970s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 23	LAICA Newsletters, 1979-1980
Box 1, Folder 24	Membership Forms, undated
Box 1, Folder 25	Program Drafts, 1976-1980
Box 1, Folder 26	Oasis Letterhead, circa 1970s
Box 1, Folder 27	Press Releases, 1976-1981
Box 1, Folder 28-29	Oasis Programs, 1976-1981 (2 folders)
Oversize 2, Folder	Oversized Announcements and Posters, 1976-1981 (From Box 1, F19)

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Series 5: Filmmaker and Artists Files, 1976-1981

(Box 1; 0.5 linear feet)

Scope and Contents: Found here are files about filmmakers, cinematographers, and other film artists that showed at the Los Angeles Independent Film Oasis. There are also a few files relating to specific film programs held at the Oasis. Files may include a variety of scattered clippings, reviews, programs, biographies and notes. See the Index for Series 1 for a list of all film screenings held by Oasis.

Box 1, Folder 30	Anderson, Thom, 1976-1977
Box 1, Folder 31	Ann Arbor Film Festival, 1979
Box 1, Folder 32	Artifacts from the Machine Age, 1978
Box 1, Folder 33	Baillie, Bruce, 1980
Box 1, Folder 34	Baldessari, John, 1980
Box 1, Folder 35	Beckman, Ericka, 1979
Box 1, Folder 36	Berry, David, 1978
Box 1, Folder 37	Berwick Street Film Collective of London, 1977
Box 1, Folder 38	Beydler, Gary, 1977
Box 1, Folder 39	Birnbaum, Dara, 1980
Box 1, Folder 40	Blanchard, Rick, 1980
Box 1, Folder 41	Brand, Bill, 1979
Box 1, Folder 42	Breer, Robert, 1977
Box 1, Folder 43	Bresson, Robert, 1977, 1979
Box 1, Folder 44	British Avant-Garde Film, 1976
Box 1, Folder 45	Broomfield, Nicholas and Churchill, Joan, 1977
Box 1, Folder 46	Broughton, James, 1978
Box 1, Folder 47	Burckhardt, Rudy, 1976
Box 1, Folder 48	Churchill, Joan, 1977

	(See Box 1, F45)
Box 1, Folder 49	Conner, Bruce, 1977
Box 1, Folder 50	Cornell, Joseph, 1978
Box 1, Folder 51	Danielson, Rob, 1980
Box 1, Folder 52	DeLanda, Manuel, 1980
Box 1, Folder 53	Demetrakas, Johanna, 1979
Box 1, Folder 54	Deren, Maya, 1977, 1979
Box 1, Folder 55	The Eastern Influence, 1976
Box 1, Folder 56	Ethnographic Films, 1980
Box 1, Folder 57	Eye Music, 1977
Box 1, Folder 58	Faccinto, Victor, 1978
Box 1, Folder 59	Films by Women, 1976-1977
Box 1, Folder 60	Firestone, Cinda, 1976
Box 1, Folder 61	Fischinger, Oskar
Box 1, Folder 62	Frampton, Hollis, 1977-1978
Box 1, Folder 63	Frank, Robert, 1980
Box 1, Folder 64	Friedman, Roberta
Box 1, Folder 65	Funny Business, 1976
Box 1, Folder 66	Gehr, Ernie, 1979
Box 1, Folder 67	Goldstein, Jack, 1977
Box 1, Folder 68	Gordon, Bette, 1980
Box 1, Folder 69	Gottheim, Larry, 1979
Box 1, Folder 70	Graham, Dan, 1978
Box 1, Folder 71	Grauer, Victor, 1977
Box 1, Folder 72	Haslanger, Martha, 1980

Box 1, Folder 73	Hock, Louis, 1978
Box 1, Folder 74	Hocquenghem, Guy, 1980 (See Box 1, F113)
Box 1, Folder 75	House Blend, 1976
Box 1, Folder 76	Huot, Robert, 1980
Box 1, Folder 77	Iimura, Taka, 1979-1980
Box 1, Folder 78	Jordan, Larry, 1980
Box 1, Folder 79	Jost, Jon, 1978
Box 1, Folder 80	Kalatazof, Mikhail, 1980
Box 1, Folder 81	Keller, Marjorie, 1980
Box 1, Folder 82	Kleckner, Susan, 1981
Box 1, Folder 83	Lamelas, David, 1976
Box 1, Folder 84	Land, Owen (formerly George Landow), 1980
Box 1, Folder 85	Landscapes, 1976
Box 1, Folder 86	Lyons, Danny, 1978
Box 1, Folder 87	Lipton, Lenny, 1978
Box 1, Folder 88	McBride, James, 1977
Box 1, Folder 89	Mangotte, Babette, 1979
Box 1, Folder 90	Mekas, James, 1976, 1980
Box 1, Folder 91	Mizoguchi, Kenji, 1978
Box 1, Folder 92	Moritz, William, 1977
Box 1, Folder 93	Murphy, J.J., 1980
Box 1, Folder 94	The Naked and the Nude, 1977
Box 1, Folder 95	Nelson, Robert, 1978
Box 1, Folder 96	New Animated Shorts, 1979

Box 1, Folder 97	New Westerns, 1976
Box 1, Folder 98	O'Neill, Pat, 1976
Box 1, Folder 99	Oblowitz, Michael, 1979-1980
Box 1, Folder 100	Pies, Dennis, 1979
Box 1, Folder 101	Pitt, Suzan, 1979
Box 1, Folder 102	Poe, Amos, 1978
Box 1, Folder 103	The Present Remembered, 1978
Box 1, Folder 104	Raban, William, 1976
Box 1, Folder 105	Rainer, Yvonne, 1977, 1980
Box 1, Folder 106	Regan, Chris, 1976
Box 1, Folder 107	Richter, Hans, 1978
Box 1, Folder 108	Rosenfeld, Susan, 1977
Box 1, Folder 109	Schroeter, Werner, 1976
Box 1, Folder 110	Serke, Udo, 1976
Box 1, Folder 111	Sharits, Paul, 1977
Box 1, Folder 112	Snow, Michael, 1977
Box 1, Folder 113	Sonbert, Warren, 1978
Box 1, Folder 114	Soukas, Lionel and Hocquenghem, Guy, 1980
Box 1, Folder 115	Strand, Chick, 1976, 1979
Box 1, Folder 116	Straub, Jean-Marie, 1978
Box 1, Folder 117	Vigil, Carmen, 1978
Box 1, Folder 118	von Praunheim, Rosa, 1977
Box 1, Folder 119	Whitney, John, 1978

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