



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Ron Nagle Papers,  
1969-2004, in the Archives of American Art

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## Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Collection Overview .....                   |   |
| Administrative Information .....            | 1 |
| Biographical / Historical .....             | 2 |
| Scope and Contents .....                    | 2 |
| Arrangement .....                           | 2 |
| Names and Subjects .....                    |   |
| Container Listing .....                     |   |
| Series 1: Ron Nagle Papers, 1969-2004 ..... | 3 |

## Collection Overview

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives of American Art  |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Ron Nagle papers  |
| <b>Date:</b>       | 1969-2004   |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | AAA.naglron   |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Nagle, Ron  |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 0.4 Linear feet   |
| <b>Language:</b>   | English .   |
| <b>Summary:</b>    | The papers of San Francisco ceramicist Ron Nagle measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1969 to 2004. The collection consists of original pencil drawings by Nagle, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a few miscellaneous printed materials, and slides of artwork. |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 2003 by Ron Nagle and Rena Bransten as part of the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America. Sixteen drawings were donated by Rena Bransten of the Rena Bransten Gallery which represented Nagle.

### Related Materials

Also in the Archives of American Art is an interview of Ron Nagle conducted July 8-9, 2003 by Bill Berkson, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America, in San Francisco, C.A.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Sarah Mundy in 2022.

### Preferred Citation

Ron Nagle papers, 1969-2004. 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.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Ron Nagle (1938- ) is a ceramicist in San Francisco, California.

Nagle received his Bachelor of Arts degree from San Francisco State College in 1961. Following graduation, he worked as a studio assistant for Peter Voulkos, who had carried the California ceramics revolution up from Los Angeles to the University of California at Berkeley. Nagle was equally inspired by Ken Price's use of bright, low fire glazes and Giorgio Morandi's expressive paintings of common objects. Nagle decided to focus on small ceramic cups as a format for conceptual and formal concerns. Over the past thirty years, the cup has remained the primary departure point for his work. In the sixties and seventies, Nagle taught at the San Francisco Art Institute, the University of California at Berkeley, the California College of Arts, and Mills College in Oakland, California.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of San Francisco ceramicist Ron Nagle measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1969 to 2004. The collection consists of original pencil drawings by Nagle, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a few miscellaneous printed materials, and slides of artwork.

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## Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

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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:

- American studio craft movement
- Decorative arts

### Types of Materials:

- Drawings

### Names:

- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America

### Occupations:

- Ceramicists -- California -- San Francisco

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Ron Nagle Papers, 1969-2004

#### *0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Scope and Contents: The series consists of original pencil drawings by Nagle, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a few miscellaneous printed materials, and slides of artwork.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 1   | <a href="#">Drawings, circa 1983</a>             |
| Box 1, Folder 2-4 | Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1969-2004 |
| Box 1, Folder 5   | Miscellaneous Printed Materials, 1983-1984       |
| Box 1, Folder 6-7 | Slides of Artwork, circa 1980s                   |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)