



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Barbara Shissler Nosanow  
materials relating to Howard Finster

Archives of American Art  
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Barbara Shissler Nosanow materials relating to Howard Finster
<b>Date:</b>	[ca. 1981]
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.nosabarb
<b>Creator:</b>	Nosanow, Barbara Shissler
<b>Extent:</b>	18 Items ((on partial microfilm reel))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Transferred 1993 from the National Museum of American Art, which received the materials from Howard Finster.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4961 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Barbara Shissler Nosanow was the curator of an exhibit titled "More than land or sky: art from Appalachia," which ran at the National Museum of American Art from October 30, 1981 to January 3, 1982, and featured works by self-taught artist Howard Finster.

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## Scope and Contents

A letter from Finster to Barbara Shissler Nosanow at the National Museum of American Art, discussing his upcoming visit to Washington, D.C. The letter is illustrated in pencil with sketches of Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, William Henry Harrison, Andrew Jackson and William Shakespeare. Finster writes: "I am excited to be coming to Washington where these great men once had our future responsibility upon them I feel so unworthy to live in a world of luxury (sic) and these great men paved our way..." Also included are several handmade cards and leaflets, enclosed in a note to Nosanow: "I was going to demastrat (sic) how I make these card in the show but we ran out of time."

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Finster, Howard, 1916-2001  
National Museum of American Art (U.S.)

Occupations:

Self-taught artists -- Georgia