



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Lil Picard Papers, circa 1940-1972, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

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Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Lil Picard papers
Date:	circa 1940-1972
Identifier:	AAA.picalil
Creator:	Picard, Lil
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet
Language:	Material is in German and English.
Summary:	The papers of avant-garde painter and journalist Lil Picard measure 0.4 linear feet and date from circa 1940 to 1972. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, and exhibition files, interviews conducted by Picard, photographs, and printed material. Also found are Picard's writings in English and German regarding the feminist art movement in the U.S. and the Art Workers Coalition.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1973 by Lil Picard.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Lil Picard papers, circa 1940-1972. 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.

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Biographical / Historical

Lil Picard (1899-1994) was a German-born journalist, assemblage artist, performance artist, and painter in New York City, New York. Picard was active in the counterculture scene and was a longtime writer for *Interview* magazine.

Scope and Contents

The papers of avant-garde painter and journalist Lil Picard measure 0.4 linear feet and date from circa 1940 to 1972. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, and exhibition files, interviews conducted by Picard, photographs, and printed material. Also found are Picard's writings in English and German regarding the feminist art movement in the U.S. and the Art Workers Coalition.

Arrangement

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

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women art critics
- Women artists
- Women painters
- Women performance artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews

Names:

- Art Workers Coalition

Occupations:

- Assemblage artists -- New York (State) -- New York
- Journalists -- New York (State) -- New York
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
- Performance artists -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Lil Picard Papers, circa 1940-1972

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials include a sketch of Picard which is unsigned, a list of invitations sent, and an autobiographical sketch. Correspondence is primarily professional in nature and includes letters from Shirley Clarke, Kiki Kogelnik, galleries, and institutions. Two transcripts of interviews conducted by Picard are with John Hightower and Holly Solomon. An exhibition file includes printed material, notes, and writings for various installations and exhibitions including *Construction, Destruction, Construction and Manipulations*. Photographs include photos of Picard, her works of art, and installations. Printed materials consist of clippings and exhibition announcements and catalogs for Picard and for others. Also found are writings on art, the feminist art movement in the United States, and the Art Workers Coalition. Many letters and writings are in German.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1968-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1957-1972
Box 1, Folder 3	Exhibitions File, circa 1968-circa 1972
Box 1, Folder 4	Interviews, 1972
Box 1, Folder 5	Photographs, circa 1940-1970
Box 1, Folder 6-8	Printed Material, 1955-1972
Box 1, Folder 9	Writings, English, 1967-1971
Box 1, Folder 10	Writings, German, 1967-1971

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