



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Stephen Poleskie Papers and Chiron Press Records, 1961-2020, in the Archives of American Art

Lewis Tio

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

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records, 1961-2020.....	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records
Date:	1961-2020 (bulk 1963-1968)
Identifier:	AAA.polestep
Creator:	Poleskie, Steve, 1938-
Extent:	1 Linear foot
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records measure 1.0 linear feet and date from circa 1961-2020, with the bulk from 1963-1968. Stephen (Steve) Poleskie was a painter and printmaker in New York. From 1963 to 1968 he operated Chiron Press, New York City's first fine art screen printing studio. A bulk of this collection includes business correspondence and financial documents as well as writings, printed materials, photographic materials, and digital video recordings that document Poleskie's own career as an artist as well as the activities of Poleskie's Chiron Press.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated in 2022 by Jeanne Mackin, Stephen Poleskie's widow.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Lewis Tio in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records, 1961-2020. 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. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact References Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

Stephen (Steve) Poleskie (1938-2019) was a painter and printmaker in New York. From 1963 to 1968 he operated Chiron Press, New York City's first fine art screen printing studio. In 1968, Poleskie sold Chiron Press and became a professor of studio art at Cornell University from 1968 until his retirement in 2000. Poleskie was also a skilled pilot and would create art while flying and trailing smoke, the performance of which he coined, Aerial Theater.

Scope and Contents

The Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records measure 1.0 linear feet and date from circa 1961-2020, with the bulk from 1963-1968. The collection documents Poleskie's own career as an artist as well as the activities of Poleskie's Chiron Press, New York City's first fine art screen printing studio. The collection includes personal and business correspondence with artists, dealers, collectors, and curators; business and financial records; legal documents; notes and writings by Poleskie; clippings, news articles, catalogs, a copy of The Paris Review, preparatory materials for screen prints; photographic materials which includes a photograph of Elaine de Kooning; and digital video recordings related to works by Poleskie.

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:

- Pilots
- Printing industry

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Video recordings

Names:

- Chiron Press

Occupations:

- Educators -- New York (State)
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
- Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Stephen Poleskie papers and Chiron Press records, 1961-2020

1 Linear foot (Box 1, OV 2)

Scope and Contents: The collection includes personal and business correspondence with artists, dealers, collectors, and curators; business and financial records; legal documents; notes and writings by Poleskie; clippings, news articles, catalogs, a copy of *The Paris Review*, preparatory materials for screen prints; photographic materials which includes a photograph of Elaine de Kooning; and digital video recordings related to works by Poleskie.

Box 1, Folder 1	Address Book, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Articles re Stephen Poleskie and Chiron Press, 1966-2020
Box 1, Folder 3	Associated American Artists, Business Correspondence and Sales Records, 1968-1972
Box 1, Folder 4	Business Ledger, 1965
Box 1, Folder 5	Catalogs and Exhibition Announcements, 1961-1985
Oversize 2	Catalogs and Exhibition Announcements, 1965, 1983, 2011-2012
Box 1, Folder 6	Chiron Press, Certificate of Discontinuance of Business, 1968
Box 1, Folder 7	Chiron Press, Transfer of Ownership, 1966
Box 1, Folder 8	Clippings re Stephen Poleskie and Chiron Press, 1965-1975
Box 1, Folder 9	Exhibition Announcements, Catalogs, and Checklists for Benefits and Fundraisers, 1963-1975, 2011
Box 1, Folder 10	Financial Records, Bank Statements and Check Stubs, 1964-1968
Box 1, Folder 11	Flying, Parts 1 and 2, 2003 2 Electronic discs (CD)
Box 1, Folder 12	Holiday Postcards, 1963, undated
Box 1, Folder 13	Interview with Stephen Poleskie, 1968
Box 1, Folder 14	Jackie Fine Arts, Inc., Option Purchase Agreements, 1979-1980
Box 1, Folder 15	Photographs of Stephen Poleskie, 1965-1967, 1982 Notes: Also includes a photograph of Elaine de Kooning and Nick Kruschnik.

Box 1, Folder 16	Print Work Invitations, undated
Box 1, Folder 17	Professional Correspondence, 1962-2014, undated
Box 1, Folder 18	Ralph Hughes' Shaftway, undated
Box 1, Folder 19	Richard Feigen Graphics, 1968-1969
Box 1, Folder 20	Sales Records, 1965-1970
Box 1, Folder 21	Sales Records, 1966-1972
Box 1, Folder 22	The Bird Film, 1966 1 Electronic discs (DVD)
Box 1, Folder 23	The Paris Review 78, 1980
Box 1, Folder 24	The Paris Review, Business Correspondence, 1965-1968
Box 1, Folder 25	The Paris Review, Preparatory Materials, 1965-1968
Box 1, Folder 26	Wilderness Art Mtq. Co., Business Certificate, 1968
Box 1, Folder 27	Writings by Stephen Poleskie, 1965-1969

[Return to Table of Contents](#)