



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Aimée Brown Price Research Material Regarding Carlos Almaraz, circa 1973-2021, in the Archives of American Art

Whitney Sprinkle

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Aimée Brown Price research material regarding Carlos Almaraz
Date:	1973-2021
Identifier:	AAA.pricaime
Creator:	Price, Aimée Brown, 1939-
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet 1.12 Gigabytes
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Aimée Brown Price research material regarding Carlos Almaraz measures 0.4 linear feet and 1.12 gigabytes, and dates from 1973 to 2021, with the bulk dating from 1974 to 1992. The collection includes letters, print and digital photographs, and printed materials received by Price from Almaraz; Price's own notes and writings on Almaraz's work; and photographs and printed material relating to Almaraz collected by Price.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated in 2022 by Aimée Brown Price and Monroe Price.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art are the Carlos Almaraz and Elsa Flores papers. 1946-1996.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Whitney Sprinkle in 2022. Born-digital materials processed by Ryan Evans in 2024.

Preferred Citation

Aimée Brown Price research materials regarding Carlos Almaraz, circa 1973-2021. 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 in this collection must use access copies. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

Aimée Brown Price (1939-) is an American art historian based in New York City. Price met Almaraz while she was teaching at Otis Art Institute of Los Angeles County (now Otis College of Art and Design), where he was a student. She and her husband Monroe Price collected works by Almaraz, and Monroe provided pro bono legal representation to Almaraz and Los Four in their 1974 dispute with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Carlos Almaraz (1941-1989) was a painter and muralist in Los Angeles, California. Almaraz was born in Mexico City, moved to Chicago in 1942, and settled in Los Angeles in 1949. He studied at California State College, the Otis Art Institute, and the University of California in Los Angeles. He moved to New York City in 1965, where he studied at the Art Students League and New School of Social Research. In 1970, Almaraz returned to Los Angeles. He became active with mural painting within the Mexican American community in Los Angeles. Along with Gilbert Lujan, Beto de la Rocha, and Frank Romero, Almaraz founded the artist collective Los Four. In the late 1980s, Almaraz was diagnosed with AIDS, and he died from complications of the disease in 1989.

Scope and Contents

The Aimée Brown Price research material regarding Carlos Almaraz measures 0.4 linear feet and 1.12 gigabytes, and dates from 1973 to 2021, with the bulk from 1974 to 1992. The collection includes letters, print and digital photographs, and printed materials received by Price from Almaraz; Price's own notes and writings on Almaraz's work; and photographs and printed material relating to Almaraz collected by Price.

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:

- Chicano art movement
- Chicano artists
- Latino and Latin American artists

Types of Materials:

- Drawings

Names:

- Almaraz, Carlos
- Los Four (Art group)

Occupations:

Art historians -- New York (State) -- New York
Muralists -- California -- Los Angeles
Painters -- California -- Los Angeles

Container Listing

Series 1: Research Material, 1973-2021

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

1.12 Gigabytes (ER0001)

Scope and Contents: Research material consists of press releases, exhibition announcements, correspondence, checklists, and posters related to the artist collective Los Four dated from 1973 to 1974; letters to Aimée Brown Price; photographic material; printed material; sketches; and writings. Letters to Aimée Brown Price are primarily from Carlos Almaraz, but also include letters from Catherine Sauds of Phyllis Kind Gallery and Almaraz's widow Elsa Flores dating between circa 1973 and circa 1992. Many of the letters sent by Almaraz include attachments that highlight events throughout his career. Some are also addressed to Price's husband Monroe, documenting the friendship between the two couples. Photographic material includes color and black and white slides, prints, and digital photographs that document Almaraz's work and his family. Three of the photographs were used as postcards that Almaraz sent to the Prices. Printed material dates from circa 1978 to circa 2021 and includes clippings, press releases, and exhibition catalogs and announcements that document Almaraz's career as an artist. The sketches are undated and include a pencil drawing on a paper plate with Almaraz's address and an oversized mock-up of a newsletter. Writings and notes dates between circa 1979 and circa 1991 and include Price's draft biographical essays and research notes regarding Almaraz.

Box 1, Folder 1	Carlos Almaraz and Los Four, 1973-1974
Box 1, Folder 2	Letters to Aimee Brown Price, circa 1973- circa 1992
Box 1, Folder 3	Photographic Material: Slides and Photographs [1], circa 1978- circa 1984
Box 1, Folder 4	Photographic Material: Slides and Photographs [2], circa 1978- circa 1984
Folder ER0001	Almaraz Chapter 6 with Images, Digital Documents and Photographs, 2005 1.12 Gigabytes (208 computer files)
Box 1, Folder 6	Printed Material: Clippings, Catalogs, and Announcements [1], undated, 1978-1985
Box 1, Folder 7	Printed Material: Clippings, Catalogs, and Announcements [2], 1987-circa 2021
Box 1, Folder 8	Sketches, Undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Writings and Notes, circa 1979 - circa 1991, Undated

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