



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Rose Fried Gallery Records,
1936-1972, in the Archives of American Art

Kendra Jae

Funding for the processing of this collection was provided by the
Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund.

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Rose Fried Gallery Records
Identifier:	AAA.rosefrig
Date:	1936-1972 (bulk 1945-1970)
Extent:	8.1 Linear feet
Creator:	Rose Fried Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Language:	English Most of the collection is in English. A few scattered records are in French, German, Italian, and Spanish. English; French; German; Italian; Spanish
Summary:	The Rose Fried Gallery records measure 8.1 linear feet and date from 1936 to 1972 with the bulk of materials dating from 1945 to 1970. The majority of the collection consists of artists files documenting the gallery's relationship with abstract, modern, and Latin American artists; additional named subject files; and scattered administrative and financial files. Individual artists and subject files contain a wide variety of documentation, such as correspondence, photographs, financial records, and printed materials.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Rose Fried Gallery Records were donated by Rose Fried and her brother and executor Paul Fried in multiple accretions between 1968 and 1974.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35 mm microfilm reels 2200-2209, and N69-37 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Some of the sound recordings in this collection have been copied for research access and digital copies are available in the Archives of American Art offices.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Kendra Jae in 2016, with funding provided by the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund, using

accelerated processing strategies implemented by the Archives of American Art to increase information about and facilitate access to more of our collections. For this collection, processing included arrangement to the folder level, with retention of the pre-existing arrangement when possible. Some materials were consolidated to eliminate excess bulk but items within folders were not arranged further. Non-archival housing was replaced for long-term stability, but staples and other fasteners have not all been removed.

Preferred Citation

Rose Fried Gallery Records, 1936-1972, bulk 1945-1970. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Washington, D.C. Research Center. Use of archival audiovisual recordings with no duplicate access copy also requires advance notice. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Rose Fried Gallery records are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Historical Note

Rose Fried established the Rose Fried Gallery in the 1940s in New York City, New York. Fried established the gallery when she took over the Pinacotheca Gallery owned by Dan Harris. The Gallery specialized in abstract and modern art, and represented cubists, futurists, Dadaists, and masters of Latin American art. The Rose Fried Gallery was instrumental in introducing the American public to many abstract painters, including Mondrian and Kandinsky. The Gallery remained operational until Fried's death in 1970.

Scope and Contents

The Rose Fried Gallery records measure 8.1 linear feet and date from 1936 to 1972 with the bulk of materials dating from 1945 to 1970. The majority of the collection consists of artists files documenting the gallery's relationship with abstract, modern, and Latin American artists; additional named subject files; and scattered administrative and financial files. Individual artists and subject files contain a wide variety of documentation, such as correspondence, photographs, financial records, and printed materials.

Scattered administrative records document the founding and history of the Rose Fried Gallery, biographical materials about Rose Fried, as well as scattered administrative correspondence, press releases, and gallery catalogs. There are two sound recordings of interviews with Rose Fried in which she discusses the origins of the Rose Fried Gallery and some of the gallery's shows.

The bulk of the records consist of alphabetical artists' and clients' files documenting the gallery's dealings with individual artists, clients, other galleries, museums, and universities. Contents of individual files vary but may include correspondence, contractual agreements, financial records, printed material, and photographs. A few of the artists represented in the files include Olle Baertling, Joseph Cornell, Ben Cunningham, Sonia Delaunay, Sorel Etrog, John Ferren, Raymond Hendler, Wassily Kandinsky, Stanton

MacDonald-Wright, Piet Mondrian, Russell Morgan, Francis Picabia, Hans Richter, Joaquin Torres-Garcia, and Jean Xceron, among many others.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as two series.

- Series 1: General Administrative Records, 1947-1970 (9 folders; Box 1)
 - Series 2: Artists' and Clients' Files, 1936-1972 (7.9 linear feet; Boxes 1-8, OV 9)
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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:

Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York
Art galleries, Commercial -- New York (State) -- New York
Art, Abstract
Gallery owners
Hispanic American artists
Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Photographs
Sound recordings

Names:

Baertling, Olle, 1911-1981
Cornell, Joseph
Cunningham, Ben, 1904-1975
Delaunay, Sonia
Etrog, Sorel, 1933-
Ferren, John, 1905-1970
Fried, Rose
Hendler, Raymond, 1923-
Kandinsky, Wassily, 1866-1944
Macdonald-Wright, Stanton, 1890-1973
Mondrian, Piet, 1872-1944
Morgan, Russell
Picabia, Francis, 1879-1953
Pinacotheca Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Richter, Hans, 1888-1976
Torres-García, Joaquín, 1874-1949
Xceron, Jean, 1890-1967

Container Listing

Series 1: General Administrative Records, 1947-1970

9 Folders (Box 1)

This series contains writings concerning the founding and the history of the Rose Fried Gallery, biographical records about Rose Fried, scattered correspondence and financial records, writings, printed materials. Included are two recorded interviews with Rose Fried where she discusses the origins of the Rose Fried Gallery and some of the gallery's exhibitions.

Box 1, Folder 1-4	Founding/History, 1956-1970 <i>Includes 1 sound cassette and 2 sound tape reels.</i>
Box 1, Folder 5	Financial Material, 1961-1969
Box 1, Folder 6	General Gallery Correspondence, 1947-1969
Box 1, Folder 7-9	Printed Material, 1947-1967

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Series 2: Artists and Clients Files , 1936-1972

7.9 Linear feet (Boxes 1-8, OV 9)

Artists and Client Files are comprised of individual files for artists, galleries, museums, and universities that had dealings with the Rose Fried Gallery. Artists represented include cubists, futurists, Dadaists, and masters of Latin American Art. Material is comprised of contracts, loan agreements, financial material, correspondence, press releases, news clippings, exhibition catalogs, and photographs.

Particularly rich files are found for Olle Baertling, Sorel Etrog, John Ferren, Stanton MacDonald-Wright, Joaquin Torres-Garcia, and Jean Xceron. The Olle Baertling file includes one sound recording.

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Box 1, Folder 11-12	Ajay, Abe, 1963-1970
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Box 1, Folder 14	Alcopley, 1957-1960
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Box 1, Folder 16	Arnholm, Ronald, 1969
Box 1, Folder 17	Arp, Jean, 1953-1961
Box 1, Folder 18	Art Association of Newport, 1961
Box 1, Folder 19	Asback, Hugo, 1966-1967
Box 1, Folder 20	A Miscellaneous, 1960-1967
Box 1, Folder 21-34	Baertling, Olle, 1958-1970 <i>Includes 1 sound tape reel.</i>
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Box 2, Folder 5	Bate, Stanley, 1965-1967
Box 2, Folder 6	Baum, Mark, 1963-1964
Box 2, Folder 7	Baumbach, Harold, 1941-1964
Box 2, Folder 8	Bayer, Herbert, 1962-1965
Box 2, Folder 9	Beasley, Bruce, 1964
Box 2, Folder 10	Besner, Jacques, 1967-1968
Box 2, Folder 11	Binder, Joseph, 1965-1972

Box 2, Folder 12	Birla Academy of Art and Culture, 1967-1969
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Box 3, Folder 23	Geigy Chemical Corporation, 1965-1970
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