



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Society of North American Goldsmiths Records, 1949-2008, bulk 1965-2008, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

2021 January 26

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Society of North American Goldsmiths records
Date:	1949-2008 (bulk 1965-2008) 1949-2008 (bulk 1965-2008)
Identifier:	AAA.socinort
Creator:	Society of North American Goldsmiths
Extent:	15.3 Linear feet 15.3 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The records of the Society of North American Goldsmiths measures 15.3 linear feet and date from 1949-2008, with the bulk of the records dating between 1965-2008. The records document the history of this organization through administrative files, printed materials, photographic material, and audiovisual recordings.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 2004 by the Society of North American Goldsmiths via Dana Singer, Executive Director.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared in 2021 by Christopher DeMairo. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2021 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Society of North American Goldsmiths Records, 1949-2008. 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 Reference Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

The Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) was founded in 1969 to provide a meeting-place for contemporary jewelers and metalsmiths, to encourage the free exchange of information inside the field, to promote the field to a wider audience, and to recognize outstanding creative achievement. The organization held its first conference in 1970, and that same year held its first exhibition in conjunction with the Minnesota Museum of Art. Between 1970 and 1980, the size of membership grew from around 50 members to over one thousand. In 1980, SNAG published the first edition of its quarterly magazine, *Metalsmith*. The organization also published brochures and newsletters; sponsored workshops, competitions, and lectures; supported an audiovisual library composed of technical sets, films, and exhibitions for its members and educational institutions; and distributed books by metalsmiths, jewelry makers, and other creators.

Scope and Contents

The records of the Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) measures 15.3 linear feet and date from 1949-2008, with the bulk of the records dating between 1965-2008. The records document the history of this organization through administrative files, printed materials, photographic material, and audiovisual recordings. Administrative files include materials from SNAG conferences, meeting minutes, administrative and general correspondence, financial records, and papers pertaining to the society's various endeavors. Printed materials consist of SNAG newsletters, its *Metalsmith* magazine, as well as event ephemera. Other materials include exhibition materials from group and solo shows; materials published by other professional organizations, museums, and galleries; artist cards and biographical summaries; and more. Photographic material depicts SNAG members and events, competition submissions, wearable art and other forms of jewelry and sculpture. Audiovisual material consists mostly of presentations made at SNAG's 1993 conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, and also includes presentations made by other creators, audio recordings from a goldsmith forum, and exhibition recordings.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as 4 series.

- Series 1: Administrative Files, 1975-2008 (Box 1-3; 2.4 linear feet)
 - Series 2: Printed Material, 1949-2007 (Box 3-14, OV 17; 10.6 linear feet)
 - Series 3: Photographic Material, 1969-1990s (Box 14; 6 folders)
 - Series 4: Audiovisual Material, 1972-1998 (Box 14-16; 1.7 linear feet)
-

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

American studio craft movement
Decorative arts
Jewelry making

Metal-work
Wearable art -- United States

Types of Materials:

Sound recordings
Video recordings

Occupations:

Goldsmiths

Functions:

Arts organizations

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Files, 1975-2008

2.4 Linear feet (Box 1-3)

Scope and Contents: Folders include materials related to SNAG's conferences such as brochures, posters, schedules, correspondence, and some clippings; organization meeting minutes; correspondence between SNAG board members and organization officials as well as letters sent by artists, metalsmiths, and other creators; financial records; papers related to SNAG publications, book department, and A/V library; and membership lists.

Box 1, Folder 1	American Craft Council, Conference, circa 1988
Box 1, Folder 2	"A Decade of Metalsmithing in the United States, 1970-1980," Robert L. Cardinale, 1980
Box 1, Folder 3	Chronology of Society, 1968-1988; History, 1988, 1996 1 Floppy disc Transfer not possible.
Box 1, Folder 4	Business Update Memo, 1988
	Conferences, Society of North American Goldsmiths, 1975-2001
Box 1, Folder 5	Bromwood, Missouri, 1975, 1975
Box 1, Folder 6	Seattle, Washington, 1977, 1977
Box 1, Folder 7	St. Louis, Missouri, 1978, 1978
Box 1, Folder 8-10	Tucson, Arizona, 1980, 1979-1981
Box 1, Folder 11	Pacific Grove, California, 1983, 1983
Box 1, Folder 12	New York, New York, 1984, 1984
Box 1, Folder 13	Toronto, 1985, 1985
Box 1, Folder 14	Flagstaff, Arizona, 1986, 1985-1987
Box 1, Folder 15	Cranbrook School, Michigan, 1987, 1987
Box 1, Folder 16	Saratoga Springs, New York, 1988, 1988
Box 1, Folder 17-18	San Antonio, Texas, 1989, 1989
Box 1, Folder 19	San Francisco, California , 1990, 1990

Box 1, Folder 20-21	Atlanta, 1991, 1989-1991
Box 1, Folder 22-23	Cincinnati, Ohio, 1993, 1993
Box 1, Folder 24	Tucson, Arizona, 1994, 1994
Box 2, Folder 1	New Orleans, Louisiana, 1995, 1995
Box 2, Folder 2	Washington, D.C., 1996, 1996
Box 2, Folder 3	New Mexico, 1997
Box 2, Folder 4	Seattle, Washington, 1998, 1998
Box 2, Folder 5	Richmond, Virginia, 2001, 2001
Box 2, Folder 6	Conference Materials and Guidelines, 1976-2001
Box 2, Folder 7	Constitution and By-Laws, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Correspondence, Artists, 1980-2008
Box 2, Folder 9-10	General Correspondence, 1984-1997
Box 2, Folder 11	Executive Director Search, 1985, 1990
Box 2, Folder 12	Incorporation Documents; License Agreements, 1979-1982
Box 2, Folder 13	Financial, Budget Analysis, 1987-1988
Box 2, Folder 14	Financial, Grants, 1988
Box 2, Folder 15	Financial, Proposed Budget 1991, 1990
Box 2, Folder 16	Flyer Proposal, Draft, undated
Box 2, Folder 17	Library, 1988-1990s
Box 2, Folder 18-19	Membership Directory, 1991-1999
Box 2, Folder 20	Membership Lists, 1985
	Metalsmith
Box 2, Folder 21	Correspondence, 1985-1987
Box 2, Folder 22	Editorial Guidelines, 1987

Box 2, Folder 23	Financial Papers, 1982-1988
Box 2, Folder 24	Forms and Stationery, undated
Box 2, Folder 25	Job Descriptions, 1980s
Box 2, Folder 26	Mailings, circa 1983-1991
Box 3, Folder 1-10	Minutes, Board Meetings, 1968-1996
Box 3, Folder 11-12	School Survey, Vol. 1-3, 1985-1986
Box 3, Folder 13	Stationery, undated

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Series 2: Printed Material, 1949-2007

10.6 Linear feet (Box 3-14, OV 17)

Scope and Contents: SNAG material found in this series includes posters, invitations, and other mailings from exhibitions and events, newsletters, and a few issues of *Metalsmith*. Other printed materials include catalogs, books, invitations, posters, and other materials from solo and group exhibitions; auction ephemera; brochures, catalogs, and schedules published by museums and galleries; and several folders of materials distributed by colleges, universities, and other schools for students of metalworking, jewelry making, and sculpture. Also included are newsletters, press releases, magazines, and mailings from professional organizations of similar interests.

Society of North American Goldsmiths	
Box 3, Folder 14-16	Exhibitions and Competitions, 1977-2002
Box 3, Folder 17	Mailings, 1978-2000
Box 3, Folder 18	Metalsmith, 1988, 1998
Box 3, Folder 19	News, 1995-1999
Box 3, Folder 20	Newsletter, 1975
Box 3, Folder 21	Posters, 1990s
Box 3, Folder 22-24	Artist Cards and Biographies, A-M, circa 1970s-2000
Box 4, Folder 1-3	Artist Cards and Biographies, N-Y, circa 1970s-2000
Box 4, Folder 4-5	Artist Material, Charles Lewton-Brain, 1983-1997
Box 4, Folder 6-7	Artist Material, Jan Yager, 1974-1996
Oversize 17	Artist Poster, Tim McCreight, undated
Box 4, Folder 8	Auction Material, 1978-2005
Box 4, Folder 9-14	Catalogs, Jewelry and Wearable Art, circa 1970s-2000
Box 4, Folder 15-17	Clippings, circa 1967-2005
Box 5, Folder 1	Clippings, Arizona Craftsmen, 1970-1980
Box 5, Folder 2-6	Colleges, Universities, and Other Programs, 1980s-2001
Box 5, Folder 7	Conferences and Symposiums, 1975-2003
Box 5, Folder 8-9	Competitions, circa 1976-1990s

Box 5, Folder 10-11	Craft Fairs, 1980s-2000
Box 5, Folder 13-17	Exhibition Material, One-Person Shows, Mailings, Invitations, and Posters, 1963-1999
Box 6, Folder 1-12	Exhibition Material, One-Person Shows, Mailings, Invitations, and Posters, 1990-2008, undated
Box 6, Folder 13-16	Exhibition Material, One-Person Shows, Catalogs and Books, 1959-1989
Box 7, Folder 1-6	Exhibition Material, One-Person Shows, Catalogs and Books, 1980-2003, undated
Box 7, Folder 7-15	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Mailings, Invitations, and Posters, 1960-1999
Box 8, Folder 1-14	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Mailings, Invitations, and Posters, 1990-2007, undated
Box 9, Folder 1-3	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Mailings, Invitations, and Posters, undated
Box 9, Folder 4-14	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, 1949-1979
Box 10, Folder 1-14	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, 1970-1979
Oversize 17	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, 1973, 1973
Box 11, Folder 1-15	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, 1970-1989
Box 12, Folder 1-16	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, 1980-2006, undated
Box 13, Folder 1	Exhibition Material, Group Shows and Expositions, Catalogs and Books, undated
Box 13, Folder 2-5	Galleries and Museums, circa 1970s-2000s
Box 13, Folder 6	Galleries, Canada, 1990s
Box 13, Folder 7-9	Magazines and Publications, 1966-1991
Box 13, Folder 10-11	Professional Organizations and Societies, 1975-2006

Box 13, Folder 12-14	Artists-Blacksmith's Association of North America, 1976-1998
Box 13, Folder 15	Houston Metal Arts Guild, 1976-1998
Box 13, Folder 16	Pittsburgh Metals Society, 1995-1997
Box 13, Folder 17	Society of American Silversmiths, 1994-1999
Box 14, Folder 1	Sales, 1990-2007
Box 14, Folder 2-4	Solicitor Mailings, 1980s-2000

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Series 3: Photographic Material, 1969-1990s

6 Folders (Box 14)

Scope and Contents: Included are snapshots of people at events, some of the events were hosted by SNAG and others attended by members of the organization; photographs, mostly of artwork, submitted for sterling silver competitions; and slides and snapshots of sculptures, wearable art, and jewelry.

Box 14, Folder 5	SNAG Members and Events, 1976-1990s
Box 14, Folder 6	People and Events, circa 1970s-1996
Box 14, Folder 7-8	Sterling Silversmith's Guild, Competition, 1969-1984
Box 14, Folder 9	Art, circa 1980s
Box 14, Folder 10	Jewelry, 1980s

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Series 4: Audiovisual Material, 1972-1998

1.7 Linear feet (Box 14-15)

Scope and Contents: This series contains 11 VHS tapes of lectures and demonstrations recorded during the SNAG 1993 conference in Cincinnati, Ohio; additional VHS recordings of metalsmiths; 2 audiocassette recordings of a discussion with Olof Skogfors, Barry Merrit, and Johnathon Stember; and recordings from exhibitions.

Box 14, Folder 11-12	Alessi, Alberto, 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 14, Folder 13-14	Benman, Harriete; Kathleen Browne, 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 14, Folder 15-16	Harper, William, 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 1	LaPlantz, David, "Artists Anodizing Aluminum: The Sulfuric Acid Process", 1989 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 2	LaPlantz, David, "Chain Mail/Chain Mesh: The Semi-Solid Form", 1990 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 3-4	Mattan, William (Slides), 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 5	McCreight, Tim, "The Complete Metalsmith", 1989 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 6	Schen, Mary Ann, 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 7-8	Werger, Paulette, 1993 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 9	"Economic Alternatives For the Goldsmith," Olaf Skogfors, Barry Merrit, Johnathon Stember, 1993 2 Cassette tapes
Box 15, Folder 10	"Sculptural Concerns: American Contemporary Metalworking", undated 1 Videocassettes (VHS)
Box 15, Folder 11	"Sculptural Concerns: American Contemporary Metalworking", 1997 1 Disc Transfer not possible.
Box 16, Folder 1	"USS Tennessee," Metal Museum Silver Service, 1989 June 7

1 Videocassettes (VHS)

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