



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to André Thibault/Teabo Papers
Regarding Romare Bearden, circa 1930s-2003,
bulk 1980-1998, in the Archives of American Art

Candice Yates

Funding for the processing of this collection
was provided by the Henry Luce Foundation.

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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | André Thibault/Teabo papers regarding Romare Bearden |
| Identifier: | AAA.thibandr |
| Date: | circa 1930s-2003 (bulk 1980-1998) |
| Extent: | 0.9 Linear feet |
| Creator: | Thibault/Teabo, André, 1948? |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | The papers of studio assistant Andre Thibault/Teabo regarding African American painter Romare Bearden measure 0.9 linear feet and date from circa 1930s to 2003 with the bulk of the material dating from 1980 to 1998. The papers consist of administrative records such as financial and gallery records. Correspondence includes letters from Romare Bearden, his wife Nanette and Andre Thibault. Of note is correspondence between Thibault and Nanette concerning the signature on a Bearden painting. Printed material includes exhibition catalogs, posters, magazines, art books and source material used by Bearden. Artwork consists of a self-portrait, a sketchbook, collage pieces, and oversize drawings by Bearden. Photographic material is comprised of photographs of Bearden, his art, studio, Andre Thibault/Teabo, Russell Goings and others. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by André Thibault/Teabo in 2017.

Processing Information

This collection was minimally processed and a finding aid prepared in 2019 by intern Candice Yates, supervised by Rayna Andrews, with funding from the Henry Luce Foundation.

Preferred Citation

The André Thibault/Teabo papers regarding Romare Bearden, circa 1930s-2003. 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

Andre Thibault/Teabo (1948?-) is an artist in New York, N.Y. and was Romare Bearden's studio assistant from 1980-1988.

Romare Bearden (1911-1988) was an African American painter who worked in New York, N.Y. Bearden worked in various mediums and is known for his colorful abstract paintings depicting the lives of African American people and for his work in collage. In 1963 he co-founded the African American artistic group named Spiral that endeavored to answer the question "What is Black Art?" and in 1968 was involved in founding the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York. The following year Bearden co-founded the Cinque Gallery which promoted and exhibited the works of African American artists. In 1976 he received a Gold Medal from the Governor of North Carolina for the advancement of the arts and posthumously received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Studio Museum in Harlem in 1988.

Scope and Contents

The papers of studio assistant Andre Thibault/Teabo regarding African American painter Romare Bearden measure 0.9 linear feet and date from circa 1930s to 2003 with the bulk of the material dating from 1980 to 1998. The papers consist of administrative records such as financial and gallery records. Correspondence includes letters from Romare Bearden, his wife Nanette and Andre Thibault. Of note is correspondence between Thibault and Nanette concerning the signature on a Bearden painting. Printed material includes exhibition catalogs, posters, magazines, art books and source material used by Bearden. Artwork consists of a self-portrait, a sketchbook, collage pieces, and oversize drawings by Bearden. Photographic material is comprised of photographs of Bearden, his art, studio, Andre Thibault/Teabo, Russell Goings and others.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five series.

- Series 1: Administrative Records, 1985-1988 (Box 1; 2 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1987-1996 (Box 1; 3 folders)
- Series 3: Printed Material, 1949-1958, 1971-2003 (Box 1-2, OV 3; 0.5 linear feet)
- Series 4: Artwork, circa 1930s-1940s, circa 1980-1988 (Box 2, OV 3; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 5: Photographic Material, 1983-1991 (Box 2, OV 3; 0.2 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

African American artists

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Sketchbooks

Names:

Bearden, Nanette
Bearden, Romare, 1911-1988
Goings, Russell L.

Occupations:

Artists -- New York (State) -- New York
Collagists -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Records, 1985-1988

2 Folders (Box 1)

English.

Administrative records include receipts for purchases of source materials, a check to AT&T, and a checklist for an exhibition at Thomas Segal Gallery. This series also includes a photograph of Bearden and Thibault.

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| Box 1, Folder 1 | Financial Records, 1985 |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Thomas Segal Gallery, 1987 English. |

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1987-2001

3 Folders (Box 1)

English.

Correspondence includes letters and cards from Romare and Nanette Bearden, letters exchanged between Nanette and Andre Thibault, as well as letters from the National Gallery of Art addressed to Thibault. Additionally, this series contains printed material pertaining to the passing of gallery director Arne Ekstrom, who exhibited Bearden's artwork.

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| Box 1, Folder 3 | Correspondence , 1988 |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Related to Nanette Bearden , 1987-1996 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Related to National Gallery of Art , 2001 English. Also includes printed material. |

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Series 3: Printed Material, 1949-2003

0.5 Linear feet (Box 1, Box 2, OV 3)

English.

Printed material consists of exhibition catalogs including those for exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Mint Museum in North Carolina, and The Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Also included are posters, magazines, art books and source material used by Bearden.

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|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Art Books, 1949-1961 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 7 | Assorted Printed Material, 1974, 1991 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 8 | Exhibition Catalogs, 1971, 1980 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Exhibition Catalogs, 1983-1989 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Exhibition Catalogs , 1991-1994 English. |
| Oversize 3 | Magazines, 1983, 1988 English. |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Magazines, 1981-1989, 2001 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 12 | Magazines and Journal, 1980-1984 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 13 | Postcards and Announcements, 1974-1988 (bulk 1990-1998) English. |
| Oversize 3 | Posters, 1981-1987, 1995 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 14 | Sears Roebuck Catalogue, 1986 English. |

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Series 4: Artwork, circa 1930s-1940s, circa 1980s-1988

0.2 Linear feet

English.

This series includes a self-portrait drawing, a sketchbook, collage pieces, and oversize drawings all likely by Romare Bearden.

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|------------------|---|
| Oversize 3 | Assorted Sketches, 1983 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 15 | Collage Pieces and Self-Portrait, Undated English. |
| Oversize 3 | Sketch of Work of Art "Guitar Player", 1988 English. Also includes photographs of finished work of art "Guitar Player." |
| Box 2, Folder 16 | Sketchbook, circa 1930s-1940s English. |
| Box 2, Folder 17 | Sketches, circa 1980 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 18 | Sketches, Undated English. |

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Series 5: Photographic Material, 1983-1991

0.2 Linear feet

English.

This series includes photographs of Romare Bearden, his art, studio, Andre Thibault/Teabo, Russell Goings and others.

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| Box 2, Folder 19 | Photographs of Andre Thibault and Myron Schwartzman, 1991 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 20 | Photographs of Artwork, Andre Thibault and Nanette, circa 1970 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 21 | Photographs of Romare Bearden, Andre Thibault, and Artwork, 1983, 1988 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 22 | Photographs of Romare Bearden and Studio, 1988 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 23 | Photographs of Russel Goings and Building Exteriors, 1988 English. |
| Box 2, Folder 24 | Photographs of Work of Art "Autumn", 1988 English. |

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