



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the David Weinrib Papers, circa 1950-2015, in the Archives of American Art

Hilary Price

2017 April 12

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Arrangement.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	4
Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1970-2015.....	4
Series 2: Project Files, circa 1968-2011.....	5
Series 3: Printed Material, circa 1950-2010.....	10
Series 4: Photographic Material, circa 1970-2010.....	11

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	David Weinrib papers
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1950-2015
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.weindavi
<b>Creator:</b>	Weinrib, David, 1924-2016
<b>Extent:</b>	0.28 Gigabytes 4.6 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	Collection is in English
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of multimedia sculptor, curator, and instructor David Weinrib measure 4.6 linear feet and date from circa 1950-2015. The collection documents Weinrib's life and career through a small amount of biographical material, project files, and printed and photographic material. Project files make up the bulk of the collection and document Weinrib's teaching at Black Mountain College, his curation of the Pratt Sculpture Park, and an extensive project that he undertook with his second wife, JoAnn Weinrib, in 1998 titled "Sculptors in Their Environments." This project file includes photographic documentation of numerous artists working in their studios including Vito Acconci, Louise Bourgeois, Petah Coyne, Mary Frank, Judy Pfaff, Ursula von Rydingsvard, and many others.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives of American Art in 2016 by Abel Weinrib, David Weinrib's son.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Hilary Price in 2017.

### Preferred Citation

David Weinrib papers, circa 1950-2015. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information. Use of born digital records requires advance notice.

### Terms of Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or

restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the [Smithsonian's Terms of Use](#) for additional information.

---

## Biographical / Historical

David Weinrib (1924-2016) was a sculptor, ceramicist, and instructor who worked primarily in New York City. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Weinrib attended Brooklyn College before receiving his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Alfred University. Weinrib taught pottery at the Craft Institute at Black Mountain College from 1952-1953 with his first wife Karen Karnes. In the 1960s, Weinrib began experimenting in a variety of media and exhibited at the Howard Wise Gallery. He continued to work in different media through the decades including cast resin, cut paper, acrylic collages, and photography through collaboration with his second wife, JoAnn Weinrib. Weinrib taught at Pratt Institute for thirty years and also curated the Pratt Sculpture Park, which displays over fifty works on the urban campus. He is the recipient of numerous National Endowment for the Arts grants as well as Guggenheim and Fulbright grants. Weinrib's work is in the collections of the Walker Art Center, the Whitney Museum, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

---

## Scope and Contents

The papers of multimedia sculptor, curator, and instructor David Weinrib measure 4.6 linear feet and date from circa 1950-2015. The collection documents Weinrib's life and career through a small amount of biographical material, project files, and printed and photographic material. Project files make up the bulk of the collection and document Weinrib's teaching at Black Mountain College, his curation of the Pratt Sculpture Park, and an extensive project that he undertook with his second wife, JoAnn Weinrib, in 1998 titled "Sculptors in Their Environments." This project file includes photographic documentation of numerous artists working in their studios including Vito Acconci, Louise Bourgeois, Petah Coyne, Mary Frank, Judy Pfaff, Ursula von Rydingsvard, and many others.

---

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as four series

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1970-2015 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
  - Series 2: Project Files, circa 1968-2011 (2.9 linear feet; Box 1-3, OV 5-6; 28.2 megabytes; ER01-ER03)
  - Series 3: Printed Material, circa 1950-2010 (0.6 linear feet; Box 3-4)
  - Series 4: Photographic Material, circa 1970-2010 (0.9 linear feet; Box 4, OV 6)
- 

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists' studios -- Photographs  
Curators -- New York (State) -- New York  
Multimedia (Art)  
Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Acconci, Vito, 1940-  
Black Mountain College (Black Mountain, N.C.) -- Faculty  
Bourgeois, Louise, 1911-2010  
Coyne, Petah  
Frank, Mary, 1933-  
Pfaff, Judy, 1946-  
Pratt Institute. Sculpture Garden  
Von Rydingsvärd, Ursula, 1942-  
Weinrib, Joann

Occupations:

Art teachers -- New York (State) -- New York

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1970-2015

#### *0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Scope and Contents: Biographical material dates from circa 1970-2015 and includes Weinrib's application for tenure at Pratt Institute, provenance documentation for his artworks, and resumes. Also arranged here are a few drawings by an unknown artist illustrating words, and a few short writings both by and about Weinrib. Weinrib writes about his philosophy of teaching and learning in one essay and about the concept of fences in another.

Box 1, Folder 1      Application for Tenure at Pratt Institute, 2009

Box 1, Folder 2      Provenance Documentation, 2015

Box 1, Folder 3      Resumes, circa 1993-2003

Box 1, Folder 4      Word Drawings by Unknown Artist, circa 1980

Box 1, Folder 5      Writings, 1970s-1980s

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 2: Project Files, circa 1968-2011

## 28.2 Megabytes (ER01-ER03)

## 2.9 Linear feet (Box 1-3, OV 5-6)

Scope and Contents: Project files date from circa 1968-2011 and demonstrate a variety of personal and professional projects and commissions Weinrib was involved in. Found here are two transcripts of interviews with Weinrib regarding his time spent at Black Mountain College. Several folders and born digital records document Weinrib's curation of the Sculpture Park at Pratt Institute, where he also taught. There is documentation from Thorpe Intermedia, a collaboratively run gallery in Garnerville, New York.

"Sculptors in Their Environments" was a collaborative project between Weinrib and his wife JoAnn Weinrib in which they documented a number of sculptors living and working in their studios. Files for this project consists primarily of photographs and negatives taken by JoAnn of many well known artists, including Vito Acconci, Louise Bourgeois, Petah Coyne, Mary Frank, Judy Pfaff, Ursula von Rydingsvard, and others. Nearly all of these artist folders contain an oversized book assembled by Weinrib from color copies of the photographs.

Box 1	Black Mountain College
Box 1, Folder 6	Exhibition and Symposium Files, 2002-2008
Box 1, Folder 7	David Weinrib Interview by Duberman, Transcript, 1968
Box 1, Folder 8	David Weinrib Interview by Mary Emma Harris, Transcript, 1997
Box 1, Folder 9	Book Project, circa 2011 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 1
Box 1, Folder 10	Designers in The Environments, 1990s
Box 1, Folder 11	Exhibition Proposal, "Studio as Sculpture", circa 2003 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 2
Box 1, Folder 12	"La Fontaine Amoureuse" Music and Poetry of Guillaume de Machaut for Intermedia Foundation, circa 1980
Box 1, Folder 13	Gates and Fences (1982) Exhibitions, circa 1982
Box 1	Grants
Box 1, Folder 14	National Endowment for the Arts, Japan, circa 1983
Box 1, Folder 15	New York Foundation for the Arts, circa 1984
Box 1, Folder 16	Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Gottlieb Foundation, circa 1989-2005
Box 1, Folder 17	Pratt, circa 1995

Box 1, Folder 18	Rome Prize, circa 2005
Box 1, Folder 19	General, 1970s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 20	"Intentional Communities" Film Synopsis, circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 21	Menorah Commission, 1989
Box 1, Folder 22	Place Setting Project, circa 2005 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 3
Box 1	Pratt Sculpture Park
Box 1, Folder 23	Brochures and Printed Material, circa 2006-2010 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 4; Includes born digital material, see ER01
Box ER01	Brochure, 2007 25.3 Megabytes (2 computer files)
Box 1, Folder 24	Correspondence and Administrative Documents, 2000-2010
Box 1, Folder 25	"Diary of a Sculpture Park" and Other Writings, circa 2006-2010 Notes: Includes born digital material, see ER02
Box ER02	Writings, 2010, 2007 0.28 Megabytes (2 computer files)
Box 1, Folder 26	Images, 2000s Notes: Includes born digital images, see ER03
Box ER03	Images, 2010 2.62 Megabytes (56 computer files)
Box 1, Folder 27	Public Sculpture Symposium at Pratt Institute, circa 2003
Box 1	Sculptors in Their Environments
Box 1, Folder 28	Documentation and Writing, circa 1998
Box 1, Folder 29-30	Vito Acconci, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 5
Box 1, Folder 31	Louise Bourgeois, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 6
Box 2, Folder 1-2	John Chamberlain, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 7
Box 2, Folder 3-5	Petah Coyne, circa 1998



	Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 8
Box 2, Folder 6	Tom Doyle, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 9
Box 2, Folder 7	Mel Edwards, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 10
Box 2, Folder 8	Mary Frank, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 5, Folder 11
Box 2, Folder 9	Andy Goldsworthy, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 1
Box 2, Folder 10	William King, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 2
Box 2, Folder 11-13	Sol LeWitt, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 3
Box 2, Folder 14	Roy Lichtenstein, circa 1998
Box 2, Folder 15	Donald Lipski, circa 1998
Box 3, Folder 1	Dennis Oppenheim, circa 1998
Box 3, Folder 2	Judy Pfaff, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 4
Box 3, Folder 3	Richard Serra, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 5
Box 3, Folder 4	Kenneth Snelson, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 6
Box 3, Folder 5	William Tucker, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 7
Box 3, Folder 6	James Turrell, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 8
Box 3, Folder 7	Ursula von Rydingsvard, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 9
Box 3, Folder 8	Robert Wilson, circa 1998 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 10
Box 3, Folder 9	Other Photographic Material, circa 1998
Box 3, Folder 10	Thorpe Intermedia Gallery, Church of the Tabernacle, circa 1980-2005

	Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 11
Box 3, Folder 11	Transparent Structures (1983), Exhibition, 1980s
Box 3, Folder 12	Yoga Book Photographs by David and JoAnn Weinrib, circa 1980
Box 5, Folder 1	Oversized Book Project from Box 1, Folder 9
Box 5, Folder 2	Oversized Exhibition Proposal from Box 1, Folder 11
Box 5, Folder 3	Oversized Place Setting from Box 1, Folder 22
Box 5, Folder 4	Oversized Pratt Sculpture Park from Box 1, Folder 23
Box 5, Folder 5	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Acconci from Box 1, Folder 29
Box 5, Folder 6	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Bourgeois from Box 1, Folder 31
Box 5, Folder 7	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Chamberlain from Box 2, Folder 1
Box 5, Folder 8	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Coyne from Box 2, Folder 3
Box 5, Folder 9	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Doyle from Box 2, Folder 6
Box 5, Folder 10	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Edwards from Box 2, Folder 7
Box 5, Folder 11	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Frank from Box 2, Folder 8
Box 6, Folder 1	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Goldsworthy from Box 2, Folder 9
Box 6, Folder 2	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, King from Box 2, Folder 10
Box 6, Folder 3	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, LeWitt from Box 2, Folder 11
Box 6, Folder 4	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Pfaff from Box 3, Folder 2
Box 6, Folder 5	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Serra from Box 3, Folder 3
Box 6, Folder 6	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Snelson from Box 3, Folder 4
Box 6, Folder 7	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Tucker from Box 3, Folder 5
Box 6, Folder 8	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Turrell from Box 3, Folder 6
Box 6, Folder 9	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, von Rydingsvard from Box 3, Folder 7
Box 6, Folder 10	Oversized Sculptors in Their Environments, Wilson from Box 3, Folder 8

Box 6, Folder 11

Oversized Thorpe Intermedia from Box 3, Folder 10

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 3: Printed Material, circa 1950-2010

### *0.6 Linear feet (Box 3-4)*

Scope and Contents: Printed material dates from circa 1950-2010 and consists of announcements, press releases, clippings, exhibition catalogs, and articles in periodicals that document Weinrib's career. A printed portfolio assembled by Weinrib as well as a signed and annotated published oral history with Weinrib's friend, artist Gerd Stern, are also found here.

Box 3, Folder 13	Announcements and Press Releases, 1970s-2000s
Box 3, Folder 14	Book, Oral History with Artist Gerd Stern, 1996
Box 3, Folder 15	Clippings, 1950s-2000s
Box 3, Folder 16-18	Exhibition Catalogs, 1950s-2000s
Box 4, Folder 1-2	Periodicals, 2000s, 1960s
Box 4, Folder 3	Portfolio, Printed and Bound, circa 1992

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 4: Photographic Material, circa 1970-2010

### 0.9 Linear feet (Box 4, OV 6)

Scope and Contents: Photographic material dates from circa 1970-2010 and includes predominantly photographic prints, although slides, negatives, contact sheets, transparencies, and digital prints are also found here. Subjects include Weinrib, friends, family; artists including John Cage and Sari Dienes; artworks including sculptures and studio views; and projects including an Earth Day parade and teahouse installation. A few files at the end of the series contain unlabeled photo packets with mixed subjects. Additional photographic material of sculptors is in Series 2 under the "Sculptors in Their Environments" file grouping.

Box 4, Folder 4	David and JoAnn Weinrib, 1980s-2000s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 12
Box 4, Folder 5-10	Artworks and Weinrib in Studio, 1970s-2000s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 12
Box 4, Folder 11	John Cage, 1987
Box 4, Folder 12	Sari Dienes, 1986
Box 4, Folder 13	Earth Day Parade, circa 2000 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 12
Box 4, Folder 14	Sculptures, 1970s-2000s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 6, Folder 12
Box 4, Folder 15	Teahouse, Amagansett, New York, 2007
Box 4, Folder 16-18	Unidentified Photographs and Negatives, 1970s-2000s
Box 6, Folder 12	Oversized David and JoAnn Weinrib from Box 4, Folder 4
Box 6, Folder 12	Oversized Artwork and Weinrib in Studio from Box 4, Folder 5
Box 6, Folder 12	Oversized Earth Day Parade from Box 4, Folder 13
Box 6, Folder 12	Oversized Sculptures from Box 4, Folder 14

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*