



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Womanspace Gallery records,
1970-1974, in the Archives of American Art

Rayna Andrews

Funding for the processing of the collection was provided by Gerald and Bente Buck.

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Womanspace Gallery records
Identifier:	AAA.womagall
Date:	1970-1974
Extent:	1.7 Linear feet
Creator:	Womanspace Gallery (Los Angeles, California)
Language:	English The collection is in English.
Summary:	The records of Womanspace Gallery, a cooperative gallery for feminist activities in Los Angeles, California, measure 1.7 linear feet and date from 1970 to 1974. The bulk of the collection consists of exhibition files. Also found are administrative files, correspondence, publishing files, financial records, printed material, and photographic material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Womanspace Gallery records were donated to the Archives of American Art in January 1975 by Judy Fiskin, president of the West Coast Art Center.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Woman's Building records, 1970-1992.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35 mm microfilm reels 1257-1259 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.

Processing Information

This collection was minimally processed and a finding aid prepared by Rayna Andrews in 2017.

Preferred Citation

Womanspace Gallery records, 1970-1974. 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.

Biographical / Historical

Womanspace was a cooperatively run gallery in Los Angeles, California dedicated to showing and promoting work by female artists. It opened in January of 1973 and ran a large number of events and programs. When the Woman's Building opened its first location in late 1973, Womanspace moved in. Among its founding members were Wanda Westcoast, Max Cole, Eugenie Osmun, Gretchen Glicksman, Judy Chicago, and Lucy Adelman. The gallery closed in June 1974.

Scope and Contents

The records of Womanspace Gallery, a cooperative gallery for feminist activities in Los Angeles, California, measure 1.7 linear feet and date from 1970 to 1974. The bulk of the collection consists of exhibition files. Also found are administrative files, correspondence, publishing files, financial records, printed material, and photographic material.

Administrative files include personnel and volunteer records; committee files; a list of names for the Registry of Women Designers; calendars; public relations records; mailing list and guest book information; materials related to building renovations; materials related to summer courses; and notes.

Correspondence is primarily with artists and other arts organizations. Much of the correspondence in the early part of the series concerns the Registry of Women Designers.

Exhibition files include planning notes, correspondence, and loan agreements for Womanspace exhibitions. Some materials related to exhibition committees, proposals for exhibitions, and proposals for exhibitions that did not happen can be found in the administrative files.

Publishing files include materials related to the *Womanspace Journal* and to the Associated Women's Press.

Financial records include budget projections, billing information, cash records, donation information, and materials related to grants.

Printed material includes press releases, clippings, and printed material Womanspace sent out to membership.

Photographic material includes negatives, a contact sheet, color photographs, and slides.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as seven series.

- Series 1: Administrative Files, 1970-1974 (Box 1; 0.4 linear feet)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1972-1974 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1973-1974 (Boxes 1-2; 0.3 linear feet, OV 4)

- Series 4: Publishing Files, 1972-1974 (Box 2; 5 folders, OV 4)
- Series 5: Financial Records, 1972-1974 (Boxes 2-3; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 6: Printed Material, 1973-1974 (Box 3, 3 folders, OV 4)
- Series 7: Photographic Material, 1973-1974 (Box 3, 1 folder)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Study and teaching
Feminism and art
Women artists -- California -- Los Angeles
Women designers -- California

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Functions:

Artist-run galleries -- California -- Los Angeles

Container Listing

Series 1: Administrative Files, 1970-1974

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Administrative files consist of personnel and volunteer records; committee files; a list of names for the Registry of Women Designers; calendars and lists of events; public relations records; mailing list and guest book information; materials related to building renovations; materials related to summer courses; and notes.

Box 1, Folder 1	Resumes and Biographies of Womanspace Founders, 1970-1972, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Board of Directors File, 1974, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Volunteer Files and Committee Sign Up Sheets, circa 1974
Box 1, Folder 4	Personnel Files, 1973-1974
Box 1, Folder 5	Membership Questionnaire, circa 1972
Box 1, Folder 6	Committee Meeting Minutes and Notes, 1972-1974
Box 1, Folder 7	Second Exhibition Committee Files, 1973-1974
Box 1, Folder 8	Proposals for One Womanspace, 1973-1974
Box 1, Folder 9	Notes for a Proposal for Retrospective Exhibit, Never Shown, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Records of Photographs Out on Lease, 1973
Box 1, Folder 11	List of Names for Registry of Women Designers, 1972
Box 1, Folder 12-13	Calendars, 1972 December - 1974 June
Box 1, Folder 14	Public Relations, Possibilities for Interviews or Articles, circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 15	Public Relations, Publicity Listings, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 16	Public Relations, Graphic Design, 1972
Box 1, Folder 17	Mailing Lists, 1970, undated
Box 1, Folder 18	Guest Book, 1973

Box 1, Folder 19	Bulk Mailing Records, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 20	Building Renovations, 11007 Venice Blvd LA 90034, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 21	Summer Courses, 1973
Box 1, Folder 22	Notes, 1972-1973

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1972-1974

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Correspondence is primarily with artists and other arts organizations. Much of the correspondence in the early part of the series concerns the Registry of Women Designers. Other topics include exhibitions, proposals, and membership.

The correspondence is arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 23-33 Correspondence, 1972 February-1974 June, undated

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Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1973-1974

0.3 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 4)

Exhibition files consist of planning notes, correspondence, and loan agreements for exhibitions held at Womanspace Gallery. These files occasionally contain photographic material as well. Some materials related to exhibition committees, proposals for exhibitions, and proposals for exhibitions that did not occur can be found in the administrative files.

This series is arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 34	<i>Opening Exhibition (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 35	<i>Lesbian Week (1973), 1973</i> Oversized material housed in OV 4.
Box 1, Folder 36	<i>Female Sexuality/Female Identity (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 37	<i>Black Mirror (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 38	<i>Opulence (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 39	<i>The Drawing Show (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 40	<i>The Juried Show (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 41	<i>The Subject is Taboo (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 42	<i>Exposures (1973), 1973</i>
Box 1, Folder 43	<i>You Art What You Eat (1974), 1973-1974</i>
Box 1, Folder 44	Paintings by Martha Alf and Max Cole (1974), 1974
Box 1, Folder 45	<i>Floor Show (1974), 1974</i>
Box 1, Folder 46	Performance Exhibits, 1974
Box 2, Folder 1-2	<i>Open Wall (1973-1974), 1973-1974</i>
Box 2, Folder 3	<i>Scar (1974), 1974</i>
Box 2, Folder 4	Exhibition of Works by Michele Betts (1974), 1974
Box 2, Folder 5	Exhibition of Works by Jane Bonney (1974), 1974

Box 2, Folder 6 Exhibition of Works by Suzanne Adan (1974), 1974

Box OV 4 Oversized Poster from *Lesbian Week* Exhibition (1973), 1973

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Series 4: Publishing Files, 1972-1974

5 Folders (Box 2, OV 4)

Publishing files include materials related to the *Womanspace Journal* and to the Associated Women's Press. Materials related to the journal include materials related to billing, distribution, printing, and design.

Box 2, Folder 7	<i>Womanspace Journal</i> , Design, circa 1973
Box 2, Folder 8	<i>Womanspace Journal</i> , Printing and Production, circa 1973
Box 2, Folder 9	<i>Womanspace Journal</i> , Distribution, circa 1973 Oversized material housed in OV 4.
Box 2, Folder 10	<i>Womanspace Journal</i> , Billing, 1973-1974
Box 2, Folder 11	Associated Women's Press, 1973
Box OV 4	Oversized Los Angeles Distribution Map for <i>Womanspace Journal</i> , 1972

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Series 5: Financial Records, 1972-1974

0.3 Linear feet (Boxes 2-3)

Financial records include budget projections, billing information, cash records, donation information, and materials related to grants and grant applications.

Box 2, Folder 12	Budget Projections, 1972-1973
Box 2, Folder 13	Billing, 1973-1974
Box 2, Folder 14	Cash Records, 1973
Box 2, Folder 15	Donations, 1973, undated
Box 2, Folder 16-17	Grant Information, 1971, undated
Box 2, Folder 18	Grant Requests, 1972-1973
Box 3, Folder 1	California Arts Commission Grants, 1973-1974
Box 3, Folder 2	NEA Grant Application, 1973
Box 3, Folder 3	NEA Grant Proposal, 1973-1974

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Series 6: Printed Material, 1973-1974

3 Folders (Box 3, OV 4)

Printed material includes press releases, clippings, and printed material Womanspace sent out to membership.

Box 3, Folder 4	Clippings, 1973 Oversized material housed in OV 4.
Box 3, Folder 5	Press Releases, 1973
Box 3, Folder 6	Fine Art Raffle, 1973
Box 3, Folder 7	Printed Material, circa 1973-1974
Box OV 4	Oversized Clippings, 1974

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Series 7: Photographic Material, 1973-1974

1 Folder (Box 3)

Photographic material includes negatives, a contact sheet, color photographs, and slides. Also included are negatives of the Womanspace logo.

Box 3, Folder 8

Photographs, Negatives, Contact Sheet, and Slides, 1973-1974

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