



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Michele Zackheim papers

A Finding Aid to the Michele Zackheim papers, 1976-2012,  
bulk 1980-2000, in the Archives of American Art

Hilary Price

2015 October 26

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives of American Art   |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Michele Zackheim papers  |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | AAA.zackmich   |
| <b>Date:</b>       | 1976-2012<br>(bulk 1980-2000)  |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Zackheim, Michele  |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 2.3 Linear feet  |
| <b>Language:</b>   | Collection is in English   |
| <b>Summary:</b>    | The papers of artist Michele Zackheim measure 2.3 linear feet and date from 1976 to 2012, bulk 1980-2000. The collection documents her career in the visual arts through correspondence, interviews, writings, project files, teaching files, printed material, and photographic material. |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Michele Zackheim donated her papers to the Archives in 2014.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Hilary Price in 2015.

### Preferred Citation

Michele Zackheim papers, 1976-2012, bulk 1980-2000. 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Michele Zackheim (1941- ) is a writer and former visual artist in New York City working throughout the 1970s-1990s as a fresco muralist, installation artist, print-maker, and painter.

Zackheim was born in Reno, Nevada and grew up in Compton, California. She began working as an artist in the 1970s in New York City, where she was active in the early feminist art movement. In the 1980s, Zackheim moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she taught at the College of Santa Fe and continued to make art. Notable projects include *Inherited Dreams*, *Tent of Meeting*, and *The Café Series*. *Tent of Meeting* was a large-scale installation using fabric that she printed with images from religious history and proposed the possibility of peaceful coexistence among people of various backgrounds.

In the mid-1990s, Zackheim became a writer of biographical fiction. She currently teaches Creative Writing from a Visual Perspective at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of artist Michele Zackheim measure 2.3 linear feet and date from 1976 to 2012, bulk 1980-2000. The collection documents her career in the visual arts through correspondence, interviews, writings, project files, teaching files, printed material, and photographic material.

Correspondence includes communication with museums, galleries, and publishers relating to Zackheim's projects. The interview is a radio broadcast on one sound cassette. Writings include an illustrated botany manuscript and learning portfolios. Project files relate to Zackheim's major works including *Tent of Meeting* and *The Café Series*, and are comprised of notes, correspondence, photographic material, video recordings, and a sound recording. Teaching files include notes, slides, and articles that Zackheim used for courses she taught at the College of Santa Fe. Printed material includes exhibition cards and announcements, clippings, journals, and a poster. Photographic material includes artwork, installation process, and portraits of the artist.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 7 series

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1986-2002 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 2: Interviews, circa 1980s (0.1 linear foot; Box 1)
- Series 3: Writings, 1990-1991 (0.3 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 4: Project Files, 1983-2012 (0.5 linear feet; Box 1-2)
- Series 5: Teaching Files, circa 1990-1991 (0.4 linear feet; Box 2)
- Series 6: Printed Material, 1977-1998 (0.4 linear feet; Box 2-3)
- Series 7: Photographic Material, 1976-circa 2000 (0.4 linear feet; Box 2-3)

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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:

Authors -- New York (State) -- New York  
Installations (Art)  
Mural painting and decoration

Prints -- Technique  
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Photographs  
Sound recordings  
Video recordings

Names:

College of Santa Fe -- Faculty

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Correspondence, 1986-2002

#### 0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Correspondence dates from 1986-2002 and includes communication between Zackheim and museums, galleries, and publishers, relating to the exhibition, purchase, publication, and/or donation of works of art.

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Albuquerque Museum, 1991                        |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | The Café Series, 1992-1999                      |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | CALYX, 1992                                     |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | LewAllen Gallery, 1993                          |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | National Museum of Women in the Arts, 1993-2002 |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Northern Lights, 1997                           |
| Box 1, Folder 7 | Prairie Schooner, 1998                          |
| Box 1, Folder 8 | Skirball Cultural Center, 2000-2001             |
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Tent of Meeting, 1986-2001                      |

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## Series 2: Interviews, circa 1980s

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

Scope and Contents: The interview dates from the 1980s and is one sound cassette of a radio broadcast aired in KKED.

Box 1, Folder 10      Interview aired on KKED, circa 1980s  
1 Sound cassette

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## Series 3: Writings, 1990-1991

### 0.3 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Writings date from 1990-1991 and include an illustrated botany manuscript by Zackheim and 5 portfolios submitted to the College of Santa Fe, Graduate and External Programs, illustrating Zackheim's prior learning through completed projects.

Box 1, Folder 11 "An Amateur's Journey to Botany", 1991

Box 1 Portfolio of Prior Learning

Box 1, Folder 12 "The History of an Iconography", 1990

Box 1, Folder 13 "Graphic Design and Typography Production", 1990

Box 1, Folder 14 "Painting", 1990

Box 1, Folder 15 "Printmaking", 1990

Box 1, Folder 16 "Fresco Painting", 1990

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## Series 4: Project Files, 1983-2012

### 0.5 Linear feet (Box 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Project files dating from 1983-2012 relate to Zackheim's major works including *Tent of Meeting* and *The Café Series*, and are comprised of notes, correspondence, printed material, photographic material, and audio visual material. Audio visual material includes 7 video cassettes and 1 sound cassette of television and radio broadcasts.

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 17    | The Café Series, circa 1991   |
| Box 1, Folder 18    | The Café Series, on Colores!, 1992 January<br>1 Videocassettes (VHS)                            |
| Box 1, Folder 19    | The Café Series, on PBS, circa 1992<br>3 Videocassettes (VHS)                                   |
| Box 1, Folder 20-21 | Tent of Meeting, 1983-2012  |
| Box 1, Folder 22    | Tent of Meeting, circa 1985<br>1 Videocassettes (VHS)<br>1 Sound cassette                       |
| Box 1, Folder 23    | Tent of Meeting, A Weaving of Visions, 1986 March 7<br>1 Videocassettes (VHS)                   |
| Box 2, Folder 1     | Tent of Meeting, An Evening of Japanese Buddhist Culture, 1988 July 8<br>1 Videocassettes (VHS) |
| Box 2, Folder 2     | Yeshiva University, 2008-2009   |

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## Series 5: Teaching Files, circa 1990-1991

### 0.4 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Teaching files date from circa 1990-1991 and are comprised of notes, slides, and articles that Zackheim used for art history courses she taught at the College of Santa Fe. One course is not identified and the other is titled "Religious Consciousness in Contemporary Art."

Arrangement: Untitled course in art history is arranged alphabetically. "Religious Consciousness in Contemporary Art" topics are arranged chronologically according to the syllabus.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Box 2            | Course in Art History                                       |
| Box 2, Folder 3  | Articles, 1990  |
| Box 2, Folder 4  | Black Artists, 1990   |
| Box 2, Folder 5  | Jewish and Islamic Artists, 1990                            |
| Box 2, Folder 6  | Mexican and Spanish Artists, 1990                           |
| Box 2, Folder 7  | Native American Artists, 1990                               |
| Box 2            | Course, "Religious Consciousness in Contemporary Art", 1990 |
| Box 2, Folder 8  | Syllabus, 1991  |
| Box 2, Folder 9  | Spiritual in Art, 1991                                      |
| Box 2, Folder 10 | Impressionism, 1991   |
| Box 2, Folder 11 | Surrealism and Existentialism, 1991                         |
| Box 2, Folder 12 | Abstract Expressionism and Expressionism, 1991              |
| Box 2, Folder 13 | Sculpture, 1991   |

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## Series 6: Printed Material, 1977-1998

### 0.4 Linear feet (Box 2-3)

Scope and Contents: Printed material dates from 1977-1998 and includes exhibition cards and announcements, clippings relating to Zackheim's projects, journals featuring work from *The Café Series*, magazines, and a poster Zackheim designed for the Santa Fe film festival.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Box 2, Folder 14  | Exhibition Catalogs and Announcements, 1977-1992 |
| Box 2, Folder 15  | Clippings, 1980                                  |
| Box 2, Folder 16  | Journals, 1993-1998                              |
| Box 2, Folder 17  | Journal, CALYX, 1992-1993                        |
| Box 2, Folder 18  | Magazines, 1985                                  |
| Box 3, Folder 1   | Oversize Clippings, The Café Series, 1992        |
| Box 3, Folder 2-3 | Oversize Clippings, Tent of Meeting, 1983-1988   |
| Box 3, Folder 4   | Oversize Poster, 1980                            |

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## Series 7: Photographic Material, 1976-circa 2000

### 0.4 Linear feet (Box 2-3)

Scope and Contents: Photographic material dates from 1976-circa 2000 and includes slides, negatives, transparencies, and photographs of artwork, portraits of the artist, and extensive documentation of the installation process for *Tent of Meeting*.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Box 2, Folder 19    | Artwork, Slides, 1976-1992   |
| Box 2, Folder 20    | The Café Series, circa 1992  |
| Box 2, Folder 21    | The History of Fresco Painting, circa 1978                                 |
| Box 2, Folder 22    | Michele Zackheim; Slides, Negatives, and Contact Sheets, circa 1980s-2000s |
| Box 2, Folder 23-24 | Tent of Meeting, Photographs, circa 1983-circa 1990                        |
| Box 2, Folder 25    | Tent of Meeting, Negatives and Transparencies, circa 1983-circa 1990       |
| Box 3, Folder 5     | Oversize Tent of Meeting from Box 2, Folder 24.                            |

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