



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Jean Zaleski Papers, 1957-1979, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2023/03/15

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Jean Zaleski papers
Date:	1957-1979
Identifier:	AAA.zalejean
Creator:	Zaleski, Jean
Extent:	0.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of painter and administrator Jean Zaleski measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1957 to 1979. The collection concerns Zaleski's exhibition career and affiliation with the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Found are scattered biographical materials including financial records, correspondence, two sound recordings of interviews, photographs, printed material, and writings.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated September 1979 and January 1980 by Jean Zaleski.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Jean Zaleski papers, 1957-1979. 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

Born in Malta, Jean Zaleski (1920-2010) was a painter and arts administrator in New York City, New York. She was instrumental in the founding of the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA).

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter and administrator Jean Zaleski measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1957 to 1979. The collection concerns Zaleski's exhibition career and affiliation with the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Found are scattered biographical materials including financial records, correspondence, two sound recordings of interviews, photographs, printed material, and writings.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women arts administrators
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Baker, Dina Gustin, 1924-
- Roser, Ce
- Women in the Arts Foundation, Inc

Occupations:

- Arts administrators -- New York (State) -- New York
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Jean Zaleski Papers, 1957-1979

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 3)

Scope and Contents: Scattered biographical materials include a membership card, invoices, price lists, and receipts. Also found are transparencies of works of art and sketches for an exhibition at the Art Alliance in Philadelphia. Correspondence is with family, friends, and colleagues. Many letters concern feminist art and art groups. Two untranscribed interviews are on cassettes. One is of Dina Gustin Baker and Joyce Weinstein conducted by Zaleski in New York City in 1976 for WNYC. A second interview of Jean Zaleski and Ce Roser was conducted by Vivian Southerland for radio station WBAI, New York City, in 1976. Photographs are of Zaleski, family, friends and associates, including Women in the Arts Foundation, Inc. members. Printed materials consist of clippings, exhibition announcements, catalogs, and posters, as well as material concerning Sweet Briar College and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Also found are photos and slides of art work and materials relating to Zaleski's teaching career and her affiliation with the West Beth Housing Project. Writings and notes consist of notes, essays and drafts of articles.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1968-1976
Box 1, Folder 2-3	Correspondence, 1970-1979
Box 1, Folder 4	Interviews, 1976 2 Sound cassettes
Box 1, Folder 5	Photographs, Personal, 1957-1976
Box 1, Folder 6	Photographs, Works of Art, 1970-1979
Box 1, Folder 7	Printed Material, Clippings, 1966-1979
Box 1, Folder 8-10	Printed Material, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1958-1979
Oversize 3	Printed Material, Exhibition Posters, circa 1970s
Box 2, Folder 1	Printed Material, Sweet Briar, 1975-1977
Box 2, Folder 2	Slides, Works of Art, 1968-1978
Box 2, Folder 3	Teaching File, 1973-1975
Box 2, Folder 4	West Beth Housing Project, 1970-1978

Box 2, Folder 5

Writings and Notes, 1975-1977

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