



Smithsonian  
*Freer Gallery of Art and  
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*

Carol Bier and Lionel Bier Collection

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## Related Materials

Lionel Bier Collection. Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Gift of the Estate of Lionel Bier.

## Processing Information

Titles, including terminology and location names, are recorded as they appeared on the original folders.

## Preferred Citation

Carol Bier and Lionel Bier Collection. Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Gift of Carol Bier.

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository.

## Conditions Governing Use

Restricted: Bishapur images, until permission by granted by Iranian authorities.

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## Biographical / Historical

Carol Bier is an historian of Islamic art who is Research Associate at The Textile Museum in Washington, DC, where she served as Curator for Eastern Hemisphere Collections from 1984-2001. Her research focuses on Islamic patterns as intersections of art and mathematics.

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## Biographical / Historical

The late Lionel D. Bier, art historian and archaeologist, taught art history at Brooklyn College for more than 30 years. He was primarily active in researching the archaeological record of pre- and early-Islamic Iran. Among his noted publications are: *Sarvistan: A Study in Early Iranian Architecture* (1986) and *The Sassanian Palaces and their Influence in Early Islam*, from *Ars Orientalis* (Vol. 23, 1993)

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## Scope and Contents

Photographs taken by Carol Bier and Lionel Bier, comprising two binders of black and white 35mm negatives and contact sheets as well as a collection of images cut out from contact sheets and organized by site, documenting both pre-Islamic and Islamic Iranian architectural monuments, taken 1975-1976. Focus primarily on the Sasanian sites of Fars province, focusing on built monuments, rock reliefs, and rock-cut monuments. Sites include: Firuzabad, Naqshi-Rustam, Naqshi-Rajab, Bishapur, Sarvistan, and Taq-i Bustan. Also includes a small number of ethnographic images by Carol Bier, predominantly of the Qashqai and Mamasani. Some of these images have been used previously in publications by both the authors themselves as well as other scholars.

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## Arrangement

Organized into two series: Series 1: Contact Sheets and Negatives Series 2: Contact Prints

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## Local Numbers

FSA A2008.01

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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:

- Archaeology -- Iran
- Architecture, Sassanid
- Qashqā'ī (Turkic people) -- Iran
- Sassanians

### Cultures:

- Qashqā'ī (Turkic people) -- Iran
- Sassanians

### Types of Materials:

- Negatives
- Slides (photographs) -- 1950-2000

### Places:

- Iran -- Fars
- Mamasani (Iran)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Contact Sheets and Negatives, 1975-1976

Arrangement: Arranged by negative roll number, thereafter alphabetically by title.

Scope and Contents: Consists of interleaved, corresponding contact sheets and negatives.

Contents:

Box 1, Box 1                      75/IR/1-76/IR/40, 1975-1976

Box 1, Box 2                      76/IR/41-76/IR/76, Persepolis Graffiti, [untitled], 1976

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## Series 2: Contact Prints, 1975-1976

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by titled.

Scope and Contents: Consists of images cut out from contact sheets, organized by site or subject and mounted on folder stock with the original negative number noted.

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Zirshar (Near Fasa), Char Taq, 1976

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