



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Curatorial Correspondence, 1938-1956,  
1970-1978, 1986-1994, 2000-2002

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
Contact us at [osiaref@si.edu](mailto:osiaref@si.edu)

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	1
Container Listing .....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	Curatorial Correspondence
<b>Identifier:</b>	Accession 07-160
<b>Date:</b>	1938-1956, 1970-1978, 1986-1994, 2000-2002
<b>Extent:</b>	4.5 cu. ft. (4 record storage boxes) (1 document box)
<b>Creator::</b>	Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Curatorial Department
<b>Language:</b>	Language of Materials: English

---

## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 07-160, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.  
Curatorial Department, Curatorial Correspondence

---

## Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of records documenting the affairs of curators at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG), particularly their correspondence with the other institutions and the public. Topics include the collection, new and rejected acquisitions, provenance, research, artists, collectors, exhibitions, labels, funding, and signage. Curators and other departmental staff that are particularly well-represented in this accession include John Beardsley, Howard N. Fox, Neal David Benezra, Ned Rifkin, James Demetron, and Kerry Brougher. Some materials date to the beginnings of HMSG and the transfer of artwork from Joseph H. Hirshhorn to the Smithsonian Institution. Many of the records were created by predecessor offices to the Curatorial Department, including the Dept. of Painting and Sculpture and Dept. of Public Programs/Curatorial Division. The records also include insurance policies and related information that pre-date the Smithsonian Institution's receipt of the artwork. Materials include incoming and outgoing correspondence, memoranda, notes, label text, images of installations under consideration for exhibition, insurance policies, brochures, fact sheets, fund proposals, press releases, loan information, and related materials.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Art museum curators  
Art museums

Art, Modern  
Museum exhibits  
Museums -- Acquisitions  
Museums -- Collection management

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs  
Brochures  
Color transparencies  
Manuscripts

Names:

Beardsley, John  
Benezra, Neal David, 1953-  
Brougher, Kerry  
Demetrion, James  
Fox, Howard N.  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Department of Public Programs/Curatorial Division  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Department of Painting and Sculpture  
Hirshhorn, Joseph H.  
Rifkin, Ned  
Smithsonian Institution

## Container Listing

### Box 1

- Box 1 of 5                      Research Assistants
- Box 1 of 5                      Correspondence, 1975
- Box 1 of 5                      H. Fox Correspondence, April 1976-August 1978
- Box 1 of 5                      H. Fox Memoranda, February 1976-October 1978
- Box 1 of 5                      John Beardsley Correspondence, 1976-1978 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      Read File, June-December 1973 (6 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      New York and Washington, D.C. Read Files, January and April-August 1973 (19 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      Read File, February-July 1970 (21 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      Read File, January-December 1972 (36 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      Read File, January-May 1974 (5 folders)
- Box 1 of 5                      Read File, March 1971
- Box 1 of 5                      Lists (Extra Copies)
- Box 1 of 5                      Fine Arts Insurance, 1943-1956, and Policies, 1938-1943, etc.

### Box 2

- Box 2 of 5                      Insurance, 1951, and Miscellaneous
- Box 2 of 5                      List of Paintings and Sculptures in Connecticut
- Box 2 of 5                      List of Paintings and Sculptures Delivered to Truckers, 1956
- Box 2 of 5                      Holding Letter File (2 folders)
- Box 2 of 5                      Kerry Brougher Correspondence, 2002
- Box 2 of 5                      General Correspondence, 2001
- Box 2 of 5                      Public Inquiries, 2002
- Box 2 of 5                      Public Inquiries, 2001
- Box 2 of 5                      Exhibitions Declined, 2002

Box 2 of 5 Exhibitions Declined, 2001  
Box 2 of 5 Acquisitions Declined, 2002  
Box 2 of 5 Acquisitions Declined, 2001  
Box 2 of 5 Copyright Correspondence Forms  
Box 2 of 5 Copyright Registration Certification  
Box 2 of 5 Copyright, Circulars, etc.  
Box 2 of 5 Library of Congress, CIP Program  
Box 2 of 5 Caption Style, 1980  
Box 2 of 5 Smithsonian Institution Press (Submission Forms and Budget Sheets)  
Box 2 of 5 Label Corrections

Box 3

Box 3 of 5 Extended Labels  
Box 3 of 5 Didactics  
Box 3 of 5 Didactic Labels (Lower Level)  
Box 3 of 5 Didactic Labels (Second Floor)  
Box 3 of 5 Didactic Labels (Third Floor)  
Box 3 of 5 Label Copy, 1991-1993  
Box 3 of 5 Label Copy, 1994  
Box 3 of 5 Label and Sign Corrections, 1987  
Box 3 of 5 Permanent Collection Labels and Other Labels  
Box 3 of 5 Labels, Didactics, Handouts, and Style Rules  
Box 3 of 5 Permanent Collection Labels, Other Labels, and Signs, 1988-1990  
Box 3 of 5 Signage, General  
Box 3 of 5 Facts and Figures  
Box 3 of 5 Ned Rifkin's Correspondence, 1988  
Box 3 of 5 Chronological File, 1989 (2 folders)

Box 3 of 5                      Ned Rifkin's Correspondence, 1990

Box 3 of 5                      Ned Rifkin's Correspondence, 1991

Box 4

Box 4 of 5                      Denver Art Museum - "Somewhere Between Naples and Denver," 1988

Box 4 of 5                      "This Was Tomorrow," Hood Museum

Box 4 of 5                      "Epoca Nueva," Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago

Box 4 of 5                      Kristin Jones and Andrew Ginzel

Box 4 of 5                      "The Primal Spirit: Contemporary Japanese Sculpture," Fox/Smithsonian  
Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES)

Box 4 of 5                      Departmental Meeting - Rejected Exhibits

Box 4 of 5                      "Anxious Visions," S. Stitch, University of California, Berkeley

Box 4 of 5                      Broodthaers

Box 4 of 5                      Bruce Connor, 1987

Box 4 of 5                      Paul Cummings - Mark Tobey Exhibit

Box 4 of 5                      Sue Green - "Search for Identity: American Art, 1937-1942"

Box 4 of 5                      "A Forest of Signs: Art and the Crisis of Representation," 1987

Box 4 of 5                      Russian Emigre Artists, 1987

Box 4 of 5                      1991 Istanbul Biennial

Box 4 of 5                      1991 Ljubljana Biennial

Box 4 of 5                      1991 Cuenca Biennial

Box 4 of 5                      Creative Time, "Art in the Anchorage"

Box 4 of 5                      1991 Sao Paulo Biennial

Box 4 of 5                      Special Exhibition Fund, 1988-1989

Box 4 of 5                      Simpson, Buster

Box 4 of 5                      Shapiro Slides

Box 4 of 5                      Shapiro Loan Forms

Box 4 of 5                      Directions: Shapiro - Coverage  
Box 4 of 5                      Shapiro Publications - Photographs  
Box 4 of 5                      Directions: Joel Shapiro, 1987-1988  
Box 4 of 5                      1988 Correspondence (3 folders)  
Box 4 of 5                      1990 Correspondence (4 folders)

Box 5

Box 5 of 5                      1991 Correspondence  
Box 5 of 5                      Rejected Acquisitions, 1986  
Box 5 of 5                      Robert Moscowicz - Loan Agreements, 1989  
Box 5 of 5                      Sigmar Polke Show  
Box 5 of 5                      Rolf Julius Exhibition Proposal, 1989-1990 [Accession 11-016]