



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Exhibition Records, 1980-2008

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Exhibition Records
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Administrative Information

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Use Restriction

Restricted for 15 years, until Jan-01-2024; Transferring office; 1/5/1994 memorandum, Johnstone to Fiske; Contact reference staff for details.

Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of National Museum of African Art (NMAfA) exhibition records created during the tenures of Warren M. Robbins, Director, 1964-1982; John E. Reinhardt, Acting Director, 1982-1983; Sylvia H. Williams, Director, 1983-1996; Roslyn A. Walker, Director, 1997-2002; and Sharon F. Patton, Director, 2003-2008. Exhibitions include: "Traditional Costumery and Jewelry in Africa;" "Traditional Costumes and Jewelry of Egypt;" "African Art in Color;" "African Art in the Cycle of Life;" "The African Desert, 1975-1977: Photographs by Bernard Plossu;" "African Emblems of Status;" "African Gold: Selections from the Glassell Collection, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston;" "African Islam;" "African Mankala;" "African Masterpieces from the Musee de l'Homme;" "African Masterpieces from the News Orleans Museum of Art;" "The Art of the Personal Object;" "Astonishment and Power: Kongo Minkisi and the Art of Renee Stout;" "BIG/small;" "Body of Evidence;" "Echoes of the Kalabari: Sculpture by Sokari Douglas Camp;" "Elimina: Art and Trade on the West African Coast;" "The Essential Gourd;" "Ethiopia: The Christian Art of an African Nation;" "Ethiopian Passages: Dialogues in the Diaspora;" "From the Earth: African Ceramic Art;" "Go Well, My Child: Photographs by Constance Stuart Larrabee;" "Gold of Africa: Jewelry and Heredity Treasures of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali and Senegal;" "A Human Ideal in African Art: Bamana Figurative Sculpture;" "Igbo Arts: Community and Cosmos;" "Images of Power and Identity;" "In and Out of Focus: Images from Central Africa, 1885-1960;" "Inscribing Meaning: Writing and Graphic Systems in African Art;" "Insights;" "Life...Afterlife: African Funerary Sculpture;" "Objects of Use;" "Patterns of Life: West African Strip-Weaving Traditions;" "Praise Poems: The Katherine White Collection;" "The Rising of a New Moon: A Century of Tabwa Art;" "Shoowa Design: Raffia Textiles from Zaire;" "The Stranger Among Us;"

"Thinking with Animals: African Images and Perceptions;" "Treasures from the Smithsonian Institution;" "Treasures of Ancient Nigeria: Legacy of 2000 Years;" "West African Images;" and "Where Gods and Mortals Meet: Continuity and Renewal in Urhobo Art." Materials include newspaper clippings, brochures, correspondence, memoranda, loan information, and news releases.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art museum directors
- Art museums
- Art, African
- Museum exhibits

Types of Materials:

- Brochures
- Clippings
- Manuscripts

Names:

- A Human Ideal in African Art: Bamana Figurative Sculpture (Exhibition) (1986: Washington, D.C.)
- African Art in Color (Exhibition) (1983: Washington, D.C.)
- African Art in the Cycle of Life (Exhibition) (1987-1988: Washington, D.C.)
- African Emblems of Status (Exhibition) (1982-1983: Washington, D.C.)
- African Gold: Selections from the Glassell Collection, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (Exhibition) (2006: Washington, D.C.)
- African Islam (Exhibition) (1983-1984: Washington, D.C.)
- African Mankala (Exhibition) (1984: Washington, D.C.)
- African Masterpieces from the Musee de l'Homme (Exhibition) (1985: Washington, D.C.)
- African Masterpieces from the News Orleans Museum of Art (Exhibition) (2006-2007: Washington, D.C.)
- Astonishment and Power: Kongo Minkisi and the Art of Renee Stout (Exhibition) (1993-1994: Washington, D.C.)
- BIG/small (Exhibition) (2006: Washington, D.C.)
- Body of Evidence (Exhibition) (2006-2008: Washington, D.C.)
- Echoes of the Kalabari: Sculpture by Sokari Douglas Camp (Exhibition) (1988-1989: Washington, D.C.)
- Elimina: Art and Trade on the West African Coast (Exhibition) (1992-1993: Washington, D.C.)
- Ethiopia: The Christian Art of an African Nation (Exhibition) (1984: Washington, D.C.)
- Ethiopian Passages: Dialogues in the Diaspora (Exhibition) (2003: Washington, D.C.)
- From the Earth: African Ceramic Art (Exhibition) (1983: Washington, D.C.)
- Go Well, My Child: Photographs by Constance Stuart Larrabee (Exhibition) (1985-1986: Washington, D.C.)
- Gold of Africa: Jewelry and Heredity Treasures of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali and Senegal (Exhibition) (1989: Washington, D.C.)
- Igbo Arts: Community and Cosmos (Exhibition) (1985: Washington, D.C.)
- Images of Power and Identity (Exhibition) (1992: Washington, D.C.)

In and Out of Focus: Images from Central Africa, 1885-1960 (Exhibition) (2002-2003: Washington, D.C.)
Inscribing Meaning: Writing and Graphic Systems in African Art (Exhibition) (2007: Washington, D.C.)
Insights (Exhibition) (2004: Washington, D.C.)
Life . . . Afterlife: African Funerary Sculpture (Exhibition) (1981-1982: Washington, D.C.)
Museum of African Art (U.S.)
Objects of Use (Exhibition) (1987-1988: Washington, D.C.)
Patterns of Life: West African Strip-Weaving Traditions (Exhibition) (1987-1988: Washington, D.C.)
Patton, Sharon F.
Praise Poems: The Katherine White Collection (Exhibition) (1984-1985: Washington, D.C.)
Reinhardt, John E.
Robbins, Warren M.
Shoowa Design: Raffia Textiles from Zaire (Exhibition) (1988: Washington, D.C.)
The African Desert, 1975-1977: Photographs by Bernard Plossu (Exhibition) (1989-1990: Washington, D.C.)
The Art of the Personal Object (Exhibition) (1991-2007: Washington, D.C.)
The Essential Gourd (Exhibition) (1989-1990: Washington, D.C.)
The Rising of a New Moon: A Century of Tabwa Art (Exhibition) (1986: Washington, D.C.)
The Stranger Among Us (Exhibition) (1982: Washington, D.C.)
Thinking with Animals: African Images and Perceptions (Exhibition) (1982: Washington, D.C.)
Traditional Costumery and Jewelry in Africa (Exhibition) (1981: Washington, D.C.)
Traditional Costumes and Jewelry of Egypt (Exhibition) (1981: Washington, D.C.)
Treasures from the Smithsonian Institution (Exhibition) (1984: Edinburgh, Scotland)
Treasures of Ancient Nigeria: Legacy of 2000 Years (Exhibition) (1980-1981: Washington, D.C.)
Walker, Roslyn A.
West African Images (Exhibition) (1984: Washington, D.C.)
Where Gods and Mortals Meet: Continuity and Renewal in Urhobo Art (Exhibition) (2005: Washington, D.C.)
Williams, Sylvia H.

Container Listing

Box 1

- Box 1 of 1 African & Egyptian Costumes and Jewelry, February-March 1981
- Box 1 of 1 African Art in Color, May-October 1983
- Box 1 of 1 African Art in the Cycle of Life, 1987 (3 folders)
- Box 1 of 1 The African Desert (photographs by Bernard Plossu), 1989-1990
- Box 1 of 1 African Emblems of Status, October 1982-April 1983
- Box 1 of 1 African Gold: Selections from the Glassell Collection, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; May 26-November 26, 2006
- Box 1 of 1 African Islam: The Artistry of Faith, November 1983-1984
- Box 1 of 1 African Mankala, 1984
- Box 1 of 1 African Masterpieces from the Musee de l'Homme, 1985
- Box 1 of 1 African Masterpieces from the New Orleans Museum of Art; October 6, 2006-January 28, 2007
- Box 1 of 1 Art of the Personal Object, 1991-2008
- Box 1 of 1 Astonishment and Power: Kongo Minkisi and the Art of Renee Stout, 1993-1994 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 1 BIG/small, January 17-July 9, 2006
- Box 1 of 1 Body of Evidence; June 14, 2006-April 6, 2008
- Box 1 of 1 Echoes of the Kalabari (sculpture by Sokari Douglas Camp), 1988-1989 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 1 Elmina: Art and Trade on the West African Coast, October 1992-February 1993
- Box 1 of 1 The Essential Gourd, June 1989-January 1990
- Box 1 of 1 Ethiopia: The Christian Art of an African Nation, 1984
- Box 1 of 1 Ethiopian Passages, May 2-October 5, 2003
- Box 1 of 1 From the Earth: African Ceramic Art, May-October 1983
- Box 1 of 1 Go Well, My Child: Photographs by Constance Stuart Larrabee, 1985-1986

- Box 1 of 1 Gold of Africa: Jewelry and Heredity Treasures of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali and Senegal, 1989 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 1 A Human Ideal in African Art: Bamana Figurative Sculpture, 1986
- Box 1 of 1 Igbo Arts - Community and Cosmos, 1985
- Box 1 of 1 Images of Power and Identity (ex-Permanent Collection), 1992
- Box 1 of 1 In and Out of Focus: Images from Central Africa, 1885-1960; December 6, 2002-March 16, 2003
- Box 1 of 1 Inscribing Meaning: Writing and Graphic Systems in African Art; May 9-August 26, 2007
- Box 1 of 1 Insights; February 27-November 28, 2004
- Box 1 of 1 Kalabari Ancestral Screens: Levels of Meaning
- Box 1 of 1 Life Afterlife: African Funerary Sculpture, 1981-1982
- Box 1 of 1 Objects of Use, 1987-1988
- Box 1 of 1 Patterns of Life: West African Strip-Weaving Traditions, 1987-1988
- Box 1 of 1 Praise Poems: The Katherine White Collection, 1984-1985
- Box 1 of 1 The Rising of a New Moon: A Century of Tabwa Art; January 29-March 17, 1986
- Box 1 of 1 Shoowa Design: Raffia Textiles from Zaire; June 15-August 17, 1988
- Box 1 of 1 Thinking with Animals; The Stranger Among Us, March-June 1982
- Box 1 of 1 Treasures from the Smithsonian - Edinburgh Festival, 1984 (NMAfA)
- Box 1 of 1 Treasures of Ancient Nigeria: Legacy of 2000 Years (co-sponsored and held at Corcoran Gallery of Art); December 1980-January 1981
- Box 1 of 1 West African Images; April 13-May 8, 1984
- Box 1 of 1 Where Gods and Mortals Meet: Continuity and Renewal in Urhobo Art; June 23-September 25, 2005