

Finding aid for the Nicholas Wilder Gallery records, 1927-1980 2014.M.352014.M.35

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Description is in English.

Special Collections

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles 90049-1688
Business Number: (310) 440-7390
Fax Number: (310) 440-7780
reference@getty.edu
URL: <http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref>

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Summary Information

- Repository:** Special Collections
- Creator:** Nicholas Wilder Gallery
- Title:** Nicholas Wilder Gallery records
- ID:** 2014.M.35
- Dates:** 1927-1980
- Extent:** 10.93 Linear Feet (15 boxes, 1 flatfile folder)
- Request Materials:** Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the [catalog record](#) for this collection. Click here for the [access policy](#).
- Language:** Collection material is in English.
- Abstract:** The collection comprises over fifty artist and gallery files containing photographs of works, press clippings, correspondence, slides, transparencies, and personalized artwork.

Preferred Citation

Nicholas Wilder Gallery records, 1927-1980, The Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, Accession no. 2014.M.35.

<http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa2014M35>

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Biographical / Historical

Nicholas Walter George Wilder was born in Rochester, New York, in 1938. He graduated from Amherst College in 1960 and studied law at Stanford University before deciding to enter the art field. Wilder opened his gallery on La Cienega Boulevard in Los Angeles on April 1, 1965, exhibiting contemporary works from New York and Europe, and works by up-and-coming Los Angeles artists. The gallery was highly regarded; Wilder was noted for his keen eye and ability to recognize artistic talent. He gave early exhibitions to Dan Flavin, Ronald Davis, Joe Goode, and Robert Graham, and fostered the work of Sam Francis, David Hockney, John McLaughlin, and many others. He was the first to show Bruce Nauman's performance video pieces and John McCracken's *Planks*. In 1970, the gallery moved to Santa Monica

Boulevard; but changing trends in the art market, including a shift by artists toward creating art with an eye toward the commercial market rather than toward personal expression, and collectors' reluctance to buy work from emerging or unestablished artists, impacted that gallery's financial success.

Wilder decided to close his gallery in 1979, and many of the artists he represented moved to the James Corcoran Gallery. Wilder then moved to New York and reemerged a few years later as an artist inspired by those he had represented, with the James Corcoran Gallery hosting his first solo show in 1986. Nicholas Wilder died of AIDS in New York City on May 12, 1989.

Sources: Rani Singh, Acquisition Approval Form for "Nicholas Wilder (American, 1938-1989) Gallery Records (1965-1979), accession no. 2014.M.35," June 16, 2014.

Aid to the Nicholas Wilder Gallery Records, 1944-1984, AAA.nichwild, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. <https://www.aaa.si.edu/files/resources/finding-aids/pdf/nichwild.pdf>

Burt A. Folkart, "Nicholas Wilder; Was Contemporary Art Dealer in L.A.", *The Los Angeles Times*, May 14, 1989, http://articles.latimes.com/1989-05-14/news/mn-442_1_nicholas-wilder-contemporary-art-dealer-art-history (accessed November 7, 2017).

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Scope and Contents

The collection comprises artist files and records pertaining to the operation of the Nicholas Wilder Gallery. Files contain assorted ephemera, black-and-white photographs, color photographs, clippings, inventory cards, slides, transparencies, and exhibition posters. There is also unique artwork and correspondence from George Herms and Peter Zecher.

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Arrangement

Arranged in two series: Series I. Artist files; Series II. Gallery files

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Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Audiovisual materials are unavailable until reformatted.

Publication Rights

Contact [Library Reproductions and Permissions](#).

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of The Estate of Nicholas Wilder. Acquired in 2014.

Processing Information

Processed by Ellen Colvin, under the supervision of Kit Messick in Fall 2017.

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Related Materials

Related Archival Materials

Nicholas Wilder Gallery records, 1944-1984 (bulk 1968-1979). Archives of American Art <http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/findingaids/nichwild.htm>

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Controlled Access Headings

Subjects - People

- Francis, Sam, 1923-1994
- Herms, George, 1935-
- Hockney, David
- McCracken, John, 1934-2011

- Nauman, Bruce, 1941-

Subjects - Topics

- Art dealers -- United States -- Correspondence
- Art galleries, Commercial -- California -- Los Angeles
- Artists -- California -- Los Angeles -- 20th century

Collection Inventory

Series I. Artist files, 1927-1980, undated 6.67 Linear Feet (11 boxes)

Title/Description	Containers	
Alexander, Peter, 1971 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Color slides.	Box 10	Folder 2
Altoon, John, 1970-1980, undated		
Black-and-white negatives, undated	Box 10	Folder 1
Black-and-white photographs, 1972-1973	Box 1	Folder 1
Clippings, 1974	Oversize box 12	Folder 1
Color photographs, undated	Box 10	Folder 1
Correspondence, 1970-1980	Box 1	Folder 2-3
Avedisian, Edward, undated <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.	Box 1	Folder 4
Almeida, Raymond, 1974-1977		
Clippings, 1974	Oversize box 12	Folder 1
Color slides, 1974	Box 10	Folder 3
Exhibition materials, 1974-1977	Box 1	Folder 5
Arnoldi, Charles, 1973-1979, undated		
Black-and-white negative, undated	Box 10	Folder 4
Exhibition materials, 1973-1979	Box 1	Folder 6
Exhibition reviews, 1973-1979	Box 1	Folder 7
Baldwin, Gordon, 1977	Box 1	Folder 8

Bannard, Darby, 1970 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Color slides.	Box 10	Folder 5
Bell, Larry, undated <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.	Box 1	Folder 9
Bengston, Billy Al, 1972-1975, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, undated	Box 1	Folder 12-13
Color slides, 1972-1975	Box 10	Folder 8
Color transparencies, 1974-1975	Box 10	Folder 6-7
Index card inventory, 1972-1975	Box 1	Folder 10-11
Photographs and exhibition materials, 1974-1975	Box 1	Folder 14
Brice, William 1961-1980, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, undated	Box 2	Folder 3
Clippings, 1978	Oversize box 12	Folder 1
Color photograph, undated	Box 10	Folder 9
Exhibition materials, 1961-1980	Box 2	Folder 1
Inventory cards, 1975-1978	Box 2	Folder 2
Clemins, Vija, 1975-1980		
Exhibition materials, 1975-1980	Box 2	Folder 4
Fliers and calendars, 1977-1978	Box 2	Folder 5
Christianson, Dan, 1969-1978, undated		
Color photographs, undated	Box 10	Folder 10
Color slides, 1969-1970	Box 10	Folder 10
Photographs and documents, 1977-1978	Box 2	Folder 6
De France, James, 1970-1976, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, undated	Box 2	Folder 8
Color slides, 1976	Box 10	Folder 11
Gallery documentation, 1970-1976	Box 2	Folder 7
DeLap, Tony, 1971-1979, undated		
Black-and-white negatives, 1974-1979	Box 10	Folder 13
Black-and-white photographs, undated		

	Box 2	Folder 11
Clippings, 1974	Oversize box 13	Folder 1
Color slides, 1971-1977	Box 10	Folder 12-13
Exhibition poster, 1975	Oversize box 13	Folder 1
Gallery documentation and reviews, 1973-1979 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Contains duplicate exhibition announcements.	Box 2	Folder 12-13
Gallery materials and photographs, 1971-1976	Box 2	Folder 9-10
De Maria, Walter, 1966-1967, undated <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs; contains duplicates.	Box 2	Folder 14
Diebenkorn, Richard, 1976-1979	Box 2	Folder 15
Flavin, Dan, 1962-1966, undated <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.	Box 3	Folder 1
Francis, Sam, 1951-1980, undated		
Clippings, 1973-1978	Oversize box 13	Folder 2
Color slides, 1973-1974	Box 10	Folder 14
Color transparencies, undated	Box 10	Folder 14
Correspondence and documentation, 1976-1979	Box 3	Folder 4
Exhibition materials, 1973-1980 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Contains duplicate exhibition announcements.	Box 3	Folder 2-3
Index card inventory, 1967-1978 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> The inventory cards contain black-and-white photographs of artworks.	Box 3	Folder 6-7
Photographs and exhibition materials, 1951-1974, undated	Box 3	Folder 8
Price lists, 1973-1978	Box 3	Folder 5
Reviews, 1969-1978	Box 3	Folder 9
Frankenthaler, Helen, 1955-1973, undated		
Color transparencies, undated		

	Box 10	Folder 15
Photographs and review, 1955-1973, undated	Box 3	Folder 10
Goode, Joe, 1963-1978, undated		
Black-and-white negative, undated	Box 10	Folder 16
Black-and-white photographs, 1963-1978, undated	Box 4	Folder 1-3
Clippings, 1976	Oversize box 13	Folder 3
Color photographs, 1978 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Includes several instant photographs of artworks.	Box 10	Folder 16-17
Color slides, 1964-1977	Box 10	Folder 16-17
Color transparencies, undated	Box 10	Folder 16
Correspondence, 1978	Box 3	Folder 11
Exhibition materials, 1970-1978	Box 3	Folder 12-14
Exhibition posters, 1976, undated	Oversize box 13	Folder 3
Gorky, Arshile, 1927-1973, undated		
Acquisition of pieces, 1927-1973	Box 4	Folder 4
Black-and-white negative, undated	Box 10	Folder 18
Color transparency, 1946	Box 10	Folder 18
Graham, Robert, 1978	Box 4	Folder 5
Hall, Nigel, 1968 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.	Box 4	Folder 6
Helm, Robert, 1976-1980, undated		
Color slides, undated	Box 10	Folder 19
Exhibition reviews and correspondence, 1976-1980	Box 4	Folder 7
Inventory lists and biography, 1976-1980	Box 4	Folder 8
Photographs, undated	Box 4	Folder 9
Herms, George, 1963-1979		
Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1973-1979 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> This folder contains original screen prints by Herms, including a change of address notice and an image of a blimp.	Box 4	Folder 10-11

Exhibition poster, 1975	Oversize box 12	Folder 2
Inventory cards, 1963-1977	Box 4	Folder 12
Hockney, David, 1966-1979, undated		
Clippings and exhibition materials, 1979	Box 5	Folder 1
Color slides, undated	Box 10	Folder 20
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> The slides correspond to a letter written by Joni Weyl about new lithographs by Hockney.		
Black-and-white negative, undated	Box 10	Folder 20
Black-and-white photographs, 1966-1976, undated	Box 5	Folder 2-3
Inventory lists and correspondence, 1979	Box 5	Folder 4
Hoffman, Hans, 1965, undated		
Color photograph, 1965	Box 10	Folder 21
Photographs and inventory list, undated	Box 5	Folder 5
Transparency, undated	Box 10	Folder 21
Holland, Tom, 1965-1980, undated		
Biography, undated	Box 5	Folder 9
Black-and-white photographs and exhibition materials, 1965-1979, undated	Box 5	Folder 12-13
Clippings, 1969	Oversize box 13	Folder 3
Color slides, 1976-1978	Box 10	Folder 22
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Two slides correspond to a letter from Tom Holland found in box 5, folder 6.		
Exhibition announcements, 1965-1980	Box 5	Folder 10-11
Exhibition materials, 1971-1976	Box 5	Folder 7
Exhibition posters, undated	Oversize box 13	Folder 3
Inventory and business correspondence, 1965-1979	Box 5	Folder 8
Personal correspondence, 1965-1970	Box 5	Folder 6
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Contains four original artworks by Tom Holland.		
Hoyland, John, 1967, undated		

Color transparencies, undated	Box 11	Folder 1-2
Photographs and exhibition announcements, 1967	Box 5	Folder 14
Hudson, Bobby, 1976 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Color slides and transparencies.	Box 11	Folder 3
Louis, Morris, 1957-1961 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Color slides and transparencies.	Box 11	Folder 4
McCollum, Allan, 1972-1978		
Clippings, 1973	Oversize box 12	Folder 2
Color slide, 1972	Box 11	Folder 5
Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1973-1978	Box 5	Folder 15
McCracken, John, 1964-1980, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, 1972-1976	Box 6	Folder 5
Black-and-white transparencies, 1972-1976	Box 11	Folder 7
Clippings, 1974	Oversize box 13	Folder 4
Color slides, 1972-1976	Box 11	Folder 6-7
Correspondence, 1965-1980	Box 6	Folder 1-3
Exhibition fliers and materials, 1965-1980	Box 6	Folder 4
Exhibition posters, 1967-1968, undated		
1967-1968 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> One black-and-white poster and three blue posters.	Oversize box 13	Folder 4
Undated	Flatfile FF1	
Inventory drawing, 1964-1965	Oversize box 13	Folder 4
McLaughlin, John, 1961-1979, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, 1961-1967	Box 6	Folder 7-8
Color photograph, undated	Box 11	Folder 8
Color slides, 1969-1970	Box 11	Folder 8
Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1978-1979	Box 6	Folder 6
Color transparencies, undated		

	Box 11	Folder 8
Uncut black-and-white negatives, undated	Box 14	
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Restricted pending conservation attention, contact Reference desk for further information.		
Moses, Ed, 1971-1980, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, 1972-1976	Box 6	Folder 9
Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1973-1980	Box 6	Folder 10
Exhibition posters, 1973, undated	Oversize box 13	Folder 3
Inventory cards, 1971-1977	Box 6	Folder 11
Murrill, Gwynn, 1969-1979		
Black-and-white photographs, 1969-1977	Box 7	Folder 2
Clippings, 1978	Oversize box 13	Folder 4
Color slides, 1974-1977	Box 11	Folder 9
Exhibition materials, 1976-1979	Box 7	Folder 1
Inventory cards, 1972-1978	Box 6	Folder 12
Nauman, Bruce, 1971-1980, undated		
Black-and-white photographs and exhibition materials, 1971-1976, undated	Box 7	Folder 5-8
Clippings, 1975	Oversize box 12	Folder 3
Color photograph, 1975	Box 11	Folder 10
Color slides, 1974-1977	Box 11	Folder 10
Exhibition posters, 1975, undated	Oversize box 12	Folder 3
Exhibition poster, 1976	Oversize box 13	Folder 5
Exhibition materials, 1975-1980	Box 7	Folder 4
Film reel and scraps, undated	Box 15	
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Contains film scraps from one of Nauman's performance pieces involving his hands and feet, as well as an 8mm reel containing an unidentified Nauman piece. Audiovisual material is unavailable until reformatted; contact repository regarding access.		
Inventory cards and loan paperwork, 1974-1979	Box 7	Folder 3

Newton, Helmut, 1973-1977, undated		
Correspondence, 1976	Box 7	Folder 9
Inventory cards, 1973-1977	Box 7	Folder 10-11
Reception invitation list, undated	Box 7	Folder 12
Reviews, 1976	Box 7	Folder 13
Olitski, Jules, 1966, undated		
Black-and-white photographs and exhibition announcement, 1966, undated	Box 7	Folder 14
Color slides, 1966	Box 11	Folder 11
Price, Kenneth, 1974	Box 8	Folder 1
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photograph.		
Raciti, Cherie, 1972-1979, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, undated	Box 8	Folder 5
Clippings, 1973	Flatfile FF1	
Color slides, 1975	Box 11	Folder 12
Correspondence between Wilder and Raciti, 1975-1979	Box 8	Folder 2
Exhibition announcements and reviews, 1972-1979	Box 8	Folder 3-4
Exhibition posters, 1974-1977, undated		
1974, undated	Flatfile FF1	
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Two Kodak exhibition posters.		
1977	Flatfile FF1	
Transparency, undated	Box 11	Folder 12
Rauschenberg, Robert, 1977-1978	Box 8	Folder 6
Ruppersberg, Allen, 1974	Box 8	Folder 7
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.		
Smith, Alexis, 1972-1978, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, 1973-1976	Box 8	Folder 8
Clippings, 1973	Flatfile FF1	
Color slides, 1976, undated	Box 11	Folder 13
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> This slide corresponds to an application for a Tiffany Foundation grant.		

Exhibition announcements and correspondence, 1975-1978	Box 8	Folder 10
Exhibition announcements and reviews, 1972-1977	Box 8	Folder 9
Exhibition materials (duplicates), 1975	Box 8	Folder 11
Exhibition poster, undated	Flatfile FF1	
Transparencies, undated	Box 11	Folder 13
Snyder, Joan, 1976-1980, undated		
Exhibition announcements and correspondence, 1976-1980	Box 8	Folder 12
Exhibition poster, undated	Oversize box 13	Folder 6
Sorenson, Don, 1974-1979	Box 8	Folder 13
Spence, Andrew, 1974-1976, undated		
Black-and-white photographs, undated	Box 8	Folder 14
Loan paperwork and reviews, 1974-1976	Box 8	Folder 15
Todd, Michael, 1975-1976		
Color slides, 1976	Box 11	Folder 14
Exhibition materials and reviews, 1975-1976	Box 8	Folder 16
Torres, Horatio, 1974-1975, undated	Box 8	Folder 17
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Black-and-white photographs.		
Yokomi, Richard, 1969-1979, undated		
Clippings, 1978	Oversize box 13	Folder 6
Color photograph, undated	Box 11	Folder 15
Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1969-1979	Box 9	Folder 1
Exhibition posters, undated	Oversize box 13	Folder 6
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> Three duplicate exhibition posters also found in Tom Holland and Ed Moses' folders.		
Zecher, Peter, 1970-1980, undated		
Bibliography and photographs, 1970-1975, undated	Box 9	Folder 2
Black-and-white negatives, 1974	Box 11	Folder 16
Clipping, 1975	Oversize box 12	Folder 4
<i>Scope and Contents:</i> The article about Peter Zecher is in the middle of the paper.		

Color photograph, 1974	Box 11	Folder 16
Color slides, 1974	Box 11	Folder 16
Correspondence and reviews, 1974-1980	Box 9	Folder 3
Unidentified artwork, 1977	Oversize box 12	Folder 4

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Series II. Gallery files, 1960-1978, undated. 4.33 Linear Feet (4 boxes, 1 flatfile)

Title/Description	Containers	
Clippings, 1977 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> This contains clippings about Andy Warhol and Ambroise Vollard.	Oversize box 13	Folder 6
Correspondence and invoices, 1977-1978	Box 9	Folder 6-9
Exhibition poster, 1978	Oversize box 13	Folder 6
Mailing list, undated	Box 9	Folder 5
Photographs, undated		
Black-and-white photographs	Box 9	Folder 4
Color photographs	Box 11	Folder 17
Color slides	Box 11	Folder 17
Transparencies	Box 11	Folder 17
Purchased and unpurchased paintings, 1965-1970 <i>Scope and Contents:</i> Photographs and descriptions of artworks.	Box 10	Folder 23

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