

**Finding Aid to
UN Conference on Women: International
Festival of Women Artists
1979-1981
Archives of Women Artists**

Finding Aid Prepared by: Emily Moore (April, 2020)
Collection Processed by: Rebecca Quon (2014)

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Overview

Repository Information:

National Museum of Women in the Arts,
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1250 New York Ave NW
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Title:

UN Conference on Women: International Festival of Women Artist

Provenance:

This collection was bestowed to the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) by Soon-Young Yoon on behalf of Conference of NGOs (CONGO) and NGO Forum 1995. Completed 2014, though gift was received in 1980. The International Festival of Women Artists Collection is part of a larger group of materials that were donated to NMWA in 1987 and 1988 by Susan Schwalb, Nancy Cusick and Cynthia Navaretta.

Collection Dates:

Inclusive Dates: 1979-1981

Physical Description:

20 boxes

Summary:

The International Festival of Women Artists Collection documents the planning, execution, and outcome of the International Festival of Women Artists. The Festival, which brought together women artists from more than 30 countries, was held at the NY Carlsberg Glyptotek Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark. It provided a community where the artists could share their creative work and a platform to address issues of the women's art movement. In addition to administrative papers, the collection also includes objects and documents from the event itself.

Finding Aid URL:

<https://nmwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/4.3.4.2-international-festival-of-women-artist-collection.pdf>

Administrative Information

Access Information:

Unrestricted

Preferred Citation:

Item, Date, Series, UN Conference on Women: International Festival of Women Artists, Archives of Women Artists, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Betty Boyd Dettre Library & Research Center.

Publication and Photocopies Note:

Permission from the National Museum of Women in the Arts required for publication and reproduction of original materials. Photocopies of original materials can be made for a fee and at the discretion of the library director.

Related Materials Note:

Betty Boyd Dettre Library and Research Center (LRC) Collection

Archival collections:

UN Conference on Women: Focus International, 1984-1986 (Nairobi, Kenya)

UN Conference on Women: Global Focus, 1995 (Beijing, China)

Processed by:

Mary Oliver Humke (1994)

Rebecca Quon (2014)

Processing Note:

The Copenhagen and Nairobi finding aids were prepared and collection processed by Mary Oliver Humke in 1994. The Beijing finding aid was prepared and collection processed in 1998. The collections were further processed and finding aids updated in 2014 by Rebecca Quon. Subsequent LRC support provided in 2017 to create an overarching finding aid under the title UN World Conferences on Women which would have served as the umbrella finding aid to the three collection series. Series 1: International Festival of Women Artists (Copenhagen, Denmark). Series 2: Focus International (Nairobi, Kenya). Series 3: Global Focus (Beijing, China). It is unclear why an overarching finding aid was never created. A re-evaluation of the collections and their inventories lead to the 2020 decision to keep the collections separate in order to maintain proper records of provenance and ensure usability for researchers. To this end, a new set of finding aids was created by Emily Moore in April of 2020.

Historical Note

The International Festival of Women Artists was held at the NY Carlsberg Glyptotek Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark from July 14-30, 1980. It took place in conjunction with the World Conference of the United Nations' Decade for Women, and was sponsored by the Coalition of Women's Arts Organizations. The Festival brought together female artists from more than 30 countries, providing a community in which they could share their diverse creative work and freely explore various issues of the women's art movement. Funding for the United States participants was provided by the State Department through the International Communications Agency. Events included literary readings, films, videos, a continuous slideshow of artwork, performances, panel discussions, and exhibitions of artwork.

Scope and Content Note

The collection on the International Festival of Women Artists documents the event from its beginning stages, in 1979, to post-festival activities in 1983. It contains the correspondence of Festival coordinators with the United States and Danish embassies, American and Danish women artists, the UN, the White House, and the Glyptotek in Copenhagen. Other documents related to Festival planning include letters soliciting support for the Festival, financial statements, and grant application for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Many objects have been saved from the Festival itself: exhibition guides, banners, lecture transcriptions, photographs, and other materials that document the festival. Clippings from newspapers preserve contemporary press coverage, and there are fifteen audiotapes documenting various events at the Festival. The archives house the international collection of postcards submitted by artists and displayed at the festival. They were created in a variety of media: paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, collages, and mixed media. There are fifteen audiotapes documenting the project. Posters from the Festival are located in the flat files of the LRC map case.

As a whole, these documents and objects create a comprehensive record of the International Festival of Women Artists from start to finish and give a unique look into the administrative process behind planning such a large-scale event. They also give insight into the international women's rights movement of the late 1970s and early 1980s, and the UN's policies and programs to advance the status of women during the same period.

Organization and Arrangement Information

Arrangement Note:

- 8 legal size document boxes
- 8 artifact boxes
- 4 oversized boxes (3 of the 4 boxes have slide boxes within)
- Series 1: Project Planning
- Series 2: Funding
- Series 3: Press Coverage
- Series 4: Artist Resumes
- Series 5: Festival Documentation
- Series 6: Audio Recordings
- Series 7: Art Slides
- Series 8: Postcards
- Series 9: Post-Festival Files
- Series 10: Related Publications

Container Inventory

Series #1: Project Planning

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
1	1	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Jan.-Nov. 1979
1	2	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Nov. 1979-Jan. 1980
1	3	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Jan.-Feb. 1980
1	4	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Feb.-Mar. 1980
1	5	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Mar.-Apr. 1980
1	6	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: Apr.-May 1980
1	7	Correspondence, IFWA Organizers: May-Jun. 1980
1	8	Correspondence, US/Danish Embassy: Sep. 1979-Jan. 1980
1	9	Correspondence, US/Danish Embassy: Feb.-Jun. 1980
1	10	Correspondence, Danish Arts/Organizations/Women's Groups: Sep.-Nov. 1970
1	11	Correspondence, Danish Arts/Organizations/Women's Groups: Nov. 1970-Feb. 1980
1	12	Correspondence, Danish Arts/Organizations/Women's Groups: Mar.-Sep. 1980
1	13-14	Correspondence, Danish Arts/Organizations/Women's Groups: Miscellaneous
1	15	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Aug. 13-Oct. 25, 1979
1	16	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Oct. 25-Dec. 9, 1979
1	17	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Dec. 28, 1979-Feb. 28,

		1980
1	18	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Feb. 28-Apr. 24, 1980
1	19	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Apr. 26-Jun. 13, 1980
1	20	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Jun. 13, 1980-Jan. 4, 1981
1	21-23	Correspondence, KIK/Glyptotek: Miscellaneous
1	29-30	Handwritten Notes and Ideas
1	31-40	Committee Information and Drafts
1	41	Correspondence, Non-Danish Women Information: Jul. 1979-May 1980
1	42	Correspondence, Non-Danish Women Information: Jun. 1980-Sep. 1981

Series #2: Funding

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
1	43	Correspondence, Corporate: Nov. 25-Dec. 26, 1979
1	44	Correspondence, Corporate: Dec. 26, 1979-Jan. 15, 1980
1	45	Correspondence, Corporate: Jan. 16-Jan. 28, 1980
1	46	Correspondence, Corporate: Jan. 28-Feb. 27, 1980
1	47	Correspondence, Corporate: Feb. 27-Apr. 7, 1980
1	48	Correspondence, Corporate: Apr. 15-Nov. 14, 1980
2	1	Correspondence, NEA Grant Application
2	2	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: the Friendship Fund, INC: Jun. 1978
2	3	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Jan. 1-Nov. 11, 1979
2	4	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Nov. 13-30, 1979
2	5	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Dec. 14, 1979-Jan. 1, 1980
2	6	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Jan. 14-Feb. 1, 1980
2	7	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Feb. 9-24, 1980
2	8	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Feb. 24-Mar. 19, 1980
2	9	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Apr. 1-23, 1980
2	10	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Apr. 23-25, 1980
2	11	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Apr. 28-May 15, 1980
2	12	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: May 15-Jun. 30, 1980
2	13	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: Oct 14, 1980-May 26, 1981
2	14-15	Correspondence, Non-Corporate: No Dates
2	16	Financial Files: Nov. 1979-Feb. 19, 1980
2	17	Financial Files: Feb. 20, 1980-Dec. 1982
2	18-19	Receipts
2	20-25	Financial Files: Miscellaneous
2	26-27	Financial Statements
2	28	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Jun.-Oct. 1979

2	29	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Nov. 1979-Jan. 25, 1980
2	30	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Jan. 25-Mar. 10, 1980
2	31	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Mar. 10-Apr. 2, 1980
2	32	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Apr. 10-Jun. 30, 1980
2	33	Correspondence: UN Women's Information w/White House and State Dept.: Aug.-Dec. 1980
2	34-39	UN Women's Information: Miscellaneous

Series #3: Press Coverage

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
3	1	Correspondence: Public Relations: Nov. 1979-Apr. 10, 1980
3	2	Correspondence: Public Relations: Apr. 15-Jun. 20, 1980
3	3-8	Press Releases
3	9	Clippings: Dec. 1979-Jan. 1980
3	10	Clippings: Mar.-Jun. 1980
3	11	Clippings: Jul. 13-18, 1980
3	12	Clippings: Jul. 18-20, 1980
3	13	Clippings: Jul. 20-25, 1980
3	14	Clippings: Jul. 26-31, 1980
3	15	Media Report to Women, Feb. & Apr. 1980
3	16	Media Report to Women, Jun. & Aug. 1980
3	17	Spokeswoman, Jan., Mar. & Jun. 1980
3	18	WWAC, Oct. 1979; Jan., Oct. & Nov. 1980
3	19	MS., Jul. 1980
3	20	Women Artist News, Sep. & Oct. 1980
3	21	Clippings: Jan. 1980
3	22	Clippings: Jan. 1980 & List of Publications
3	23	Clippings: Feb. 1980
3	24	Clippings: Mar. 1980
3	25	Clippings: Apr. & May 1980
3	26	Clippings: Jul. 1980
3	27	Clippings: Aug. & Sep. 1980
3	28	Clippings: Sep.-Dec. 1980
3	29	Clippings: Apr.-Jun. 1981
3	30	Events: Aug.-Oct. 1980
3	31	Events: Oct. 1980
3	32	Events: Oct. 1980-Jan. 1981
3	33	Events: Spring 1981

Series #4: Artists Resumes

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
4	1	Introductory Materials
4	2	Unknown Names
4	3	AC - AZ
4	4	BA - BE
4	5	BI - BU
4	6	CA - CH
4	7	CI - CU
4	8	DA - DW
4	9	ED - EV
4	10	FA - FU
4	11	GA - GW
4	12	HAL - HAZ
4	13	HE - HY
4	14	IL - JO
4	15	KA - KI
4	16	KI - KU
4	17	LA - LE
4	18	LI - LY
4	19	MA - MC
4	20	ME - MU
4	21	NE - OV
4	22	PA - QU
4	23	RA - RY
4	24	SA - SE
4	25	SH - SI
4	26	SL - SY
4	27	TA - UN
4	28	VA - WO
4	29	ZA - ZU

Series #5: Festival Documentation

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
5	1	Bags
5	2	Banners
5	3	Miscellaneous
5	4-5	Guides
5	6-8	Programs
5	9-10	Danish Women
5	11-12	Lectures: Nancy Cusick
5	13	Lectures: Susan Schwalb
5	14	Dance
5	15	Dance: Edith Stephen
5	16-19	Film & Video
5	20	Film & Video: Alida Walsh

5	21-22	Music
5	23	Literature
5	24-26	Photographs
6	1-4	Photographs
6	5-6	Slides
6	7	Theater
6	8-9	Theater: Emmatroupe
6	10	Theater: Performance Art
6	11	Theaters: At the Foot of the Mountain, Viveca Linfors
6	12-13	Theater: Pro Femina Theater
6	14	Processional
6	15-18	Bookplates by Marie-L
6	18	Notecards by Iris Kaufman
7		Oversized Box: Banner

Series #6: Audio Recordings

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
8		Committee Meeting: Dec. 3, 1979 (2 tapes)
8		Susan Schwalb, Background on Copenhagen: Dec. 10, 1979
8		Committee Meeting: Jan. 4, 1980
8		Committee Meeting: Feb. 8, 1980
8		Committee Meeting: Feb. 8-29, 1980
8		Artists in the City, WNYC radio: Mar. 5, 1980
8		Artists in the City, WNYC radio: Mar. 5, 1980 & Committee Meeting: Mar. 21, 1980
8		Committee Meeting: Mar. 21, 1980 & Apr. 11, 1980
8		Committee Meeting: Apr. 24, 1980 & Jun. 13, 1980
8		Hello Copenhagen: n.d. & Susan Schwalb speaks to Copenhagen: July 1980
8		Slide show & Panel Discussion: n.d.
8		KIK Activities Report (3 small tapes/5 sides)

Series #7: Art Slides

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
9		Notecards with Artist information
OVR1		Folder Slide Inventory: AA – HAM
		Slide box 1: AAR - BAU
		Slide box 2: BAU - CAD
		Slide box 3: CAD - COL
		Slide box 4: COL - DOD
		Slide box 5: DOD - FRI
		Slide box 6: FRI - HAM
OVR2		Folder Slide Inventory: HAM - REB
		Slide box 1: HAM - ILOW

OVR3

Slide box 2: HYA - KIT
 Slide box 3: KIT - LIP
 Slide box 4: LIP - MCC
 Slide box 5: MCC - NEN
 Slide box 6: NEW - REB
 Folder Slide Inventory: REB - ZUR
 Slide box 1: REB - SCH
 Slide box 2: SCH - SOD
 Slide box 3: SOM - TEL
 Slide box 4: TEL - WEE
 Slide box 5: WEE - ZUR

Series #8: Postcards

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
		Postcard Show: Guide to the Postcards
10		Artists: A - G
11		Artists: G - L
12		Artists: M - R
13		Artists: S - Z
14		Various Artworks on Paper (larger postcards)
15		Various Artworks on Paper (larger postcards)

Series #9: Post-Festival Files

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
16	1	Reports: Nancy Cusick, Muriel Magenta, Sylvia Moore
16	2	Reports: Claudia Trevithick, Sylvia Moore, Susan Schwalb
16	3	Correspondence: Sep.-Nov. 1980
16	4	Correspondence: Jan.-Feb. 1981
16	5	Correspondence: Feb. 1981-Apr. 1983
16	6	Projects
16	7-8	Documentation Project
16	9-12	Official IFWA Information
16	13	Exhibitions
16	14	Old Finding Aids to the Collection

Series #10: Related Publications

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title
17	1	United Nations: Programs; List of goals/fact sheet; Agenda For World Conference on Women
17	2	United Nations: Newsletter; List of continuing committee; Articles on the National Women's Conference
17	3	United Nations: 1978, Attitudes and Backgrounds of European Career Women: A Survey among the European

		Members of Zonta International (booklet)
17	4	United Nations: 1980, United States Women: Issues and Progress in the UN Decade of Women, 1976-1985 (booklet by Dept. of State)
17	5	Women's Organizations: Women's Interart Center Inc; ISIS; GCSC; ARC
17	6	Women's Organizations: A book list for 1980; Kvindetryk; the International Women's Writing Guild; Feminist Writers' Guild; Selected book-list on Women's Studies Books dedicated to The World Conference on UN Decade for Women Jul. 1980
17	7	Women's Organizations: Women's Art Register Extension Project; Women Art; C.F.E.I; Muse; Atlanta Women's Art Collective
17	8	Women's Organizations: Women Artist Filmmakers; Goddess Films
17	9	Women's Organizations: International Assoc. for Female Executives Inc.; Women's International Democratic Federation Copenhagen Jul. 1980; Kvinde Galleriet; Redstockings; Women in Spiritual Education; International Association of Women in the Arts; National Action Committee on the Status of Women
17	10	Women's Organizations: Stickers for Women's Centre (Ireland); General Union of Palestinian Women; Socialdemokraterne
17	11	Women's Organizations: Central Hall Gallery
17	12	Women's Organizations: Amazone
17	13	Women's Organizations: WARM
17	14	Women's Organizations: ArtforM
17	15	Women's Organizations: Every Women's Council
17	16	Women's Organizations: Forum 80 Jul. 14-22, 1980
17	17	Women's Organizations: The Tribune
17	18	Women's Organizations: Women Artists News
17	19	Women's Organizations: WWAC (Washington Women's Art Center)
17	20	Women's Literary Magazines: CALYX
17	21	Women's Literary Magazines: CRAS; Sorcieres; LAND & BY
17	22	Women's Literary Magazines: Intakt
17	23	Women's Literary Magazines: The Wild Iris; Sing Heavenly
17	24	Women's Literary Magazines: Hvedekorn
17	25	NGO Mid-Decade Forum: Women Artists News