Finding aid for the Nicholas Wilder Gallery records, 1927-1980

Ellen Colvin
Descriptive Summary

Title: Nicholas Wilder Gallery records
Date (inclusive): 1927-1980
Number: 2014.M.35
Creator/Collector: Nicholas Wilder Gallery
Physical Description: 10.93 Linear Feet (15 boxes, 1 flatfile folder)
Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles 90049-1688
reference@getty.edu
URL: http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref
(310) 440-7390

Abstract: The collection comprises over fifty artist and gallery files containing photographs of works, press clippings, correspondence, slides, transparencies, and personalized artwork.

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.

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.

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

Conditions Governing Access
Audiovisual materials are unavailable until reformatted.

Publication Rights
Contact Library Reproductions and Permissions.

Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa2014M35

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Processing Information
Processed by Ellen Colvin, under the supervision of Kit Messick in Fall 2017.

Related Archival Materials
http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/findingaids/nichwild.htm

Scope and Content of Collection
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.

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

Subjects - Names
Herms, George, 1935-
Hockney, David
Nauman, Bruce, 1941-
McCracken, John
Francis, Sam

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

Contributors
Nicholas Wilder Gallery

Series I. Artist files, 1927-1980, undated
Physical Description: 6.67 linear feet (11 boxes)

Box 10, Folder 2
Alexander, Peter, 1971
Scope and Content Note
Color slides.

Box 10, Folder 1
Altoon, John, 1970-1980, undated
Scope and Content Note
Black-and-white negatives, undated
Black-and-white photographs, 1972-1973
Clippings, 1974
Color photographs, undated
Correspondence, 1970-1980

Avedisian, Edward, undated
Scope and Content Note
Black-and-white photographs.

Almeida, Raymond, 1974-1977
Clippings, 1974
Color slides, 1974
Exhibition materials, 1974-1977
Arnoldi, Charles, 1973-1979, undated
Black-and-white negative, undated
Exhibition materials, 1973-1979
Exhibition reviews, 1973-1979
Baldwin, Gordon, 1977
Bannard, Darby, 1970
Scope and Content Note
Color slides.

Bell, Larry, undated
Scope and Content Note
Black-and-white photographs.

Bengston, Billy Al, 1972-1975, undated
Black-and-white photographs, undated

Black-and-white photographs, undated

Christianson, Dan, 1969-1978, undated
Color photographs, undated
Color slides, 1969-1970
Photographs and documents, 1977-1978

De France, James, 1970-1976, undated
Black-and-white photographs, undated

DeLap, Tony, 1971-1979, undated
Black-and-white negatives, 1974-1979

De Maria, Walter, 1966-1967, undated
Scope and Content Note
Black-and-white photographs; contains duplicates.

Diebenkorn, Richard, 1976-1979

Flavin, Dan, 1962-1966, undated
Scope and Content Note
Black-and-white photographs.

Francis, Sam, 1951-1980, undated
Clippings, 1973-1978
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Scope and Content Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 14</td>
<td>Color slides, 1973-1974</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 14</td>
<td>Color transparencies, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 4</td>
<td>Correspondence and documentation, 1976-1979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 6-7</td>
<td>Index card inventory, 1967-1978</td>
<td>The inventory cards contain black-and-white photographs of artworks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 8</td>
<td>Photographs and exhibition materials, 1951-1974, undated</td>
<td>The last two, sleeved photographs need conservation attention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 5</td>
<td>Price lists, 1973-1978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 9</td>
<td>Reviews, 1969-1978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 15</td>
<td>Frankenthaler, Helen, 1955-1973, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 10</td>
<td>Photographs and review, 1955-1973, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 16</td>
<td>Goode, Joe, 1963-1978, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 1-3</td>
<td>Black-and-white negative, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 3</td>
<td>Black-and-white photographs, 1963-1978, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 16</td>
<td>Color photographs, 1978</td>
<td>Includes several instant photographs of artworks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 16</td>
<td>Color slides, 1964-1977</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 11</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 12-14</td>
<td>Exhibition materials, 1970-1978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 3</td>
<td>Exhibition posters, 1976, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 4</td>
<td>Gorky, Arshile, 1927-1973, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 18</td>
<td>Acquisition of pieces, 1927-1973</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 18</td>
<td>Black-and-white negative, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 5</td>
<td>Color transparency, 1946</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 6</td>
<td>Graham, Robert, 1978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 6</td>
<td>Hall, Nigel, 1968</td>
<td>Black-and-white photographs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 19</td>
<td>Helm, Robert, 1976-1980, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 7</td>
<td>Color slides, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 8</td>
<td>Exhibition reviews and correspondence, 1976-1980</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 9</td>
<td>Inventory lists and biography, 1976-1980</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 9</td>
<td>Photographs, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 9</td>
<td>Herms, George, 1963-1979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 10-11</td>
<td>Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1973-1979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This folder contains original screen prints by Herms, including a change of address notice and an image of a blimp.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12*, Folder 2</th>
<th>Exhibition poster, 1975</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4, Folder 12</th>
<th>Inventory cards, 1963-1977</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 1</th>
<th>Clippings and exhibition materials, 1979</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This folder contains clippings that should be made into preservation copies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 20</th>
<th>Color slides, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The slides correspond to a letter written by Joni Weyl about new lithographs by Hockney.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 20</th>
<th>Black-and-white negative, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 2-3</th>
<th>Black-and-white photographs, 1966-1976, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 4</th>
<th>Inventory lists and correspondence, 1979</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 21</th>
<th>Hoffman, Hans, 1965, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 21</th>
<th>Color photograph, 1965</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 21</th>
<th>Photographs and inventory list, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 21</th>
<th>Transparency, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 9</th>
<th>Holland, Tom, 1965-1980, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 12-13</th>
<th>Black-and-white photographs and exhibition materials, 1965-1979, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13*, Folder 3</th>
<th>Clippings, 1969</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 22</th>
<th>Color slides, 1976-1978</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two slides correspond to a letter from Tom Holland found in box 5, folder 6.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 10-11</th>
<th>Exhibition announcements, 1965-1980</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 7</th>
<th>Exhibition materials, 1971-1976</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13*, Folder 3</th>
<th>Exhibition posters, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 8</th>
<th>Inventory and business correspondence, 1965-1979</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 6</th>
<th>Personal correspondence, 1965-1970</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains four original artworks by Tom Holland.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11, Folder 1-2</th>
<th>Hoyland, John, 1967, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 14</th>
<th>Color transparencies, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11, Folder 3</th>
<th>Photographs and exhibition announcements, 1967</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11, Folder 4</th>
<th>Hudson, Bobby, 1976</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color slides and transparencies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12*, Folder 2</th>
<th>Louis, Morris, 1957-1961</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color slides and transparencies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12*, Folder 2</th>
<th>McCallum, Allan, 1972-1978</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12*, Folder 2</th>
<th>Clippings, 1973</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Finding aid for the Nicholas Wilder Gallery records, 1927-1980
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11, Folder 5</th>
<th>Color slide, 1972</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 15</td>
<td>Correspondence and exhibition materials, 1973-1978</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

This folder contains clippings that should be made into preservation copies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McCracken, John, 1964-1980, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

One black-and-white poster and three blue posters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flatfile FF1**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Undated**

**Inventory drawing, 1964-1965**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 7-8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McLaughlin, John, 1961-1979, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

These transparencies need conservation attention.

**box 14**

**Uncut black-and-white negatives, undated**

**Scope and Content Note**

Restricted pending conservation attention, contact Reference desk for further information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Murrill, Gwynn, 1969-1979**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7, Folder 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nauman, Bruce, 1971-1980, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13*, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

Photograph stuck to correspondence and needs conservation attention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11, Folder 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Color slides, 1974-1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12*, Folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exhibition posters, 1975, undated**

**Scope and Content Note**

The Grossmont College Gallery poster needs conservation attention.
Scope and Content Note
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.

Scope and Content Note
Two Kodak exhibition posters.

Scope and Content Note
This slide corresponds to an application for a Tiffany Foundation grant.

Scope and Content Note
The transparencies need conservation attention.
Series I. Artist files, 1927-1980, undated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 12</td>
<td>Snyder, Joan, 1976-1980, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Exhibition announcements and correspondence, 1976-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 14</td>
<td>Spence, Andrew, 1974-1976, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 15</td>
<td>Exhibition materials and reviews, 1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 17</td>
<td>Todd, Michael, 1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 16</td>
<td>Sorenson, Don, 1974-1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Exhibition announcements and correspondence, 1976-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 14</td>
<td>Exhibition poster, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 15</td>
<td>Loan paperwork and reviews, 1974-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 12</td>
<td>Spence, Andrew, 1974-1976, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Exhibition materials and reviews, 1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 16</td>
<td>Sorenson, Don, 1974-1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 17</td>
<td>Todd, Michael, 1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 12</td>
<td>Exhibition announcements and correspondence, 1976-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Exhibition poster, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 15</td>
<td>Loan paperwork and reviews, 1974-1976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 12</td>
<td>Yokomi, Richard, 1969-1979, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 14</td>
<td>Exhibition posters, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 16</td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 16</td>
<td>Three duplicate exhibition posters also found in Tom Holland and Ed Moses' folders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 14</td>
<td>Zecher, Peter, 1970-1980, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, Folder 13</td>
<td>The article about Peter Zecher is in the middle of the paper.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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