





## FROM THE DIRECTOR

The past year, while not without challenges, is nevertheless a period that the Archives of American Art can look back upon with pride and an enormous sense of accomplishment. Through a combination of foundation and individual support, we were able to continue to aggressively fulfill our mission to collect, preserve and provide access to the world's most important original documents on the history of art in America.

Among our many notable acquisitions were the papers of artists Audrey Flack, Ralph Goings, the late Janice Lowry and Theodore Stamos, and curator Mildred Constantine; and the records of the Louis Meisel Gallery.

The publication of *Speaking of Art: Selections from the Archives of American Art's Oral History Collection*, celebrated our renowned Oral History Program. Composed of excerpts from some of the most compelling interviews commissioned by the Archives over the past fifty years, this book presents testimony to the invaluable experience that these first-hand accounts of the lives of artists and the art world provide to scholars and the general public alike. Throughout the year, 79 new interviews were conducted with major art-world figures such as Lee Bontecou, Judy Chicago, Hans Haacke, Barkley Hendricks, Dennis Oppenheim, Ellen Phelan and Joel Shapiro. A generous grant from the A G Foundation established the Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project, which will ensure that in the coming years, major female voices in the visual arts will be recorded and preserved for future generations.

Professional stewardship and enhanced access remains a central focus of the Archives. The Terra Foundation for American

Art Digitization Project continues to provide global access to a growing number of archival collections via our website, [www.aaa.si.edu](http://www.aaa.si.edu). This effort is transforming both the Archives and the work of countless scholars across the globe.

Two new foundation grants have also assisted in increasing access to our collections. The Leon Levy Foundation has provided funds to arrange and describe the André Emmerich Gallery records and André Emmerich papers, and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation has underwritten the costs of digitizing the archives of the Jacques Seligmann and Co. gallery.

Our curatorial department mounted several popular and critically recognized exhibitions in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in Washington, DC, including *Of the Moment: A Video Sampler from the Archives of American Art*, and *Hard Times, 1929–1939*, a show that thoughtfully examined how the Great Depression impacted the lives of American artists. The success of these exhibitions demonstrates the public appetite for the type of insight that only the Archives can provide and underscores our need to continue to discover creative methods to expose our collections to a wider audience. One way to do this is through exhibition loans, and during the year, material was borrowed by a wide array of institutions from Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Cologne, Germany.

These are just a few of the highlights from a very busy and productive year. As always, our success relies upon a combination of a highly dedicated and creative staff, a supportive Board of Trustees and the generosity of hundreds of individual donors from around the world who understand the singular role the Archives plays in documenting American culture.

John W. Smith

**13**

*collections digitized*

**32**

*oral histories added to the website*

**37**

*finding aids added to the website*

**39**

*collections processed, totaling 717 linear feet*

**79**

*oral histories conducted*

**88**

*collections acquired, totaling 352.79 linear feet*

**1,498**

*researchers visited our centers & affiliates*

**2,182**

*letters, faxes & emails answered by our Reference Department*

**148,986**

*digital files created*

**2,019,164**

*website visits*

## ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

Mildred Constantine papers  
Don Eddy papers  
Audrey Flack papers  
Ralph Goings papers  
William Kienbusch papers  
Janice Lowry illustrated journals  
Louis Meisel Gallery records  
Theodoros Stamos papers

## COLLECTION DONORS

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National Society of Mural Painters via Jeff Greene, president  
Lisa Nebenzahl  
David Novros  
Orgeon State University Libraries via Cliff Mead,  
head of special collections  
O'Toole-Ewald Art Associates, Inc. via Elin Lake-Ewald, president  
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*Above: William Kienbusch sketching on a beach while stationed in Guam, ca. 1945. Photographer unknown. William Kienbusch papers, 1920–1979. Archives of American Art.*

## EXHIBITIONS

*Media Utopia: Art and Advocacy of Paul Ryan*

October 8–December 31, 2008

New York Research Center, New York, NY

*Speaking of Art: Selections from the Archives of American Art’s Oral History Collection, 1958–2008*

October 11, 2008–March 15, 2009

Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds

Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

*A Thousand Kisses: Love Letters from the Archives of American Art*

January 29–March 27, 2009

New York Research Center, New York, NY

*Of the Moment: A Video Sampler from the Archives of American Art*

April 4–July 27, 2009

Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds

Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

*Recent Acquisitions: Letters from the Paul Jenkins papers and selections from the collection of Colin de Land*

*photographs, motion picture film, videos, and miscellany*

April 28–June 12, 2009

New York Research Center, New York, NY

*Hard Times, 1929–1939*

August 10–November 8, 2009

Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds

Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

*Jack Tworkov, 1900–1982: An Exhibition of the Artist’s Papers*

August 13–October 27, 2009

New York Research Center, New York, NY

## TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

*More Than Words: Illustrated Letters from the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art*

August 2–October 12, 2008

Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State

University, Manhattan, KS

November 1, 2008–January 18, 2009

Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, WI

*Artists in their Studios*

September 13–November 23, 2008

Gari Melchers Home and Studio at Belmont, University

of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA

February 7–May 25, 2009

Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA

## ARCHIVES PUBLICATIONS

Susan F. Rossen, ed. *Speaking of Art: Selections from the Archives of American Art Oral History Collection*. Washington, DC: Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution; Winterhouse Editions, 2008.

Darcy Tell, ed. *Archives of American Art Journal*. Washington, DC: Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution (vol. 47, nos. 3-4, 2008).

Darcy Tell, ed. *Archives of American Art Journal*. Washington, DC: Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution (vol. 48, nos. 1-2, 2009).

## EVENTS

October 2, 2008, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI

*Archives Reception: Celebrating our Origins*

October 30, 2008, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, New York, NY

*Annual Benefit: A Salute to Ellen Phelan, Joel Shapiro, Joan*

*Washburn, Virginia Zabriskie, and Neil Harris*

November 19, 2008, Archives of American Art Research Center, Washington, DC

*Fotoweeek DC Lecture: From Paper to Digital: The*

*Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art Evolves*

November 20, 2008, Home of Frederick P. Ognibene, M.D.,

Washington, DC

*Private Reception: Treasures from the Archives*

November 21, 2008, Archives of American Art Research Center, Washington, DC

*Fotoweeek DC Lecture: Picturing Puerto Rico Under the*

*American Flag: The New Deal Photographs of Edwin and*

*Louise Rosskam*

December 1, 2008, Christie’s, New York, NY

*Reception and Private Viewing: American Paintings,*

*Drawings, and Sculpture Sale*

April 30, 2009, The Cosmopolitan Club, New York, NY

*The Ninth Annual Raymond Lecture: Thoughts of a Painter*

*with Rackstraw Downes*

August 24, 2009, Long Island, NY

*Contemporary Art Excursion: Collections in the Hamptons*

September 30, 2009, Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY

*Book Launch: Jack Tworkov*

## ORAL HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Sandra Jean Blain	Gilbert H. Kinney
Lee Bontecou	Bruce Metcalf
Ruth Braunstein	Dennis Oppenheim
Judy Chicago	Ellen Phelan
Audrey Flack	Joel Shapiro
Hans Haacke	Akio Takamori
Barkley L. Hendricks	

## LOAN HIGHLIGHTS

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

*Sargent and the Sea*

September 12, 2009–January 3, 2010

Item Lent: Letter from F.W. Sargent to his sister, dated

August 20, 1877

Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI

*Through the Photographer’s Lens: O’Keeffe and Her Circle*

May 9–September 13, 2009

Items Lent: Photographs of several artists, including Stuart

Davis, Arthur Dove, Bill Lane, John Marin, Charles Sheeler

and Max Weber

Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ

*Cézanne and American Modernism*

September 12, 2009–September 26, 2010

Items Lent\*: Cézanne booklet and two postcards

\*Traveling with Exhibition to: Baltimore Museum of Art,

February 14–May 23, 2010, and the Phoenix Art Museum,

June 26–September 26, 2010

Museo di arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Roverto,

Roverto, Italy

*The Jazz Century. Art, Cinema, Music and Photography*

*from Picasso to Basquiat*

November 15, 2008–February 15, 2009

Items Lent: Five Palmer Hayden sketches

Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany

*Looking for Mushrooms*

November 8, 2008–March 1, 2009

Items Lent: Letter to Bill Allen from Bruce Nauman,

“Three Well known Knots,” editions and covers for mail art

publication; and “Semina,” grid of nine film stills from the

film “Semina”

National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution,

Washington, DC

*Inventing Marcel Duchamp: The Dynamics of Portraiture*

March 27–August 2, 2009

Items Lent: Photograph of Duchamp and his brothers;

account of a dream about Duchamp; photograph of Marcel

and Teeny Duchamp

Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA

*George Tooker: A Retrospective*

January 31–April 13, 2009

Items Lent: Photographs, sketches and letters

The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

*Alexander Calder: The Paris Years, 1926–1933*

October 16, 2008–February 15, 2009

Items Lent: Invitation to Cirque Calder, a study of a man

(possibly Fernand Leger) and Alexander Calder’s scrapbook

## REFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Barbero, Luca Massimo and Sileno Salvagnini. “Action

Painting: La Scuola di New York 1943–1959,” *La*

*Consacrazione Europea* (no. 250, 2008): 41–47.

Fisher, Susan Greenberg. *Picasso and the Allure of*

*Language*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009.

Hoving, Kirsten. *Joseph Cornell and Astronomy: A Case for the*

*Stars*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2009.

Reynolds, Rebecca Lee. “The Green Cube: an Arcadian Site for

Minimalism at Storm King,” *Studies in the History of Gardens*

*& Designed Landscapes* (vol. 29, nos. 1 & 2, 2009): 95–114.

Shanken, Andrew M. *194X: Architecture, Planning,*

*and Consumer Culture on the American Home Front*.

Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009.

True, Jere and Victoria Tupper Kirby. *Allen Tupper True:*

*An American Artist*. San Francisco: Canyon Leap, Museum

of the Rockies, and Montana State University, 2009.



## DONORS TO THE ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART

THE SMITHSONIAN'S ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THOSE DONORS WHO MADE GIFTS, PAYMENTS ON GIFTS OR PLEDGES DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009.

### LEADERSHIP GIFTS

#### Leon Levy Foundation

A generous \$213,315 grant from the Leon Levy Foundation will support the archival processing of the André Emmerich Gallery business records and André Emmerich personal papers, which were donated by the renowned art dealer before his death in 2007, providing scholars with firsthand access to the extensive documentation of the almost 50-year operation of one of New York's most influential galleries of contemporary art. Measuring approximately 300 linear feet, with material dating from 1954 to 1999, this collection is the second largest acquisition in the Archives' history. Based on the already high demand for access to the Emmerich archive, the Archives anticipates tremendous excitement among researchers worldwide and an increase in important scholarship on the history of the visual arts in America.

#### Samuel H. Kress Foundation

A \$100,000 gift from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation will enable the preservation and digitization of the historical records of the Jacques Seligmann and Co. gallery. The gallery records are one of the Archives' most significant, largest and frequently requested collections. With material dating from 1904 to 1978 and measuring 203 linear feet, the records are an invaluable resource for anyone researching the history of art dealing in Europe and the United States during the late-19th and early-20th centuries. This project will allow unparalleled worldwide access to the Jacques Seligmann and Co. gallery records through the Archives' Collections Online, at [www.aaa.si.edu](http://www.aaa.si.edu).

#### A G Foundation

A \$75,000 gift from the A G Foundation will create the Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project, a two-year initiative to digitally record, transcribe and make available online oral history interviews with twenty prominent women who have impacted the contemporary art world. The project will increase the Archives' already vast primary source collections for the study of women artists, collectors, dealers, curators and critics.

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Above: Annual Benefit: A Salute to Ellen Phelan, Joel Shapiro, Joan T. Washburn, Virginia M. Zabriskie, & Neil Harris, October 30, 2008, Mandarin Oriental, New York, N.Y. Left to right: Janice C. Oresman and Susanne Emmerich.

Above: Visit to a private sculpture garden as part of Contemporary Art Excursion: Collections in the Hamptons, August 24, 2009, Quiogue, N.Y.

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Above: Annual Benefit: A Salute to Ellen Phelan, Joel Shapiro, Joan T. Washburn, Virginia M. Zabriskie, & Neil Harris, October 30, 2008, Mandarin Oriental, New York, N.Y. Left to right: Joel Shapiro, Ellen Phelan, Virginia M. Zabriskie, Joan T. Washburn, and Neil Harris.