



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

**A Finding Aid to the Suzi Gablik Papers,  
1954-2014, in the Archives of American Art**

by Erin Kinhart

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Creator:</b>	Gablik, Suzi, 1934-
<b>Title:</b>	Suzi Gablik papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1954-2014
<b>Quantity:</b>	12.8 linear feet
<b>Abstract:</b>	The papers of art historian, critic, and painter Suzi Gablik measure 12.8 linear feet and date from 1954 to 2014. The collection documents her career through scattered biographical documents, professional correspondence, 83 journals and notebooks, writings for book projects, notes, lectures, professional files, printed material, photographs, and photograph albums.
<b>Language:</b>	Collection is in English.

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Suzi Gablik in 2014.

### Related Material

Also at the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview of Suzi Gablik conducted February 27-March 1, 2015, by Jason Stieber.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Erin Kinhart in 2015.

### Preferred Citation

Suzi Gablik papers, 1954-2014. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information. Use of archival audiovisual recordings with no duplicate access copy requires advance notice.

### Ownership & Literary Rights

The Suzi Gablik papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

## Biographical Note

Suzi Gablik (1934- ) is a writer, critic, art historian, and painter in New York City, New York; London, England; and Blacksburg, Virginia. Gablik attended a summer session at Black Mountain College in 1951 and, in 1955, received her B.A. from Hunter College, where she studied with Robert Motherwell. During the 1960s and 1970s, she regularly exhibited her work at New York City art galleries. From 1962 to 1966 she was

a critic for *Art News*, and she later spent fifteen years as the London correspondent for *Art in America*. Gablik has published seven books about art, culture, and spirituality. Her first book *Pop Art Redefined* (1969) was co-authored with art critic John Russell.

In addition to working as an author and critic, Gablik has also served as a visiting professor or lecturer at numerous colleges and universities. From 1976 to 1979 she participated in several US International Communications Agency lecture tours that included Hungary, India, Pakistan, and South Asian countries. She has also lectured at many conferences and workshops.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of art historian, critic, and painter Suzi Gablik measure 12.8 linear feet and date from 1954 to 2014. The collection documents her career through scattered biographical documents, professional correspondence, 83 journals and notebooks, writings for book projects, notes, lectures, professional files, printed material, photographs, and photograph albums.

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged as 7 series.

Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1980s-2011 (5 Folders; Box 1)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1971-2014 (0.4 Linear feet; Box 1)

Series 3: Journals and Notebooks, 1954-2012 (5.6 Linear feet; Boxes 1-7)

Series 4: Writings, 1962-2012 (3.4 Linear feet; Boxes 7-11)

Series 5: Professional Files, 1978-2002 (0.8 Linear feet; Boxes 10-11)

Series 6: Printed Material, 1963-2013 (1.5 Linear feet; Boxes 11-12, 14)

Series 7: Photographs, circa 1960s-2008 (1.0 Linear foot; Boxes 12-15)

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Archives of American Art under the following terms:

### Subjects:

Art criticism  
Art critics--New York (State)--New York  
Art historians--England  
Art historians--New York (State)--New York  
Art--History  
Painters--New York (State)--New York

### Types of Materials:

Diaries  
Photographs

### Occupations:

Art critics--England  
Art critics--Virginia  
Art historians--Virginia  
Painters--England--London  
Painters--Virginia

## Series Descriptions/Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1980s-2011

*5 folders; Box 1*

The small amount of biographical material found here includes two address books, Gablik's curriculum vitae, and two interview transcripts. Also included is a lifetime achievement award from the Women's Caucus for Art, as well as a photograph and program from the award ceremony.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	1	Address Book, circa 1980s-1990s
1	2	Address Book, circa 1990s
1	3	Curriculum Vitae, circa 1999-2002
1	4	Lifetime Achievement, Women's Caucus for Art, 2003
1	5	Transcripts of Interviews of Suzi Gablik, circa 2000s-2011

### Series 2: Correspondence, 1971-2014

*0.4 linear feet; Box 1*

Correspondence contains both personal and professional letters between Gablik and her friends, gallery contacts, publishers, editors, and fans. Of note are letters from David Peat, Theodore Roszak, James Hillman, Jasper Johns, and Stephanie Mills.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	6	Berensohn, Paulus, circa 2000-2014
1	7	Glendinning, Chellis, 2000-2002
1	8	Hillman, James, circa 2002-2005
1	9	Levi-Strauss, Claude, 1972-1974
1	10	Mills, Stephanie, 2000-2001
1	11	<i>The New Criterion</i> , 1984
1	12	Peat, David, 1993-1995
1	13-16	Taylor, Peter, 1980-1982, 1990
1	17-18	General Correspondence, 1971-2011

### Series 3: Journals and Notebooks, 1954-2012

*5.6 linear feet; Boxes 1-7*

Journals and notebooks concern Gablik's personal life, her thoughts on contemporary art and world events, her relationships with artists, dealers, writers, and collectors, her extensive travels, and her theories on art history, art production, social justice, environmentalism, and spirituality. Some notebooks were given titles by Gablik on specific topics and travel destinations.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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1	19	Travel Notebook, undated
1	20	Notebook, "Problems of the Artist in Contemporary Society," 1954
1	21	Journal, 1960
1	22	Journal, 1962
1	23	Journal, 1971-1972
1	24	Notebook, 1974
1	25	Notebook, "New York and London," 1976
1	26	Notebook, "Cadaques," 1976
1	27	Journal, 1977-1988
1	28	Notebook, "Jasper," 1977-1978
1	29	Notebook, "India, London, Rafting, and Van Royan Exhibition," 1978

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	1	Journal, 1979
2	2	Journal, 1979
2	3	Journal, 1979
2	4	Notebook, "Australia," circa 1980
2	5	Journal, 1980
2	6	Notebook, "Tasmania," 1981
2	7	Journal, 1984-1985
2	8	Notebook, "Book of Shamanic Journeys," 1984-1985
2	9	Journal, 1985
2	10	Journal, 1985-1999
2	11	Journal, 1987
2	12	Journal, 1990
2	13	Notebook, "The Unloved Post-Modernism (Sam Keen)," 1990
2	14	Journal, circa 1990
2	15	Journal, 1991
2	16	Journal, 1992
2	17	Journal, 1992
2	18	Journal, 1992-1996
2	19	Journal, 1994
2	20	Journal, 1994

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
3	1	Journal, 1994-1995
3	2	Journal, 1995
3	3	Notebook, "Cybernotes," 1995
3	4	Journal, circa 1995

3	5	Journal, 1995-1996
3	6	Journal, 1996
3	7	Journal, 1996
3	8	Journal, 1996
3	9	Journal, 1996
3	10	Journal, 1996-1997
3	11	Journal, 1997
3	12	Journal, 1997
3	13	Journal, 1997-1998

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
4	1	Journal, 1998
4	2	Journal, 1998
4	3	Journal, 1998
4	4	Journal, 1998-1999
4	5	Journal, 1998-2003
4	6	Journal, 1999
4	7	Journal, 1999
4	8	Journal, 1999-2000
4	9	Journal, 2000
4	10	Journal, 2000
4	11	Journal, 2000
4	12	Journal, 2000

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
5	1	Journal, 2000-2001
5	2	Journal, 2001
5	3	Journal, 2001-2003
5	4	Journal, 2002
5	5	Journal, 2002
5	6	Notebook, "Working Notebook," 2002
5	7	Journal, 2002-2003
5	8	Journal, 2003
5	9	Journal, 2003
5	10	Journal, 2003-2004
5	11	Journal, 2004
5	12	Journal, 2004

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
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6	1	Journal, 2004
6	2	Journal, circa 2004
6	3	Journal, circa 2004
6	4	Journal, 2004-2005
6	5	Journal, 2005
6	6	Journal, 2005-2006
6	7	Journal, 2006
6	8	Journal, 2006-2007
6	9	Journal, 2007-2008
6	10	Journal, 2008
6	11	Journal, 2008
6	12	Journal, circa 2008
6	13	Journal, 2010

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
7	1	Journal, circa 2010
7	2	Journal, 2012

## **Series 4: Writings, 1962-2012**

### *3.4 linear feet; Boxes 7-11*

The bulk of the writings found here are for Gablik's book projects, and include complete drafts, annotations, preliminary notes, and draft fragments. Also found is other project documentation including fan mail, reviews, correspondence, and a few photographs. Other writings include scattered research notes, draft writings for periodicals, and lectures. Lectures include draft versions, slides, and nine sound cassette recordings.

This series is arranged as 4 subseries.

- [4.1: Book Projects, 1972-2012](#)
- [4.2: Notes, circa 1980s-1997](#)
- [4.3: Writings for Publication, 1962-2012](#)
- [4.4: Lectures, circa 1980s-2002](#)

### **4.1: Book Projects, 1972-2012**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
7	3-4	<i>Conversations Before the End of Time</i> , Correspondence, 1994-2001
7	5	<i>Conversations Before the End of Time</i> , Cover Designs, circa 1995
7	6-9	<i>Conversations Before the End of Time</i> , Draft Fragments, circa 1990s
7	10	<i>Conversations Before the End of Time</i> , Reviews, 1995-1997
7	11-12	<i>Conversations Before the End of Time</i> , Working Notes, circa 1991-1993
7	13-16	<i>Has Modernism Failed?</i> , Fan Letters, 1984-1992, 2012
7	17	<i>Has Modernism Failed?</i> , Reviews, 1994-1995



7	18	<i>Has Modernism Failed?</i> , Revized Edition, Draft Fragments, circa 2004
7	19	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Fan Letters, 2000-2005
7	20-23	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Notes and Drafts for Autobiography, circa 1980s-1990s
7	24	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Notes, circa 1990s

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
8	1-2	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Project Documents, 1993-2003
8	3-4	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Early Drafts, "Altered States," circa 1990s
8	5-11	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Draft Versions, circa 1990s-2001
8	12	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Final Draft, circa 2001
8	13	<i>Living the Magical Life</i> , Draft Fragments, circa 1990s
8	14-15	<i>Progress in Art</i> , Correspondence and Reviews, 1972-1978

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
9	1	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Early Notes, circa 1989
9	2	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Early Version, circa 1989
9	3	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Draft Version, circa 1990
9	4	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Fan Letters, 1991-1994
9	5-6	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Photographs, circa 1980s
9	7-8	<i>The Reenchantment of Art</i> , Reviews, 1991-1993

#### **4.2: Notes, circa 1980s-1997**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
9	9	Research Notes, circa 1996-1997
9	10	Notes for Writings, circa 1980s

#### **4.3: Writings for Publication, 1962-2012**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
9	11	"Dances with Woogie," circa 2000s
9	12	"The Ecological Self"/"The Ecological Imperative," circa 1990s
9	13	"Report from the Philippines," <i>Art in America</i> , 1984
9	14-15	Various Articles and Essays, circa 1970s-2000s
9	16-20	"Virgil Speaks" Blog Posts, 2007-2012
9	21	"A Winter's Diary, 1962-1963," 1962-1963

#### **4.4: Lectures, circa 1980s-2002**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
9	22-23	"Art as a Healing Force in Society," 1992

*Includes 1 sound cassette.*

9            24            "Cultural Imperatives in the Ecological Age," circa 1990s  
*2 sound cassettes*

**Box            Folder**

10            1-2            "Making Art as if the World Mattered," 1990  
*6 sound cassettes*

10            3-4            Lecture Slides and Slide Lists, circa 1980s-1990s

10            5-11            Various Lectures, circa 1980s-2002

## **Series 5: Professional Files, 1978-2002**

*0.8 linear feet; Boxes 10-11*

Professional files document Gablik's participation in conferences, symposia, seminars, and workshops. Also found are teaching materials from her visiting professorships at several universities, such as syllabi, notes, and photocopies of articles. Other files may include correspondence, notes, programs, event publications, and planning documents. Also found here are three interviews on sound cassette conducted by Suzi Gablik of spiritual writer Thomas Moore, psychologist James Hillman, and historian Theodore Roszak.

**Box            Folder**

10            12            "Beauty: A Conference in the Healing Arts," 1991  
*Includes 6 sound cassettes.*

10            13            The Buddhism Project, 2000-2002

10            14            College Art Association, 1991

10            15            Courses and Colloquia Proposals, circa 1980s-1990s

10            16            Integral Institute, 2000-2001

10            17            Interview with Thomas Moore, 1993  
*1 sound cassette*

10            18            Interview with James Hillman, 1993  
*1 sound cassette*

10            19            Interview with Theodore Roszak, 1993  
*1 sound cassette*

10            20            Seminar, "Changing Paradigms Spring 1985 UCSB," 1985

10            21            Symposium, "Mapping the Terrain," 1991

10            22-23            Teaching Materials, 1980s-1990s

10            24            Teaching Materials, Art History/Criticism, 1990

**Box            Folder**

11            1            Teaching Materials, Beginning Drawing I, circa 1980s

11            2-3            Teaching Materials, Concepts of Art, circa 1980s

11            4            Teaching Materials, Early Course Descriptions, circa 1980s

11            5            USIS Lecture Trips to Asia, 1978-1980

11            6-8            Workshop, Common Boundary Conference, "The Black Madonna," circa 1997

*Includes 1 sound cassette.*

## **Series 6: Printed Material, 1963-2013**

*1.5 linear feet; Boxes 11-12, 14*

Printed material includes clippings of reviews for books written by Gablik, exhibitions publications featuring her artwork, and serial publications containing articles by Gablik. Additionally there are articles and publications compiled by Gablik for teaching purposes. Also found are exhibition catalogs, gallery announcements, and publicity material for events in which she participated as a speaker. One DVD contains a documentary film about artist Paulus Berensohn.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
11	9	Books, 1991, 1999, 2006
11	10	Book Excerpts (Photocopies), circa 1980s
11	11	Documentary Film, "To Spring From the Hand: The Life and Work of Paulus Berensohn," 2013 <i>1 videodisc (DVD)</i>
11	12	Event Flyers and Programs, 1990s-2000s
11	13-14	Exhibition Catalogs and Announcements, 1966-2005
11	15-16	Exhibition Catalogs, 1990-2012
11	17	<i>Gazelle Talk</i> by Dominique GW Mazeaud, 2000s
11	18-22	Magazines, Journals, and Literary Reviews, 1963, 1986-2008 Oversized items housed in Box 14, Folder 1.
11	23	Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1990s-2002
11	24	Newsletters, 1991-2013
11	25	Outside Support Material and Printed Articles by Others, circa 1970s-1990s

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
12	1-2	Publications Regarding Artwork by Suzi Gablik, 1966-2004
12	3-5	Published Articles About Suzi Gablik, 1969-2003
12	6-14	Published Articles By Suzi Gablik, circa 1963-2011
12	15-17	Published Articles by Others, 1970s-2003
12	18-20	Published Articles Used for Teaching, circa 1980s-1990s
12	21-22	Reviews of Writings by Suzi Gablik, 1970-1971

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
14	1	Oversize Magazines from Box 11, Folder 18, 1990, 1992

## **Series 7: Photographs, circa 1960s-2008**

*1 linear foot; Boxes 12-15*

Photographs include photograph albums and loose photographs documenting various periods in Gablik's life and her friendship with notable figures in the art world, including Jasper Johns, Claes Oldenburg, and art critic John Russell,

among many others. Three CDs contain digital photographs depicting Gablik and other special events. Also found are photographs, negatives, and transparencies of Gablik's artwork.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
12	23-24	Portraits of Suzi Gablik, 1970s-1990s
12	25	Photographs of Suzi Gablik, circa 2000s <i>1 electronic disc (CD)</i>
12	26	Snapshots, including Suzi Gablik, circa 1970s-2000s
12	27	Vets for Peace Solar Walk, 2008 <i>1 electronic disc (CD)</i>
12	28	Installation Views, "Sum of Parts: Assemblage and Collage," 2004 <i>1 electronic disc (CD)</i>
12	29	Artwork Used for Books, circa 1970s-1990s
12	30-31	Artwork by Suzi Gablik, circa 1960s-1970s
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
13	1-3	Transparencies and Negatives of Artwork by Suzi Gablik, circa 1960s-1980s
13	4	Artwork by Rene Magritte, circa 1960s
13	5	Miscellaneous Photographs, circa 1970s-1980s
13	6	Photographs Album, Altars, circa 1990s
13	7	Photograph Album, "Apex Art Photos," circa 2002
13	8	Photograph Album, Spain, circa 1980s
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
14	2	Photograph Album, 1967-1971
14	3	Photograph Album, 1971-1977
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
15	1	Photograph Album, 1978-1979
15	2	Photograph Album, 1980-1993