



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

**A Finding Aid to the Mark Green Papers, 1954-1991,
bulk 1954-1978, in the Archives of American Art**

by Jayna Hanson

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provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution
Creator:	Green, Mark
Title:	Mark Green papers
Dates:	1954-1991, bulk 1954-1978
Quantity:	1.1 linear feet
Abstract:	The papers of San Francisco Beat era photographer, journalist, and poet Mark Green consist of correspondence, biographical information, photographs, Nanny Goat Hill Gallery exhibition announcements, printed materials, and exhibition files for "Rolling Renaissance" (1968) and "A Kind of Beatness: Photographs of a North Beach Era, 1950-1965" (1975) exhibitions that Green helped to organize. Photographs by Mark Green are of notable figures and places in the Beat movement, including Allen Ginsberg, Robert Rauschenberg, and Clyfford Still, as well as photographs by others of Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Mark Green, and Jack Kerouac among others.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Mark Green donated his papers in 1974, 1976, 1979, and 1991.

Related Material

The Archives of American Art holds an oral history interview with Robert Emory Johnson by Paul Karlstrom on March 14, 1975 that details the history of the Rolling Renaissance exhibition organized in part by Mark Green.

Alternative Forms Available

The collection was digitized in its entirety in 2010 and is available via the Archives of American Art's website.

Processing Information

A portion of the Mark Green papers was microfilmed upon receipt in 1974 on reels 981-982. The remaining accessions were merged and processed by Jayna Hanson in 2008. The papers were digitized in 2010 with funding provided the Terra Foundation for American Art.

Preferred Citation

Mark Green papers, 1954-1991, bulk 1954-1978. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

Ownership and Literary Rights

The Mark Green 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

Mark Green (1932-) moved to San Francisco and became active in the "Beat Movement" as a photographer, writer, and arts advocate. He helped organize two major group exhibitions of beat-era arts and also founded the Nanny Goat Hill Gallery in San Francisco.

Green was born in Cleveland Heights, Ohio in 1932, and attended the University of Miami, Florida from 1950-1952. After taking classes in journalism and philosophy, Green began a career in media and worked as a copy-boy, reporter, and correspondent at various newspapers throughout the United States until 1956.

In 1957, Green moved to San Francisco and worked as a bartender at the Co-Existence Bagel Shop, a local spot for Beat gatherings. It was during this time that Green became involved with the Beat Movement and the San Francisco Renaissance. Green became friends with "Beatnick" figures including Edward Silverstone Taylor and Patricia Marx who encouraged him to take up photography. Green's poems were published in *Beatitude* and *The Real Bohemia*.

A more prolific photographer than poet, Mark Green exhibited his photographs at Seven Arts Gallery, the Critic's Choice San Francisco Art Festival (1964), the Focus Gallery, and the "San Francisco Renaissance" at the Gotham Book Mart and Gallery (1975). He was active in organizing group exhibitions including the "Rolling Renaissance" (1968) and "A Kind of Beatness: Photographs of a North Beach Era, 1950-1965" (1975). Additionally, Green founded the Nanny Goat Hill Gallery (1972-1974) to give little-known artists an outlet to exhibit their works.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of San Francisco Beat photographer, journalist, and poet Mark Green consist of biographical information, correspondence, exhibition files, printed materials, scattered writings, and photographs. Photographs by Mark Green are of notable figures and places in the Beat movement, including Allen Ginsberg, Robert Rauschenberg, and Clyfford Still, as well as photographs by others of Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Mark Green, and Jack Kerouac among others.

One folder of correspondence includes letters from Jay DeFeo, Wallace and Shirley Berman, and Robert Emory Johnson. Exhibition files are found for two Beat exhibitions that Mark Green assisted in organizing: "Rolling Renaissance", 1968 and "A Kind of Beatness: Photographs of a North Beach Era, 1950-1965", 1975. Exhibition files contain correspondence, photographs of work exhibited and installation views, clippings, announcements and catalogs. Photographs are of Thomas Albright, Francis Ford Coppola, Allen Ginsberg, Leonard Hull, Robert Emory Johnson, Bob Kauffman, J. Oliver Mitchell, Francis Rigney, Jerome Stauber, and Edward Silverstone Taylor. Correspondents include include Thomas Albright, Wallace Berman, Bill Eisenlord, Alfred Frankenstein, Allen Ginsberg, Helen Johnson of the Focus Gallery, Robert Emory Johnson, Chester Kessler, and Philip Whalen.

Mark Green's writings include a history of the Nanny Goat Hill Gallery, a statement about his photography, and various notes.

Printed materials consist of clippings, exhibition announcements for the San Francisco area and Nanny Goat Hill Gallery, and comic books.

The series of photographs is particularly rich due to Green's thoughtful and informative reflections written on the back of many of the photographs. The majority of the photographs identify the photographer, sitter, date, and place. Many times, Green included his own recollections of the particular sitter or photographer as well. In addition to photographs of Mark Green, there are photographs taken by Green and others of important Beat Movement figures. There are also photographs of beatnick "hot-spots" including the Co-Existence Bagel Shop, The Cellar, and The Place.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 6 series:

Series 1: Biographical Information, 1967-1970s (Box 1; 1 folder)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1959-1976 (Box 1, 3; 1 folder)
Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1954-1975 (Box 1, 3; 13 folders)
Series 4: Writings and Notes, 1974-1978 (Box 1; 3 folders)
Series 5: Printed Material, 1959-1978 (Box 1-3; 8 folders)
Series 6: Photographs, 1950s-1970s (Box 2-3; 0.3 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Albright, Thomas
Coppola, Francis Ford, 1939-
Ferlinghetti, Lawrence
Hull, Leonard
Kauffman, Bob
Kerouac, Jack, 1922-1969
Mitchell, J. Oliver
Nanny Goat Hill Gallery (San Francisco, Calif.)
Rauschenberg, Robert, 1925-2008 -- Photographs
Rigney, Francis J. (Francis Joseph), 1923-
Stauber, Jerome

Subjects-Topical:

Beat generation
Bohemianism -- California -- San Francisco
Journalists -- California -- San Francisco
Photographers -- California -- San Francisco
Photography -- California -- San Francisco
Photography -- Exhibitions -- California -- San Francisco
Poets -- California -- San Francisco

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Writings

Names:

Berman, Shirley
Berman, Wallace, 1926-1976
DeFeo, Jay, 1929-
Eisenlord, William J., 1926-
Frankenstein, Alfred V. (Alfred Victor), 1906-1981
Ginsberg, Allen, 1926-
Johnson, Robert E. (Robert Emory), 1932-
Kessler, Chester
Rennie, Helen J., 1906-1989
Taylor, Edward Silverstone
Whalen, Philip

Series Descriptions/Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Information, 1967-1970s (Box 1; 1 folder)

Biographical information includes Mark Green's resume, a xerox copy of a guest book of a Mark Green photo exhibition, and copies of exhibition announcements in which Green participated.

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Mark Green, 1967 - circa 1970s

Series 2: Correspondence, 1959-1976 (Box 1, 3; 1 folder)

Correspondence is between Mark Green and others, including Wallace and Shirley Berman, Jay DeFeo, and Robert Emory Johnson. Correspondence is arranged by date.

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	2	General Correspondence, 1959-1976 (Oversized item housed in Box 3)

Box		
3		Oversized Correspondence, 1969 (Scanned with Box 1, Folder 2)

Series 3: Exhibition Files, 1954-1975 (Box 1, 3; 13 folders)

This series consists primarily of materials relating to exhibitions that Mark Green helped to organize: "A Kind of Beatness" (1975) and "Rolling Renaissance" (1968). Also found is a catalog for "North Beach Memorabilia, the 40s to the 60s," (1968). Exhibition files include correspondence, clippings, catalogs, photographs, writings, announcements, and press releases. Photographs are of Thomas Albright, Francis Ford Coppola, Allen Ginsberg, Leonard Hull, Robert Emory Johnson, Bob Kauffman, J. Oliver Mitchell, Francis Rigney, Jerome Stauber, and Edward Silverstone Taylor. Correspondents include include Thomas Albright, Wallace Berman, Bill Eisenlord, Alfred Frankenstein, Allen Ginsberg, Helen Johnson of the Focus Gallery, Robert Emory Johnson, Chester Kessler, and Philip Whalen.

Exhibition Files are arranged into 3 subseries:

Subseries 3.1: "A Kind of Beatness: Photographs of a North Beach Era, 1950-1965," 1954-1970s

Subseries 3.2: "North Beach Memorabilia: the 40s to the 60s" [1968], circa 1970s

Subseries 3.3: "Rolling Renaissance" [1968], 1967-1969

Subseries 3.1: "A Kind of Beatness: Photographs of a North Beach Era, 1950-1965," 1954-1970s

Writings, correspondence, and clippings relating to "A Kind of Beatness" exhibition which took place at the Focus Gallery in San Francisco, California in 1975. Also found are photographs which were included in the exhibition and photographs taken during the show.

This sub-series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	3	Clippings, circa 1974-1975
Box	Folder	
1	4	Correspondence, 1974-1976 Bill Eisenlord Chester Kessler Wallace Berman Robert Emory Johnson Helen Johnston Philip Whalen
Box	Folder	
1	5	Exhibition Announcements, circa 1975
Box	Folder	
1	6	Photographs by Mark Green, 1975, circa 1960s-1970s A. A. Gugel Jr. Edward Silverstone Taylor Robert Emory Johnson Unidentified Woman David Frankenstein Helen Johnson and Robert Emory Johnson Francis Ford Coppola Unidentified Woman
Box	Folder	
1	7	Photographs by Others, 1954-1959, 1975 Bob Kaufman by Chester Kessler Paddy O'Sullivan by J. Oliver Mitchell Self portrait by J. Oliver Mitchell Jungle Jim, Leonard Hull, Jerome Stauber by unknown photographer Mark Green by Ella Henry Maitland "Sandy" Zane and Mark Green by Bill Paul
Box	Folder	
1	8	Writings and Notes, circa 1975 (See also Box 3 for oversized items)
Box		
3		Oversized Writings, circa 1975 (Oversized items from Box 1, F8)

Subseries 3.2: "North Beach Memorabilia: the 40s to the 60s" [1968], circa 1970s

This subseries consists of one exhibition catalog.

This sub-series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	9	Exhibition Catalog, 1968

Subseries 3.3: "Rolling Renaissance" [1968], 1967-1969

This subseries includes writings, correspondence, exhibition announcements, and press releases from the "Rolling Renaissance" exhibition held throughout San Francisco in 1968. Notable letters are written to and by Allen Ginsberg and Thomas Albright. Photographs taken during the exhibition include Allen Ginsberg, Thomas Albright, Robert Emory Johnson, Dr. Reidar Wennesland, and Francis Rigney.

This sub-series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	10	Correspondence, 1967, 1969 Allen Ginsberg Thomas Albright

Box	Folder	
1	11	Exhibition Announcement, 1968 (Oversized item housed in Box 3)

Box	Folder	
1	12	Press Release, 1968

Box	Folder	
1	13	Photographs by Mark Green, 1968 Allen Ginsberg Thomas Albright Robert Emory Johnson and Dr. Reidar Wennesland John Hamilton Michael Bowen Dr. Francis Rigney

Box	Folder	
1	14	Photographs by Others, circa 1968

Box	Folder	
1	15	Writings and Notes, 1968

Box		
3		Exhibition Announcement, 1968 (From Box 1, F10)

Series 4: Writings and Notes, 1974-1978 (Box 1; 3 folders)

Writings and notes by Mark Green include a history of the Nanny Goat Hill Gallery and statements about his photography. Also found are unidentified writings.

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	16	Drafts and Notes by Mark Green, 1970s

Box	Folder	
1	17	Writings by Mark Green, 1974-1991

Box	Folder	
1	18	Unidentified Writings, 1970s

Series 5: Printed Material, 1974-1978 (Box 1-3; 8 folders)

Printed materials include clippings and newspapers, miscellaneous Beatnick publications, and comic books. Many clippings relate to the San Francisco Renaissance and the Beat Movement. Also found are materials from the Nanny Goat Hill Gallery including exhibition announcements, forms, and gallery schedules.

The bulk of this series has been scanned. Only relevant clippings and the covers of comic books have been scanned.

Box	Folder	
1	19	<u>City of San Francisco</u> , 1975 August 10 (Oversized item housed in Box 3)

Box	Folder	
1	20	Clippings, 1959-1975 (partially scanned)

Box	Folder	
1	21	Comic Books, 1968-1969 (partially scanned)

Box	Folder	
2	1	Exhibition Announcements, circa 1960s-1970s

Box	Folder	
2	2	Nanny Goat Hill Gallery, Exhibition Announcements, circa 1972-1974 (See also Box 3 for oversized items)

Box	Folder	
2	3	Nanny Goat Hill Gallery Forms, circa 1972-1974

Box	Folder	
2	4	Nanny Goat Hill Gallery Schedules, circa 1973

Box	Folder	
2	5	<u>The Oracle</u> , circa 1968 (See also Box 3 for oversized items)

Box		
3 (sol)		Oversized <u>City of San Francisco</u> , 1975 August 10 (Removed from Box 1, F19)

Oversized Nanny Goat Hill Gallery, Exhibition Announcements, circa 1972-1974
(Removed from Box 2, F2)

Oversized The Oracle, circa 1968 (Removed from Box 2, F5)

Series 6: Photographs, 1950s-1970s (Box 2-3; 0.3 linear feet)

This series includes photographs of Mark Green, by Mark Green, and by other photographers. Photos are arranged by photographer and subsequently by date that Mark Green specified. Unidentified photographs do not have any identifying descriptions on the back.

Box	Folder	
2	6	Photos of Mark Green, 1959-1976 by Ella Henry Fitzgerald by Sally Green by Eric Mueller by Mark Green by Gerhard Nicholson by Beatrice Hablig by D. O'Neill
2	7	Photos by Mark Green, 1957-1959 Co-Existence Bagel Shop Self-Portrait
2	8	Photos by Mark Green, 1962-1968 Ed Taylor (6 photos) North Beach mime troop John Droeger Hubert Leslie Richard Brautigam Blair Stapp Irene Travener Lyndon B. Johnson (3 photos)
2	9	Photos by Mark Green, 1970-1974 (See also Box 3 for oversized items) Loren Sears Thomas Albright Henri Lenoir Edwina Albright David Meltzer and "Friends" Jackie Baks Robert Emory Johnson Bob Seider Gerhard Nicholson Marcia Gray Mark Green Sally Green

Box	Folder	
2	10	Photos by Mark Green, 1975-1978 Wallace Berman Jay DeFeo Jackie Baks Dick Wahlburg Helen Johnson Robert Emory Johnson Wally Hedrick Bruce Connor Diane di Prima Jackson Allen Dr. Reidar Wennesland Clyfford Still Thomas Albright Edward Silverston Taylor Alfred Frankenstein Nata Piaskowski Judith Johns Henry Hopkins William Wolfenden Rolando Castellon Robert Rauschenberg Paul Karlstrom Bob Kaufman Gregory Corso Harold Norse Neeli Cherkovski Art Grant Mary Miles Ryan Ansel Wetterhahn

Box	Folder	
2	11	Photos by Mark Green, circa 1960s-1970s Robert Rauschenberg Henry Hopkins Diane di Prima Jackson Allen John McDowell

Box	Folder	
2	12	Photos by Others, 1957-1959 (See also Box 3 for oversized items) Michael McClure, Phillip Lamantica, John Wieners, David Meltzer by Gui de Angulo Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Brue Lippincott, Kenneth Rexroth by Ed Nyberg at The Cellar Gallery Six Collective Expressionism by unknown photographer North Beach, San Francisco by Leo Krikorian The Place, San Francisco by Leo Krikorian San Francisco Beanicks at St. Francis by Bob Campbell Irene Tavener by Bob Snyder

Claudine Bodner, Thomas Albright, Fletcher Benton by Bob Snyder
Eric Nord by Joseph Rosenthal
Mike Nathan by Bill Eisenlord
Jay DeFeo by Jerry Burchard
Bob Snyder photograph
Mark Green by Edward Silverstone Taylor

Box **Folder**
2 13

Photos by Others, 1960, 1963-1965
Poetry reading by Peter Breinig
Jack Kerouac by J. Oliver Mitchell
Jack Kerouac, William Morris, Philip Whalen by J. Oliver Mitchell
Charles Dawkins by Edward Silverstone Taylor
Patricia Marx by Edward Silverstone Taylor (2 photos)

Box **Folder**
2 14

Photos by Others, 1971-1976
Mr and Mrs Bob Snyder, Thomas Albright by unknown photographer
Kenneth Rexroth, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Mirium Patchen, Joanna McClure,
Shig Muraio, Jamie McClure, Gary Snyder, Peter Orlovsky by unknown
photographer
Jackie Baks, Wallace and Shirley Berman by Bill Paul
Phil Linhares, Hayward King by Bill Eisenlord
James Broughton, Ken Leroux by Bill Eisenlord
Joan Brown by Beatrice Hablig
Mark Green, Mr and Mrs Gerhard Nicholson by Bill Paul

Box **Folder**
2 15

Photos by Others, circa 1950s-1970s
Charles Dawkins by unknown photographer
Knut Stiles by Moss Photography
Nemi Frost, John Weiners by Bob Snyder
David Meltzer by Bob Snyder
John Ryan by Bob Snyder
B. Bufano Studio by Joe Eareth

Box **Folder**
2 16

Unidentified Photographs, circa 1950s-1970s

Box
3

Photos by Mark Green, 1970-1974 (Oversized items from Box 2, F9)
Photos by Others, 1957-1959 (Oversized items from Box 2, F12)