Letter from the Director

Fiscal year 2015 (October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015) was an especially fruitful one at the Archives of American Art. In their travels, our collectors acquired the papers of artists from across the country, while in Washington we highlighted the vital connection between our primary sources and the American visual arts in exhibitions at the Fleischman Gallery. Generous support through gifts and grants enabled us to create opportunities to expand scholarship by processing and digitizing many more of our nearly 6,000 collections.

In 2015, 14 digitized collections were added to the Terra Foundation Center for Digital Collections, including the papers of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, which document the founding of the Whitney Museum of American Art; watercolor sketches by Henry Bacon; and the exhibition files of the Dwan Gallery, among other collections. We continue to bring art history into the digital age by making collections available to anyone, anytime, anywhere.

Our holdings grew with new acquisitions from around the country, with some extraordinary highlights. The Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone papers include more than 40,000 images documenting New York’s avant-garde art scene in the 1970s. Through our Latino Collecting Initiative, we secured several exciting collections including those of Scherezade Garcia and Iliana Emilia Garcia, two mixed media artists and designers. Additionally, we acquired the papers of photographer and video artist Eileen Cowin, as well as those of painter and printmaker Ellen Lanyon as part of our Feminist Collecting Initiative. Among the new oral history interviews conducted this year were conversations with collectors Paul and Elmerina Parkman, painter and printmaker Squeak Carnwath, and museum director James Demetrion.

In October 2014 at the annual Archives of American Art Benefit we recognized a distinguished group of honorees. The Terra Foundation for American Art received the inaugural Archives of American Art Award for Philanthropic Leadership; Archives of American Art Medals were presented to collector Robert E. Meyerhoff and artist Claes Oldenburg; and the Lawrence A. Fleischman Award for Scholarly Excellence in the Field of American Art History was awarded to Teresa A. Carbone of the Brooklyn Museum.

Our curatorial department presented three inspired exhibitions in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in Washington, D.C. A Day in the Life: Artists’ Diaries from the Archives of American Art included a selection of diaries from our collections, sharing artists’ private accounts of their work, relationships, and lives. Artist Teacher Organizer: Yasuo Kuniyoshi
Oral histories recorded
24

Collections processed
64

Collections acquired
109

Reproduction requests fulfilled for 1,140 images and over 100 hours of audio and video
369

Linear feet of collections processed
881

In-person visitors consulted 4,249 containers of primary documents
956

Digital files created
94,617

Sessions on the website
649,295

Page views on the website
2,013,051

in the Archives of American Art explored the extraordinary life and career of Japanese-American modernist painter, photographer, and printmaker Yasuo Kuniyoshi, featuring newly discovered material including the artist’s personal correspondence, photographs, writings, and scrapbooks. This exhibition was organized to coincide with a major retrospective of Kuniyoshi’s work at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Little Black Books: Address Books from the Archives of American Art showcased the personal address books of influential American artists for the first time, revealing thought-provoking personal and professional connections and earning us coverage from Susan Stamberg on NPR’s Morning Edition.

Although as a unit of the Smithsonian Institution the Archives of American Art receives federal support, each year we must secure more than half of our operating budget from private donors in order to make our continued work possible. Among the generous gifts we received in fiscal year 2015 was a major gift from the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation to enable the Archives to digitize sections of the Leo Castelli Gallery papers, the single most consulted collection at the Archives, and create a rich web resource to highlight connections between Castelli and related collections and oral histories. Another critical gift came from the Keith Haring Foundation, which is fully underwriting an oral history project documenting the lives and careers of twenty-five visual artists, art writers, curators, and other key figures in the art world who were in New York at the height of the AIDS epidemic.

During fiscal year 2015, longtime Trustee Gilbert H. Kinney and his wife Ann, who have loyally supported the Archives for decades, endowed the position of New York Collector, fostering the growth of the Archives’ holdings from New York. Endowment gifts, which provide a permanent source of reliable income, are key to the Archives’ long-term financial stability. In addition to the Kinneys’ gift, Trustee Linda Lichtenberg Kaplan significantly advanced the Archives’ oral history program through her challenge gift, which we aim to match to bring the level of critical funding for oral histories up to at least $500,000. We also received a bequest from the estate of filmmaker and artist Maryette Charlton, long an Archives friend and supporter, the extent of which was a wonderful surprise.

The Archives’ success relies upon the dedication of many people including our resourceful staff, together with our loyal Board of Trustees, and the generous support of individual and foundation donors. It is a pleasure to acknowledge their generosity, from gifts and grants to guidance and time, because all of these allow the Archives to continue acquiring and sharing the papers of artists, collectors, dealers, art historians, and critics with a worldwide community of scholars, researchers, and all those interested in American art. We thank you.

Kate Haw
Exhibitions

A Day in the Life: Artists’ Diaries from the Archives of American Art
September 26, 2014–February 28, 2015
Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

Artist Teacher Organizer: Yasuo Kuniyoshi in the Archives of American Art
Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

Little Black Books: Address Books from the Archives of American Art
August 7, 2015–November 1, 2015
Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture, Washington, DC

Events

October 28, 2014
The annual Archives of American Art Benefit awarded Archives of American Art Medals to collector Robert E. Meyerhoff and artist Claes Oldenburg; the Archives of American Art Award for Philanthropic Leadership to the Terra Foundation for American Art, accepted by President and CEO Elizabeth Glassman; and the Lawrence A. Fleischman Award for Scholarly Excellence in the Field of American Art History to Teresa A. Carbone.

Clockwise from Top
Benefit honorees Teresa A. Carbone, Robert E. Meyerhoff, Claes Oldenburg, and Elizabeth Glassman.
Deborah Schmidt Robinson, Barbara Fleischman, Edward Cabot, and Wendy Jeffers.
Kate Haw and Janice Oresman.
Photo credit: Michael Seto

November 21, 2014
Mary Savig, curator, and Meghan Ferriter, Transcription Center project coordinator, hosted a Google Hangout, Dear Diaries: HangTime with Archives of American Art.

January 3, 2015
The Archives hosted a public reading of diaries from the Archives of American Art, where participants read intriguing diary entries from the first of the year in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery.

March 27, 2015
Megan McShea, AV archivist, organized a symposium entitled The Multi-Media Archive: Stewardship and Use of Audiovisual Media Documenting Contemporary Art History.

May 11–14, 2015
Karen Weiss and OCIO SIRIS Manager Ching-Hsien Wang travelled to Shanghai, China to meet with several staff members from the Qian Xuesen Library and Museum, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. They conducted presentations on collection information management systems and digitization initiatives at the Smithsonian and the Archives of American Art.

Left to Right
Events

May 15, 2015
Dr. Liza Kirwin delivered a keynote lecture for Wordstruck: American Artists as Readers, Writers and Literati, a symposium organized by the Department of American Studies at Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin, Poland. Her lecture was entitled “The A to Z of Artist/Writers at the Archives of American Art.”

June 18-20, 2015
The Archives hosted two free programs with artist Aram Han Sifuentes in conjunction with the exhibition, Artist Teacher Organizer: Yasuo Kuniyoshi in the Archives of American Art. Sifuentes presented her work and touring art project, U.S. Citizenship Test Samplers, and led a sampler workshop.

Left to Right


**Reference Highlights**

Selected publications that relied on the Archives’ collections

**Publications**

Archives of American Art Journal
Volume 54, Number 1, Spring 2015;
Volume 54, Number 2, Fall 2015.

Artists Unframed: Snapshots from the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art
By Merry A. Foresta, May 2015.
Loan Highlights

The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
May 29-September 6, 2015
Pearlstein, Warhol, Cantor: From Pittsburgh to New York
**ITEMS LENT** 26 documents from the Phillip Pearlstein papers including many candid snapshots of Philip Pearlstein, Andy Warhol, Dorothy Cantor, and others as students at Carnegie Institute of Technology.

The Brandywine River Museum of Art, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania
April 25- July 19, 2015
Horace Pippin: The Way I See It
**ITEMS LENT** Horace Pippin’s memoir of his experiences in World War I.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
November 14- November 5, 2015
Peter Blume: Nature and Metamorphosis
**ITEMS LENT** 42 drawings and preparatory sketches for paintings by Peter Blume.

Left to Right


Acquisition Highlights

Anne Arnold papers, circa 1925–2015
Art Foundry and Art Foundry Editions records, 1980–2010
Dotty Attie papers, circa 1950–2012
Albert Bloch papers, circa 1898–1998
Ernest Briggs papers, 1949–1988
William J. and Jane Brown papers (addition)
Ching Ho Cheng papers, circa 1960–2012
Eileen Cowin papers, 1970–2004
Jeff Donaldson papers, 1960–2005
Ruth Duckworth papers, 1938–2005
Robert Ebendorf papers, 1920–2015
Benjamin Forgey papers, circa 1964–2006
Ilíana Emilia García papers, 1992–2010
Bernard Langlais papers, circa 1948–1997
Ellen Lanyon papers, circa 1926–2013
Loren MacIver letters to Harold Leeds, 1953–1970
Eleanor Munro papers, 1960–2010
Robert Overby papers, circa 1960–1990
Rosamund Felsen Gallery records, 1978–2006 (addition)
Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone papers, circa 1890–2011
John Wilde papers, 1935–2006 (addition)

Oral History Highlights

Bill Berkson
Squeak Carnwath
William Conger
James Demetrion
Suzi Gablik
Tony Ganz
Art Green
Candice Groot
Ted Halkin
Nancy Hoffman
Rhona Hoffman
Kenneth Josephson
Ray Kass
Vera Klement
Arnold Lehman
Constance Lewallen
Robert E. Meyerhoff
Jean Milant
Eleanor Moty
Paul and Elmerina Parkman
Allan Sekula
Sandra Shannonhouse
Charles Simonds
Evelyn Statsinger

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW
WITH BILL BERKSON (EXCERPT),
SEPTEMBER 29–OCTOBER 2,
2015, ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART,
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

“I inherited a small sum. I think it was $500 dollars from my grandfather, my father’s father. And I went to the Tibor de Nagy Gallery, which was then off Madison Avenue. I think something like 60-something Street, between Madison and 5th, top flight. And I said…, ‘I’d like to see works by these three artists.’ And I bought three paintings: a Porter, which you’ve seen and hangs over our mantelpiece in San Francisco; a Rivers…; and a Freilicher… And all within the $500 dollar range.”
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**$1,000,000 or more**
- Ann Berman & Daniel Feld, Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation & Jewish Communal Fund of New York
- The Honorable Max N. Berry
- Arthur Cohen, LaPlaca Cohen
- Helen W. Drutt English & H. Peter Stern
- Dr. Daniel W. Fort

**$250,000 or more**
- Maryette Charlton*
- Barbara G. Fleischman
- Martha J. Fleischman
- Linda Lichtenberg Kaplan & Dr. Louis D. Kaplan, Lichtenberg Family Foundation
- Richard & Jane Manoogian Foundation
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank Martucci

**$100,000 or more**
- The Keith Haring Foundation
- Roy Lichtenstein Foundation
- Smithsonian Institution Collections Care and Preservation Fund
- Smithsonian Institution Latino Initiatives Pool

**$50,000 or more**
- Joyce F. Menschel, Robert and Joyce Menschel Foundation & Vital Projects Fund, Inc.

**$25,000 or more**
- Anonymous
- Artists’ Legacy Foundation
- Agnes Gund, AG Foundation
- John R. & Barbara Robinson, The Widgeon Point Charitable Foundation
- Dr. & Mrs. R. Perry Robinson, The Widgeon Point Charitable Foundation
- Alice Walton

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P. 16-17 Left to Right
Juliana Force letter to Yasuo Kuniyoshi, 1947 February 27. 
Yasuo Kuniyoshi papers, 1906-2013. Archives of American Art, 
Smithsonian Institution.
Milton Glaser at Pushpin Studios, 1975 / Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone, 
Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.
Julietta Torr Dove and Arthur Dove diary, 1936. Arthur and 
Helen Torr Dove papers, 1905-1975, 1920-1946. Archives of American Art, 
Smithsonian Institution.

P. 18-19: Left to Right
Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.
Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

P. 20-21: Left to Right
Yasuo Kuniyoshi with a camera, circa 1930 / unidentified photographer. 
Yasuo Kuniyoshi papers, 1906-2013. Archives of American Art, 
Smithsonian Institution.
Reginald Marsh diary, 1912. 
Reginald Marsh papers, 1897-1955. Archives of American Art, 
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Gordon Matta-Clark installing Walls paper at 112 Greene Street, 1972 / Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone, 
photographer. Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone papers, circa 1850-2011,
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Top to Bottom

Cosmos in Cosmos
Appearance Series #371,
circa 1979 / Charles
Denson, photographer.
Cosmos Andrew
Sarchiapone papers, circa
1850-2011, 1940-2011.
Archives of American Art,
Smithsonian Institution.

Robert Ebendorf mail art to
Louis Bailey, 2000 or 2001?.
Robert Ebendorf papers,
Archives of American Art,
Smithsonian Institution.

Mock-up of an exhibition
announcement, circa 1970.
Dotty Attie papers, circa
1950s-2014. Archives of
American Art, Smithsonian
Institution.

Sketchbook of variations
on the painting Infanta
Margaret Teresa in a pink
dress, circa 1970. Dotty
Attie papers, circa 1950s-
2014. Archives of American
Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Artists' book for Robert
Ebendorf, 2008. Robert
Ebendorf papers, 1920-
2015, bulk 1960-2010.
Archives of American Art,
Smithsonian Institution.

Fischbach Gallery
announcement for
exhibition of works by Anne
Arnold, 1972. Anne Arnold
papers, circa 1925-2015.
Archives of American Art,
Smithsonian Institution.