

**WOMANSPIRIT
DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

In order to improve access to more of the existing holdings of Western Archives copies of a number of preliminary finding aids are being made available. These preliminary finding aids, some of which were prepared many years ago, vary in degrees of completeness, detail and accuracy. Some provide only basic box listings of the contents of a fonds or a collection, while others provide additional background material. All are intended to be the starting point for access to the records and they should not be considered a definitive source of information on the full nature and contents of the fonds or collection. Questions about the information provided in the preliminary finding aids should be directed to archives.services@uwo.ca

SERIES A

I. HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| 1. | "History of Womanspirit",
Promotional flyers and announcements re
Womanspirit Gallery; bound in 3-ring binder;
arranged chronologically beg. 1978- | X2341 |
| 2, | Scrapbook
Newsclippings, reviews, articles on Womanspirit
and/or Womanspirit-sponsored activities | X2341 |
| 3. | Log Book
Staff entries in 3-ring, spiral-bound
notebook; June 1985-March 1986 | B5710 |
| 4. | Work diaries
Summer 1980 staff: Sue Jones, Jennifer Granger | |
| 5. | Regional Collection staff research, 1992
Contains Womanspirit list of contacts and telephone
interviews, 1992 | |
| 6. | Source information, 1992-
1. Correspondence from Sasha McInnes-Hayman
to N. Warren, received March 23/92 | |

II GRANTS B5710

Arranged by name of project: 26 files consisting of
correspondence pertaining to the project and/or contracts
[See A.VIII for all files pertaining to grants for the
Canadian Women Artists project]

III PROGRAMMING B5710

Includes: Schedule of events, Dec. 1980- Feb. 1986;
Contracts signed 1981-1985; Programming for specific
events arranged by year, 1981-1986. 52 files
[See also A.V.11, Three Year Development Plan, 1981-1984]

IV PUBLICATIONS/PUBLICITY/POSTERS

1. Spirale (v.1-4, 1981-1983) B5711
Periodical published by Womanspirit
2. Brochures, notices, handouts B5711
3. Poster: "Two women from London: Doreen Lindsay,
Jo Spence" 1981. 2 copies X2341
[See also B.VII for posters not generated by
Womanspirit]

V SPECIAL PROJECTS/REPORTS B5711

1. Canadian Women Artists, 1900-1930
File contains correspondence and contracts
pertaining to the Womanspirit-LRAG (London
Regional Art Gallery) project of 1982 to
mount a travelling art exhibit
2. Canadian women artists before 1930 : a socio-
economic review / [Kalene Nix?] [n.d.] 19 p.
[Note: For source material on pre-1930 artists,
see A.VIII, A.IX, Canadian Women Artists project]
3. Contemporary Canadian women artists : a survey /
Sasha McInnes-Hayman for Womanspirit [1980] 16 p.
"Findings and recommendations based on a survey
of over 300 Canadian women artists conducted
throughout the Summer and Fall of 1980."
File includes sample questionnaire (requested return
date: Aug. 1, 1980) and tabulation of responses
4. Responses to questionnaires.
There are 4 different questionnaires in this file:
1) gallery owners (2 responses) 2) instructors
(2 responses) 3) curators (1 response) 4) women
artist marketing survey, Southwestern Ontario,
with cover letter from Maureen Riley; requested
return date: Oct. 7, 1983 (39 responses)
5. Research on Native women artists : preliminary
report / Sue Jones. August, 1980. 3 p.
File includes 6 responses to a questionnaire sent
to Native women in the arts
[See also A.VII.4.2]
6. Petitions
1) to the Canada Council, re: "gross under-
representation of women artists...as jury, selection
committee and advisory board members"
2) To the Canada Council, re: SSHRCC and Art Bank
publishing "breakdowns in six differentials in grant
applicants and recipients..."

3) To Francis Fox, Secretary of State, re: "a positive federal cultural policy regarding arts-related women in Canada."

7. Representation of female and male artists in Canadian art history texts used in the Visual Arts Department, UWO, 1980-1981 : a report /Sasha McInnes-Hayman. July 1981. 4 p.
8. Slide registry
File contains form letters explaining expansion of collection of "over 4,000 slides of art made by women throughout history" to "include the art of contemporary Canadian women." [n.d.]
9. Slide show by SLIS on Womanspirit
10. Women and the Ontario Arts Council : a study/Sasha McInnes-Hayman. September 1981. 10p.
"Examines and compares the allocation of grants distributed...to individual male and female artists."
11. Three Year Development Plan: October 1981-September 1984 [for] Womanspirit Art Research and Resource Centre/ submitted to the Secretary of State, May 1981. 22 p.
Filed as a 'Special Project' by Womanspirit, this document provides a key insight into Womanspirit at the apex of its operation. Contents include History and raison d'être; Goals and objectives; Staff requirements and Job descriptions; Proposed budget, including salaries.
12. Womanart cards
Includes sample of finished products (5) and "artwork originals/proofs for cards."
Produced for "International Women's Day Coalition"

VI CARD FILES

1. Artists mailing addresses B5711
Two 12" trays of 3" x 5" cards
2. Artists card files B5712
5" x 8" card files (10") arranged alphabetically by author
Handwritten researchers' notes providing biographical information, interviewers' notes, citations/references to reviews.
"Early files, probably compiled as preparatory data for first Secretary of State grant application" - Eha Einola, Feb/92

3. "Women Recording Women's Services"
Research on Canadian women war artists (12 - 5"x8" cards)
4. "Associations-Societies-Groups-Clubs"
Approx. 70 - 5"x8" cards arranged by name of Canadian art organization; provide history of organization, of founding members; notes on female representation
5. University of Alberta Art Gallery and Museum. Registration records.
Approx. 110 - 3-1/2" x6" cards from the Gallery's inventory files arranged by woman artist and providing title, date, medium, measurements, acquisition dates.
6. "Little known [women] artists [cited] in Early painters and engravers in Canada"
15 - 5"x8" cards arranged by artist
7. "Book Index"
1 - 5"x8" file box. Author/title catalogue. [Books not shipped to DBWRC]
8. "Govt./Agency Index"
1 - 5"x8" file box. Author and title catalogue.
[Items not shipped to DBWRC]
9. "Periodicals" Index
2 - 5"x8" file boxes. Title cards provide frequency, address, current subscription information and receipts
10. "Artist Index"
6 - 5"x8" file boxes. In-house reference file to documentation on-hand on women artists. Arranged alphab. by name
11. [Slide Collection]
Slides were transferred to the UWO Visual Arts Centre upon receipt in 1988.
Slide catalogue was transferred to the Centre in Feb. '92.
As of Feb. '92, approx. 200 of 1000 slides have been catalogued and integrated into the Centre's main collection. Accessible by "WOMEN" as subj. heading in addition to retrieval via name, nationality, date range, medium.

VII TAPED INTERVIEWS (16)

B5712

Interviews recorded on cassette with the following women artists:

- * Ghitta Caiserman Roth (1)
- * Paraskeva Clark (1)
- * Evelyn Crooks (2)
- * Dora de Pedery Hunt (1)
- * Catharine McAvity (1)
- * Betty McNaught (1)
- * Janet Mitchell (1)
- * Marion Nicoll (1)
- * Ethel Nixon (1)
- * Rae Perlin (2)
- * Helen Parsons Shepherd (1)
- * Lynn Sissons (1)
- * Florence Vale (1)
- * Catherine Robb Whyte (1)

VIII CANADIAN WOMEN ARTISTS PROJECT, 1977-1986

B5713

Compilation of biographical data on Canadian women artists, with intent to publish. (162 files)

Parameters: Artists born as of 1925 and/or who began working before 1930 and/or who obtained their basic training prior to 1940. (Eha Einola, Feb.92)

Format of intended publication: To be divided into two parts: the first half to consist of approximately 100 biographies; the second half to provide brief identifiers in dictionary listing by name.

Funding source: Canada Secretary of State.

Methodology: Data was initially gathered from published sources and through contacting institutions, art organizations, public and private art galleries across Canada. Then a researcher (Eha Einola) was contracted to travel cross-country, visiting major sites to assess holdings and contacting artists to conduct interviews (some of which were taped; see A.VII)

Projects also known/referred to in-house as: Canadian Women's Studies Project; Canadian Studies Research Project; and the DCA, or Dictionary of Canadian Artists (not to be confused with the publication titled same by Colin S. MacDonald, 1967)

This section contains files that reflect the funding, correspondence and methodology involved in launching this project.

1. Proposal and grants
Contracts and applications
2. Correspondence between Board of Directors and Secretary of State
3. Project Supervisor's file (Susan Dittmer)
4. Project Researcher's file (Eha Einola)
5. Native women artists

6. Artists' names and addresses
7. Correspondence from Project Researcher to artists, curators, other sources
8. Art history (Canadian women's) research file
9. Pre-project mailing lists
10. Masterlists
11. Biographies - Preliminary sketches
12. Interviewer's questions
13. Interviewer's correspondence with prospective interviewees
14. Eha Einola's bibliography
15. "D.C.A. and membership lists"
16. Photo proofs
17. Galleries
 1. Useful address and telephone numbers
 2. Gallery addresses by province
 3. Correspondence with individual galleries (approx 100 files)

IX CANADIAN WOMEN ARTISTS FILE

B5714,
5715

Files arranged alphabetically by artist contain drafts of biographies prepared by Eha Einola, researcher (8"x14"), edited by Sasha McInnes-Hayman and later re-worked by another writer Kathryn Ferris(?) (8"x10") for final copy. Files also include reviews, periodical articles, newsclippings, curriculum vitae, questionnaires, some catalogues, invitations, notices. Entries conform to the parameters of the Canadian Women Artists Project (see A.VIII)

X GENERAL WOMEN ARTISTS FILE

B5716,
5717,
5718

Approx. 750 files arranged alphabetically by artists. Includes reviews, periodical articles, newsclippings, questionnaires, etc. Focus is Canadian, contemporary women artists. May still contain eligible candidates for IX but birthdate had not yet been ascertained or verified.

SERIES B

I. GALLERIES: "EXTERNAL PROGRAMMING" B5718

Consists of invitations/notices from other art galleries.

Subd. by:

1. Canadian (1983-1984); 2. London, Ont. (1983-1985);
3. United States (1984-1985)

II GALLERIES B5719

Primarily major provincial gallery inventories, group show catalogues, some newsclippings. Women artists highlighted. File is subdivided by province and by U.S.

(See also: A.VIII. Gallery responses to Canadian Women Artists Project; and B.I. Galleries: External programming)

III GENERAL REFERENCE FILES B5720,
5721

Under major headings, files contain photocopied periodical articles, newsclippings, pamphlets pertaining to the arts, the role of the artist and particularly women artists.

1. Art (Incl. Women in art; Women architects; Individual non-Canadian Women artists; Collective articles on Women artists B5720
2. Artists (Business aspect)
3. Audio-Visual (Incl. Women in Film, Women Filmmakers)
4. Crafts
5. Dance
6. Government and the arts B5721
7. Music
8. Native arts
9. Poetry and writing
10. Pornography
11. Television
12. Theatre
13. U.N.
14. Voluntary organizations
15. Economics and women B5722
16. Status of women B5722

IV GOVERNMENT/AGENCIES B5722

1. Councils
2. Canadian Council
3. CACSW
4. CARFAC
5. CRIAW
6. CWAO

7. NAC
8. Ontario Arts Council
9. Ontario Crafts Council
10. Ontario Status of Women Council
11. UAAC/WC
12. Visual Arts Ontario

V GRANTS: GENERAL

B5722

Arranged by granting agency or specific grant.

(Note: 2 vol. set of SSHRCC Resource manual is in B5723)

(See also A.II)

VI PERIODICALS

Original collection culled upon receipt at DBWRC in 1988

In Feb. 1992, holdings were checked again and minor weeding took place.

See handout in A.IV.2 listing Womenspirit holdings as of 1985.

See also A.VI.9, Periodicals Index.

Art times (v.1, no.2, 1985)

B5723

Branching out (v.7, no.2, 1980)

Bread and roses (v.2, no.4, 1981)

Breaking the silence (v.3, no.2, 1985)

C.A.R.D.WO. newsletter (Committee for the Advancement of the Rights of Domestic Workers; Vancouver, B.C.) (no. 2, Apr. 1982)

CCCA newsletter (Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion; Vancouver, B.C.) (no.1, Dec. 1981)

Chrysalis (no.10) (dup: DBWPER)

Compleat mother (Winter 1986)

Feminist arts news (FAN) (1,1980) (dup: DBWPER)

[Homemaker: culled Feb. 1992]

Hue points: Women's Caucus for Art newsmagazine (v.13, no.1, 1984)

Incite: a visual art magazine (Oct.1983-Mar/Apr.1984)

Inter ("été", 1984)

[Kinesis: Culled Feb. 1992. Full backset: DBWPRR]

Network of Saskatchewan Women (Sept. 1983)

News for women in the arts: newsletter of the Saskatchewan Women Artists Association (Fall 1981-Fall 1984)

Nexpress (Jan. 1985)

Parallelogramme (v.6, no.6, 1981-v.11, no.2, 1985)

Note: Womenspirit was a member of publishing body ANNPAC (Association of National Non-Profit Artists' Centres, Toronto, Ont.)

See entry in various issues describing Womenspirit

Powerhouse (May/June 1983)

PWP newsletter (Professional Women Photographers, N.Y.)

(Sept./Oct. 1984)

[see also X2340 -- PWP times]

Spare ribs (Apr., July, Sept. 1980) (dup: DBWPER)
 Spirale (v.1-4, 1981-1983)
 Published by Womanspirit
 Tellus: journal of Planned Parenthood
 Federation of Canada (Spring 1985)
 Vie en rose (Jan. 1983)
 Woman image now: Arizona women in art (v.2, Apr. 1984)
 Womanspirit (Oregon) (Summer 1979; Winter, 1979; Spring 1980)
 Women artists news (v.1, no.1, 1975-v.7, no.4, 1982)

Art and artists (v. 13, no.5/6, 1984; v.14, no.1, 1985) X2339
 Artcrafts (v.1, no.4, 1975- v.5, no.1, 1979)
 At the foot of the mountain (v.9, no.2, 1983; v.10, no.1, 1984)
 Digitalk (Winter 1985)
 Les Editions - propos d'art et d'artistes (v.4-6)
 Motherroot journal (Summer 1980)
 Musicworks (no. 23-24) (dup: MUSPER)
 Network: the newspaper of Saskatchewan women (Apr. 1982 -
 Mar. 1983)
 New women's times (v.6, no.15, 1980; v.6, no.20, 1980)
 PWP times (Professional Women Photographers) (v.1, no.3, 1981)
 [see also B5723 -- PWP newsletter)
 Radical reviewer (no. 5-8)

"C" magazine (Spring 1985) X2340
 Chambre blanche (no. 14)
 Rampike (v.3-4)
 Plagiat (v.1, no.1)
 Video guide (v.3, no.1 0 v.7, no.5)
 Webspinner (Feb. 1983 - Oct. 1984)

VII POSTERS X2340

1. "A Celebration of women: Women's festival, Mar. 8,9, & 10th/84 ... St. John's, Nfld. ..."
2. "Workers sold out! two video tapes by Nancy Nicol ..."
3. "Women in politics ... Presented by A.K.A. and Saskatchewan Women Artists' Association"
4. "We are the life-bearers ..." Poem
 [Numbered 12/100 and signed by Elaine Carr and Sr. Mary Margaret Parent]
5. "What woman essentially lacks today for doing great things.."
6. "Potters Wheel" [poem] / Netty Meyer
7. [Untitled, "by Colette French, first published in MAKARA, vol.1, no.2, Feb.1976"

WOMANSPRIT CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

SERIES A:

- I History of Organization
- II Grants
- III Programming
- IV Publications/Publicity/Posters
- V Special Projects/Reports
- VI Card Files
- VII Taped Interviews
- VIII Canadian Women Artists Project
- IX Canadian Women Artists File
- X General Women Artists File

SERIES B

- I Galleries - Invitations/Notices
- II Galleries
- III General Reference Files
- IV Government/Agencies
- V Grants - General Information
- VI Periodicals
- VII Posters