

Institute of Contemporary Art records

Ms. Coll. 777

Last updated on April 13, 2017.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 May 13

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	University of Pennsylvania. Institute of Contemporary Art.
Title	Institute of Contemporary Art records
Call number	Ms. Coll. 777
Date [inclusive]	1963-2007
Extent	109 linear feet (283 containers)
Language	English
Abstract	The Institute of Contemporary Arts is a University of Pennsylvania museum displaying contemporary art. This portion of the collection documents the exhibition files of the Institute of Contemporary Arts from 1963 to 2000.

Cite as:

Institute of Contemporary Arts records, 1963-2007, Ms. Coll. 777, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Founded in 1963 by the visionary dean of the school of architecture, Holmes Perkins, who wanted to expose students to what was “new and happening” in art and culture, ICA has developed an international reputation as a preeminent venue for contemporary art and culture. A non-collecting museum, ICA is also one of the only *kunsthallen* in America. As part of the University of Pennsylvania, the artist-centric program is complemented by the intellectual rigor of a premier academic institution.

Since its founding, ICA exhibitions have aimed to bring under-recognized artists to the attention of the broader world. This was true in 1965 when ICA organized Andy Warhol’s first ever solo museum show, helping propel him to superstardom; when ICA presented early shows of artists like Laurie Anderson, Richard Artschwager, Vija Celmins, Karen Kilimnik, Charles LeDray, Barry Le Va, Glenn Ligon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Agnes Martin, Damian Ortega, Pepon Osorio, Tavares Strachan, and Cy Twombly; and it remains true today.

It is this continued commitment to both accessibility and risk-taking that prompted New York Times art critic Roberta Smith to declare ICA “among the most adventuresome showcases in the country where art since 1970 is concerned...”

History taken in its entirety from Institute of Contemporary Art website.

Scope and Contents

This portion of the collection documents the exhibition files of the Institute of Contemporary Art from 1963 to 2007. The material is arranged chronologically and files may contain exhibition announcements, catalogues, checklists, clippings, correspondence, invitations, notes, photographs, and press releases. Correspondence frequently includes the artist featured in the exhibition.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 May 13

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

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Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Correspondence
- Exhibition catalogs
- Exhibition records
- Photographs
- Press releases

SUBJECT(S)

- Art
- Art museums--United States
- Artists
- Museum exhibits

Collection Inventory

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