

Barbara Cooper Papers
1967-2012, n.d.

Creator: Barbara Cooper
Extent: 3.5 Linear Feet
Processor: Laura Pearce, August 2012

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

Usage Restrictions: The copyright is retained by the creator.

Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Barbara Cooper Papers. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: Barbara Cooper donated the materials on July 19, 2012 (WLA2012.31).

Separations: Approximately 1.5 linear feet of duplicate and extraneous material was discarded.

See Also: Other artists related to Artemisia at the Women and Leadership Archives and the Artemisia Records at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Biographical History

Barbara Cooper is a Chicago-based sculptor and installation artist. She was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1949, but grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. Cooper obtained her Bachelors of Fine Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Art in Cleveland in 1974 and proceeded to further her education at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan obtaining her Masters of Fine Arts degree in 1977. At the beginning of her career, Cooper worked in Montana for a number of years as a faculty member at Montana State University. Throughout her years as an artist she has also served as a visiting professor at a number of colleges and universities around the country. Cooper first became active on the Chicago art scene as a member of the Artemisia Gallery from 1987-1989 and has been affiliated with a number of galleries in the area since that time. Her work has been shown both within the United States and abroad, notably as part of the "High Fiber" group exhibition at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. Cooper has also been the recipient of a number of awards, including the Artist's Fellowship Award from the Illinois Arts Council in 2000 and 2009.

Cooper's website contains this artist statement: "My focus is on how a form records its growth process of evolving from one condition to another as it responds to its environment. This process of transformation, whether in the natural environment or in the realm of the cultural or the personal, is an essential aspect of life. It is the foundation upon which my work builds."

Scope and Content

The Barbara Cooper Papers consists of material spanning the years 1967-2012. The vast majority of the collection relates to Cooper's professional career and includes various correspondence, artist statements, individual exhibit and gallery information, and resumes. The collection also includes a large amount of audiovisual materials, most of which in the form of digital copies of negatives and transparencies. Please speak with an employee for access to these materials. All series are arranged alphabetically.

Series 1: Academic, 1967, 1974, 1977, n.d., Box 1

A small series containing materials relating to Cooper's academic career including: class materials, commencement programs, Cranbrook Master's thesis, and her high school diploma.

Series 2: Professional, 1974-2012, n.d., Box 1-5

The majority of the material in this series relates to galleries, museums, fellowships, grants, and residency programs. This series also includes more correspondence, appraisals, letters of recommendation, and resumes.

Series 3: Publications, 1971-2011, n.d., Box 6

This series consists of various articles and photographs taken from magazines, newsletters, and newspapers that discuss Barbara Cooper's work specifically or exhibits and shows she participated in.

Series 4: Visual Material, 1973-2009, n.d., Box 6-7

This series includes photographs of Cooper's work including drawings, installations, and sculptures. It also includes negative contact sheets of photographs, some of which contain Cooper's comments. The slides in this series document various installations and work done by her former students. The majority of this series has been digitized. Please speak with an employee for access to these materials.

Series 5: Oversized Documents, 1975, 1977, 1983-1984, 1987, 2006, n.d., FF4-2

This series contains financial reports, posters from exhibits and lectures, and Cooper's diploma from Cranbrook Academy of Art.

Subjects:

Chicago Art Galleries

Feminism and Art

Illinois Artists

Sculpture

Women Artists

*Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Series 1: Academic, 1967-1977, n.d.			
1	1	Class Materials: "Stretch Fabric Structures"	n.d.
	2	Commencement Programs	1974, 1977
	3	Cranbrook Master's Thesis	1977
	4	High School Diploma	1967
Series 2: Professional, 1974-2012, n.d.			
1	5	Appraisals	2000, 2002
	6	Artist Statements	1976-1987, 2011, n.d.
	7	Auction Catalogue: Anderson Ranch Arts Center	2010
	8	Auction Catalogue: Pilchuck Glass School	2009
	9	Allegra Gallery	1986-1987
	10	Alfedena Gallery	2006-2008, n.d.
	11	American Craft Museum	2001-2003
	12	"Armor" – Randolph Street Gallery	1988-1989
	13	Artemesia Gallery	1987-1988, 1996, n.d.
	14	Beaux Arts Designer/Craftsman Exhibition	1973, 1975
	15	Bernheim Arboretum	1997-2004, n.d.
	16	Blackfish Gallery	1986-1987
	17	Business Card	n.d.
	18	Center for Creative Studies	1991-1992, n.d.
	19	Chicago Cultural Center	1993-1994, 2006, n.d.
	20	Chicago Parks Brochures	2004, n.d.
	21	The Chicago Show	1990
	22	Chicago Transit Authority Public Art Guide	2011
	23	Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art	1985, n.d.
2	1	Cleveland Museum of Art – May Show	1983-1984
	2	Computation Book	n.d.
	3	Computation Notebook	1970-1975
	4	Consignment Lists	1998-2004, n.d.
	5	Contemporary Art Workshop	1986-1988, n.d.
	6	The Contemporary Museum – Hawaii	2001-2004, n.d.
	7	Correspondence: Art Purchases	1990-2004
	8	Correspondence: Exhibits and Shows	1979, 1982-1999
	9	Correspondence: Exhibits and Shows	2000-2011, n.d.
	10	Correspondence: Fellowships	1984-2006
	11	Correspondence: Galleries	1982-2007, n.d.
	12	Correspondence: General	1979-2007, n.d.
	13	Correspondence: Lectures, Panels, and Workshops	1986-2006, n.d.

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

	14	Correspondence: Letters from Students	1982-1989, 1999, n.d.
3	1	Correspondence: Public Art	1989-1990, 2001- 2011
	2	Correspondence: Publications	1983-2006, n.d.
	3	Correspondence: Residency Programs	1980-2010
	4	Correspondence: Teaching Positions	1992-2006
	5	Craft Alliance	1994-2003
	6	Crafts Council	1997-2001
	7	Dance and Theatrical Programs	2010-2011, n.d.
	8	Davidson Galleries	1985-1987, n.d.
	9	Elmhurst Art Museum	1999-2002, n.d.
	10	Esther Saks Gallery	1988-1994, n.d.
	11	Exhibit Brochures & Invitations: Collaborative Exhibits	1974-2011, n.d.
	12	Exhibit Brochures & Invitations: Juried Shows	1974, 1982-1984
	13	Exhibit Brochures & Invitations: Solo Exhibits	1995-2003, n.d.
	14	Exhibit Diagrams	n.d.
	15	Exhibit Postcards	1984-2012
	16	“Frontiers in Contemporary American Weaving”	1976
	17	Fulbright Applications	1985, 1993-1994, n.d.
4	1	Gerald Peters Gallery	1999-2009, n.d.
	2	Grant Applications	1979-2007
	3	Greg Kucera Gallery	1989, 1995, 2001
	4	Herron School of Art Exhibit	2004-2006, n.d.
	5	Hyde Park Art Center	1987-1988, n.d.
	6	Illinois Arts Council	1990-2006, n.d.
	7	Japanese Sculpture Lecture	n.d.
	8	Joanne Rapp Gallery	1994-1998, n.d.
	9	Johnson Atelier Technical Institute of Sculpture	1979, 1983
	10	Johnson County Community College Installation	1993-1996, n.d.
	11	Kohler Art Center	1988, 2004
	12	Laumeier Sculpture Park	1995-1999
	13	Leedy Voulks Art Center	1998-2007
	14	Lemberg Gallery	2004-2006, n.d.
	15	Letters of Recommendation	1985-2003, n.d.
	16	Lockport Gallery – Illinois State Museum	1997-1999, 2006
	17	Long Beach Museum of Art	2003-2006
	18	Michigan Crafts Exhibition	1976
	19	Montalvo Center for the Arts	1985-1986, n.d.
	20	Montana State University	1980-1998, n.d.
	21	National Sculpture Conference: Works by Women	1986-1987
	22	Paris Gibson Square	1982-1990, n.d.
	23	“The Presence of Absence”	2006
5	1	“A Recording of Time”	2000, n.d.
	2	“re: Growth” – Bellevue Art Museum	2005-2007, n.d.

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

3	Resumes	1977-1992
4	Richmond Art Center Exhibit	1987, n.d.
5	“Sculpture Invasion” – Koehnline Museum of Art	2007
6	Shipping Instructions	n.d.
7	Shoebox Sculpture Exhibition	1990-1993
8	Smithsonian National Museum of American Art	1999-2005
9	Southern Illinois University	1999-2003
10	Southwest School of Art and Craft	2002-2003, n.d.
11	Sybaris Gallery	1995-2003, n.d.
12	“Terrestrial Forces” – FSU Museum of Fine Art	2003-2004, n.d.
13	“The Tension of Containment” – Textile Arts Centre	1990-1991
14	Virginia Beach Arts Center Exhibit	1988-1989
15	Welding Guide	1981
16	“Women’s Sensibilities” – Women’s Art Registry of Minnesota	2006
17	Wright State University Exhibit	1994-2000, n.d.
18	Yellowstone Art Auction	1983-1994, n.d.
19	Yellowstone Art Center	1980-1985

Series 3: Publications, 2007-2011, n.d.

6	1	Magazines and Magazine Articles	1989-1992, 1999, 2011
	2	Newsletters	1973-2005
	3	Newspaper Articles	1971-2000, 2007, n.d.

Series 4: Visual Material, 1973-2009, n.d.

Negative Contact Sheets

6	4	Negative Contact Sheets – Veneered Pieces	n.d.
	5	Negative Contact Sheets with Comments – Veneered Pieces	n.d.

Photographs

6	Boston Studio Photographs	1978
7	“Bronze Tools” Photographs	1983-1986
8	Cranbrook Installation	1973-1977
9	Cranbrook Thesis Photographs	1975-1977
10	Metal Sculpture Printed Photographs	2006
11	Missoula Show Photographs	1981-1983, n.d.
12	Photographs of Drawings	1986-1987, 2000-2003
13	Public Art Photographs	2004-2009

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

14	Skins/Choices Photographs	n.d.	
15	Student Fiber Work Photographs	1974-1978, n.d.	
16	“Tender Tower” Portland Installation Photographs	1987	
17	“Tools” Photographs	1985, n.d.	
18	Veneered Pieces Photographs	1988-2001, n.d.	
Transparencies			
19	Transparencies – Stapled Veneer Pieces Slides	1990-2004	
7	“Organic Sensibilities” – Detroit Center for Creative Studies	1992	
	Southwest School of Art and Craft	2000-2003, n.d.	
	Student Slides	1983-1994	
	Wright State University Installation	n.d.	
Series 5: Oversized Documents, 1975-2006 n.d.			
FF5	1	Financial Reports	1983-1984
		Cranbrook Master’s Diploma	1977
		Exhibit Posters	1975, 1984-1987, 2006, n.d.