

Michelle Feuer (Fire) Papers 1973-2016

Creator: Michelle Feuer (Fire) (1951-)
Extent: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)
Processor: Molly Sampson, February 2019

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: No restrictions

Usage Restrictions: Copyright transferred from Michelle Feuer to the Women and Leadership Archives for materials created by Feuer.

Preferred Citation: Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Michelle Feuer (Fire) Papers, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

Provenance: Michelle Feuer donated her papers to the Women and Leadership Archives on June 11, 2017 (WLA2017.09).

Separations: 0.2 linear feet of extraneous newspaper 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/Administrative History

Michelle Feuer, aka Michelle Fire, was born in 1951 in Chicago. Michelle goes by the name Fire because Feuer is often misspelled and mispronounced. She grew up in west Chicago before attending University of Illinois at Chicago and earning a BA in graphic arts in 1975. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Feuer created and exhibited her artwork in galleries across the city. She worked closely with the Artemisia Gallery, a women-owned art cooperative in Chicago, as well as creating exhibits with other local galleries and artists.

Feuer was a prominent supporter of the LGBTQ community in Chicago in the 1980s. In 1986, Michelle opened Big Chicks, an LGBTQ bar in Uptown. The bar became a welcoming place for all LGBTQ people in Chicago. Feuer also uses the space to display local artwork. In 2003, Michelle opened Tweet, a sister restaurant to go alongside Big Chicks. Tweet prides itself on its locally sourced and organic menu. Both establishments are still prominent in the Uptown neighborhood today.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials related to Feuer's personal and professional life from 1973 to 2016. During this time, Feuer worked with Artemisia, and other Chicago area art organizations before opening her bar, Big Chicks, and later Tweet. The material in this collection is organized

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chronologically within each series. Additionally, oversized material is stored separately in the flat file drawers (FF).

Series 1: Art, 1873-1985, Box 1

Contains materials relating to Feuer's art career including exhibits she participated in, grants, recommendation letters, and correspondence. This series is comprised of 16 folders. Materials include artwork, gallery invoices, exhibit programs, photographs, newspaper articles and reviews. Excluding Galleries, Grants, Photographing Guide, and Recommendation Letters, all folders in this series are the title of an exhibition in which Feuer participated.

Series 2: Personal, 1973-1980, 2011, Box 1

This series is comprised of personal photographs of Feuer and her art resumes.

Series 3: Professional 1986-2016, Box 1

This series contains material relating to Big Chicks and Tweet. Material includes menus, photographs, advertisements, newspaper articles, and Chicago travel and entertainment guides. Much of the material relates to the restaurants to the culture and community of the Uptown neighborhood the restaurants are in.

Subjects:

Art
Artemisia Gallery
LGBTQ history
Uptown

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Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<i>Michelle Feuer (Fire) Papers, 1973-2016</i>	
		Series 1: Art, 1973–1985	
1	1	Galleries	1973-1983
1	2	<i>Automaton</i>	1975
1	3	<i>Chicago Vicinity Show</i>	1976-1978
1	4	<i>Untitled</i>	1976
FF 3	1	<i>Untitled</i> Exhibition program	1976
1	5	<i>Works on Paper</i>	1982
1	6	Recommendation Letters	1979
1	7	<i>Send a Postcard to Barbara</i>	1979-1980
1	8	<i>6/6 Name Gallery Show</i>	1980
1	9	Grants	1980
1	10	<i>Gay American Arts Festival</i>	1982
1	11	<i>Architectural Fantasies</i>	1983
1	12	<i>Art Whores</i>	1985
1	13	<i>Looking at Men</i>	1985
1	14	<i>Looking at Women</i>	1985, 2012
1	15	<i>Time Clock, Clock time</i>	Undated
1	16	Photographing Guide	Undated
		Series 2: Personal, 1973–2001	
1	17	Resume	1973-1980
1	18	Photographs	2011
		Series 3: Professional, 1986–2016	
1	19	Big Chicks	1998-2009
1	20	Tweet	2003-2016
FF 3	2	<i>Chicago Tribune</i> Big Chicks/Tweet article	2009