

Finding Aids to Personal Papers and Special Collections in the VMFA Archives



Special Collection 19 (SC-19) Records of the Virginia Society for the Photographic Arts, 1975-2004

1.5 cubic feet

Processed by
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CONTACT INFORMATION

VMFA Archives
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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance

The collection was donated by Taylor Dabney, past President of the Virginia Society for the Photographic Arts in November 2011.

Abstract

This collection documents the history of the Virginia Society for the Photographic Arts (VSPA), from its founding in 1975 in Charlottesville to the mid-2000s when the organization disbanded. The material highlights VSPA's mission to promote art created by photographic processes through its outreach, activities, and exhibitions. History and membership files detail VSPA's administration over the years, while the newsletters provide an overview of all VSPA activities. The rest of the collection documents the active exhibition and event schedule that VSPA presented at Virginia museums, galleries, and arts organizations as the group worked to garner support for photography as a fine art.

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of the collection. For permission to publish materials from the collection, please contact the VMFA Archives.

Processing Note

The collection was arranged chronologically within series. When provided, original folder titles were kept. Publications were removed and added to the VMFA Library's holdings. A complete list of these publications is available from the Archivist.

Scope and Content Note

The collection's inclusive dates are 1975-2004, with the bulk of the material dating from the 1980s and 1990s. The collection is comprised of correspondence, membership lists, committee files, meeting minutes, planning files, promotional materials, newsletters, and other ephemeral material.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into three series, and items are arranged chronologically within each series. Items with no date are placed at the end of a series:

[Series 1: General Files, 1975-2001, n.d.](#)

[Series 2: Exhibitions and Events, 1979-2004, n.d.](#)

[Series 3: Newsletters, 1975-2003](#)

Controlled Access Points

Virginia Society for the Photographic Arts

Photography – Virginia – History – 20th Century – Exhibitions

Photography – Virginia – History – 21st Century – Exhibitions

Photography, Artistic – Virginia – Exhibitions

Photography – Virginia

Photographers – Virginia

Related Materials

See further information in the VMFA Library:

Exhibition Files:

- [Freshworks '79, 1979](#)

Subject File:

- [Art Organizations and Foundations: Virginia: Private: Virginia Society for the Photographic Arts](#)

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS / ITEM LISTS

Series 1: General Files, 1975-2001, n.d.

Box 1 (14 Folders)

Box	Title
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1	Steering Committee/Board, 1975-1998 Minutes, 1975-1976
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Box	Title
1	History
	Membership Forms
	Membership Lists, 1975-1989
	Membership Lists, 1990-1999
	Stationery
	Brochures
	Grant Applications, 1978-1983
	Letters from VSPA to Members, 1984-2001
	Letters from Members and Others, 1976-1989
	Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1984-1993
	Arts in the Marketplace Committee, 1984
	Slides

Series 2: Exhibitions and Events, 1979-2004, n.d.

Boxes 1-2 (53 Folders)

Box	Title
1	Freshworks, 1979
	Freshworks, 1979
	VSPA Folio + at Jewish Community Center, Feb. 1984
	June Jubilee, 1985-1988
	VSPA Folio + at Peninsula Fine Arts Center, Feb. 1985
	VSPA and Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Symposium, Apr. 26, 1986
	Photographers as Artists at VMFA, Apr. 26, 1986
	Photo Button Booth, 1987-1996
	Merry Moor Winnett, 1987
	Olivia Parker's Visit, 1987
	VSPA Emuego at Jewish Community Center, Nov. 1987
	Affordable Masterpieces, Sixth Street Marketplace, Dec. 1987
	Photographer's Workshop, Information and Handouts, Sep. 9, 1988
	Portfolio Nights, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1989-1993
	Collector's Circle at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Evening on Photography, Jan. 23, 1989
	Marilyn Nance Exhibit at 1708 Gallery, Mar. 1989
	Virginia Antiquities in Photographic Perspective, VSPA/APVA, Sep. 1989
	Portfolio Night: Pinhole Photography, Nov. 2, 1989
	Freshworks, Crestar Gallery, Feb. 10-Mar. 23, 1990
	VSPA Show, Sovran Gallery, Oct. 1990
	Virginia Museum and VSPA, Power, 1991
	Polaroid Image Transferring Workshop, Sep. 25, 1991
	Emmet Gowin at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Feb. 20, 1992
	Frames of Reference at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1993
	Portfolio Night: Photographing Other Cultures, Jan. 27, 1993

Box Title

- 1 Grace Street Gallery, Feb. 1993-Apr. 1994
 Portfolio Night: Image Transfer Photography, Mar. 9, 1993
 Portfolio Night: Beyond Photography, May 11, 1993
 Portfolio Night: The Electronic Studio, Sep. 21, 1993
 Portfolio Night: A View to the Stage, Nov. 2, 1993
 WRIC-TV Gallery Exhibition Information, Dec. 8, 1993-Jan. 31, 1994

- 2 Peninsula Fine Arts Center Biennial Sponsorship, VSPA Awards, 1994-2000
 The Third Eye, Pine Camp Arts Center, Mar. 15-Apr. 30, 1994
 Images II High School Exhibit, Mar. 1995
 Portfolio Night: Denise Bethel, May 4, 1995
 Portfolio Night: Peter C. Jones, Feb. 22, 1996
 Portfolio Night: David W. Lewis, May 1, 1996
 Folio Show at Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, June 1996
 William Hunt, Collector's Circle, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Mar. 10, 1997
 Deborah Willis at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Apr. 9, 1997
 VSPA Invites, May 23-July 6, 1997
 New Realities/Digital Transformations at 1708 Gallery, Sep. 1997
 Folio Show at Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, June 1998
 VSPA Invitational, Longwood/Bedford Gallery, Jan. 12-Feb. 20, 1998
 Indian Photography at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, May 23, 1998
 Currents at Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, June 1999
 Fresh Works, June 2001
 Folio, Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, Oct. 21-Nov. 18, 2001
 Chan Chao, Burma: Something Went Wrong, Nov. 8, 2002
 Jerry Spagnoli, Oct. 14, 2003
 Celebratory Inauguration, VSPA at Artspace, Mar. 5-28, 2004
 Folio Work, VSPA
 Marsh Gallery Exhibitions

Series 3: Newsletters, 1975-2003

Box 2 (8 Folders)

Box Title

- 2 Newsletters, 1975-1982
 Newsletters, 1983-1985
 Newsletters, 1986-1987
 Newsletters, 1988-1989
 Newsletters, 1990-1991
 Newsletters, 1992-1996
 Newsletters, 1997-1999
 Newsletters, 2000-2003