

Printmaking Workshop Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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Collection Summary

Title: Printmaking Workshop Records

Span Dates: 1979-1997

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1987-1997)

ID No.: MSSS85366

Creator: Printmaking Workshop

Extent: 4,000 items

Extent: 11 containers plus digital files

Extent: 4.4 linear feet

Extent: 4 digital files (1.65 MB)

Language: Collection material in English and Spanish

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2007085366>

Summary: Studio and gallery facility dedicated to teaching and promoting the art of printmaking and related crafts, founded by African-American printmaker Robert Hamilton Blackburn in 1948. General office files, printmaking exhibition files, correspondence, print listings and catalogs, financial records, subject files, publicity material, photographs, receipts, printed matter, and miscellaneous material.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Blackburn, Robert Hamilton, 1920-

Organizations

Printmaking Workshop.

Robert Hamilton Blackburn Printmaking Workshop Core Collection and Archives (Library of Congress)

Subjects

Art, American--New York (State)--New York.

Artists' studios--New York (State)--New York.

Artists--New York (State)--New York.

Arts--New York (State)--New York.

Arts.

Printmakers--New York (State)--New York.

Prints--Technique.

Prints.

Provenance

The records of the Printmaking Workshop were transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Prints and Photographs Division in 2007. The records are a gift to the Library of Congress from the Printmaking Workshop, part of an agreement that included a purchase by the Library of Congress of prints from the studio in 2000.

Processing History

Paper records in the Printmaking Workshop collection were processed in 2012. Born-digital files were organized and described in 2015.

Related Material

The records of the Printmaking Workshop in the Manuscript Division are part of the larger Robert Hamilton Blackburn Printmaking Core Collection and Archives, which includes material located in the Prints and Photographs Division.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Printmaking Workshop is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The records of Printmaking Workshop are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Digital Format

Digital files were received as part of the records of the Printmaking Workshop. Reference copies were created from the original digital media. Advanced notice is required for access to digital content; consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for more information.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container, reel, or digital ID number, Printmaking Workshop Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Organizational History

The Printmaking Workshop was founded in New York, N.Y., in 1948 by African-American artist and printmaker Robert Hamilton Blackburn (1920-2003) to provide studio and gallery space, equipment, and instruction in printmaking and allied crafts to aspiring and experienced printmakers.

Scope and Content Note

The Printmaking Workshop is an ongoing New York City nonprofit organization and artists' cooperative founded by African-American artist and master printmaker Robert Hamilton Blackburn (1920-2003) in 1948 to provide studio space, equipment, instruction, gallery space, and community to artists in the printmaking and related fields. The collection spans the years 1979-1997, with the bulk concentrated in the period 1987-1997. The material consists of office files, material relating to exhibitions, correspondence, print listings and catalogs, financial records, subject files, publicity material, photographs, receipts, and printed matter. The records are organized into three series: [Exhibitions and Other Events](#), [General Office File](#), and [Digital File](#).

The [Exhibitions and Other Events](#) series documents exhibits, auctions, and benefits held at the Printmaking Workshop's own gallery and in other venues in the United States and across the world.

The [General Office File](#) documents the administration and operations of the organization from the 1970s into the late 1990s.

Arrangement of the Records

This collection is arranged in three series:

- [Exhibitions and Other Events, 1984-1997](#)
- [General Office File, 1979-1997](#)
- [Digital File, 1997](#)

Description of Series

Container

Series

BOX 1-6

Exhibitions and Other Events, 1984-1997

Files relating to exhibitions and other events such as auctions and benefits held at the Printmaking Workshop and other venues.

Grouped into exhibitions and events held at the Printmaking Workshop gallery and those held in other venues. Arranged thereunder by year of event and therein alphabetically by title of event or name of gallery.

BOX 6-11

General Office File, 1979-1997

Office files, financial records, correspondence, catalogs and lists of artwork, and miscellaneous material relating to the operations of the Printmaking Workshop.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material.

BOX DF

Digital File, 1997

Lists of artists and prints in the FP3 file format. The series is comprised of four files and 1.65 MB. The series also includes a 2 MB floppy disk that is unreadable at this time.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-6	Exhibitions and Other Events, 1984-1997 Files relating to exhibitions and other events such as auctions and benefits held at the Printmaking Workshop and other venues. Grouped into exhibitions and events held at the Printmaking Workshop gallery and those held in other venues. Arranged thereunder by year of event and therein alphabetically by title of event or name of gallery.
BOX 1	Printmaking Workshop gallery
BOX 1	circa 1990 , auction
BOX 1	1992
BOX 1	The Anniversary Show
BOX 1	Artists of Color
BOX 1	Joan Vennum, Recent Prints
BOX 1	Summer/Selections from the Printmaking Workshop Collection
BOX 1	1993
BOX 1	Herman Cherry, Monoprints and Etchings
BOX 1	Judith Turner, Recent Etchings
BOX 1	Rainbow Show
BOX 1	1994
BOX 1	46th Anniversary Benefit Show
BOX 1	The First Half
BOX 1	Kindred Spirits
BOX 1	MoMa Art Weekend
BOX 1	The Tao of Physics, Etchings by Elizabeth Harington
BOX 1	Ten
BOX 1	Wei Jane Chir/ Imagining Emptiness
BOX 2	1995
BOX 2	Facing History and Ourselves
BOX 2	Promise
BOX 2	1996
BOX 2	That's Amore
BOX 2	Aportes de dos Culturas/ Influences of Two Cultures
BOX 2	1997
BOX 2	Kumi Korf: Prints and Sculptural Books
BOX 2	Ruth Lauer-Manenti, Drawings and Prints
BOX 2	Print Bazaar
BOX 2	Miscellaneous
BOX 2	Other venues
BOX 2	1984 , In a Sea of Ink, traveling exhibition
BOX 2	1987 , benefit auction, Detroit, Michigan
BOX 3	1988

Exhibitions and Other Events, 1984-1997

Container	Contents
BOX 3	Augusta Savage and the Art School of Harlem, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	Robert Blackburn, a Life's Work, Alternative Museum, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	1989
BOX 3	Black Printmaking and the W. P. A., Lehman College, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	Contemporary African-American Printmakers, Contemporary Sculpture from Zimbabwe, Lyman Allyn Art Museum, New London, Conn.
BOX 3	Contemporary Prints: New York Workshops Create, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	A Cultural Celebration: Featuring a Collection of Prints from the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Studio Workshop, Manatee Community College, West Bradenton, Florida
BOX 3	Multiple Images: Prints by Afro-Americans, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, N. J.
BOX 3	1992 , Artists of Color, Harlem School of the Arts, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	1993
BOX 3	Figuring It Out on Paper, Hartwick College, Oneota, N.Y.
BOX 3	Robert Blackburn, Watermark/Cargo Gallery, Kingston, N.Y.
BOX 3	Seven over Seventy, Lehman College, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	1994
BOX 3	1994 Pacific States Biennial National Print Exhibition, University of Hawaii, Hilo, Hawaii
BOX 3	ArtBeats, Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, N. J.
BOX 3	Black Prints, Elsa Mott Ives Gallery, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	Cinque Gallery, New York, N. Y.
BOX 3	Mater Dei College, Ogdenburg, N. Y.
BOX 3	The Printmakers' Art, Hudson Guild, New York, N.Y.
BOX 3	Robert Blackburn, Goshen College, Goshen, Ind.
BOX 3	Robert Blackburn, Master Artist, Master Printmaker, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.
BOX 4	Robert Blackburn, Inspiration and Innovation in American Printmaking, Wilmer Jennings Gallery, New York, N.Y.
BOX 4	The Robert Blackburn Legacy, the Printmaking Workshop at Forty-Five, Newark Public Library, Newark, N. J.
BOX 4	1995
BOX 4	African-American Printmaking: 1938 to the Present, Rockland Center for the Arts, West Nyack, N.Y.
BOX 4	Blackburn Print Workshop Exhibition, Hass Gallery of Art, Bloomsburg, Pa.
BOX 4	British Consulate, New York, N. Y.
BOX 4	Falubiennalen Nya Grafiker, Falun, Sweden
BOX 4	Institute of Youth Enterprises, New York, N.Y.
BOX 4	Lois Mailou Jones and Her Former Students, Fondo del Sol Visual Arts Center, Washington, D. C.
BOX 4	Master Printmaker Robert Blackburn, Exhibition, CRT's Craftery Gallery, Hartford, Conn.
BOX 4	Medellin, Columbia
BOX 5	NGO Forum on Women, Beijing, China
BOX 5	Prints from the Bob Blackburn Workshop, Isobel Neal Gallery, Chicago, Il.
BOX 5	Prints from the Printmaking Workshop Collection, Blair Academy, Blairstown, N. J.
BOX 5	Museo de Arte Modern, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
BOX 5	Robert Blackburn Print Exhibition, State University of New York, Stony Brook, N.Y.
BOX 5	St. John the Divine Cathedral, New York, N.Y.

Exhibitions and Other Events, 1984-1997

Container

Contents

BOX 6	1996
BOX 6	Art on Paper, Bronx Community College, New York, N.Y.
BOX 6	Bob Blackburn's Printmaking Workshop, Artists of Color, traveling exhibit
BOX 6	Boise State University, Boise, Idaho
BOX 6	Bronx Spaces, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, N.Y.
BOX 6	Contemporary Printmaking in America, Collaborative Process in America, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.
BOX 6	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
BOX 6	Hostos Art Gallery: The First Ten Years, Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture, New York, N. Y.
BOX 6	Prints from the Furnace, New Orleans School of Glasswork, New Orleans, La.
BOX 6	Rice Gallery, Albany, N. Y.
BOX 6	Strategies of Narration, traveling exhibit, Saudi Arabia and other countries
BOX 6	1997 , Maria Henle Studio, Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands
BOX 6	Miscellaneous, 1987, 1995
BOX 6-11	General Office File, 1979-1997 Office files, financial records, correspondence, catalogs and lists of artwork, and miscellaneous material relating to the operations of the Printmaking Workshop. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX 6	Board meeting, 1996
BOX 7	Budgets, 1995-1996
BOX 7	Consultants, donors, and customers, circa 1993-1994
BOX 7	Employees, interns, and fellows
BOX 7	Garcia, Osmani
BOX 7	Miscellany, 1996
BOX 7	Thank-you Valentine card, undated
BOX 7	Miscellaneous, 1996
BOX 7	Financial papers, 1994-1996 (3 folders)
BOX 7	Galleries
BOX 7	Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, N.Y., 1994-1995
BOX 7	Aljira, Newark, N. J., 1994
BOX 7	Anita Shapolsky Gallery, New York, N. Y., 1992-1993
BOX 7	Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, N.Y. 1993
BOX 7	Jamaica Art Center, New York, N.Y., 1994
BOX 7	Missoula Museum of the Arts, Missoula, Mont., 1994
BOX 7	Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pa., undated
BOX 7	Grants and awards
BOX 7	Miscellaneous, 1995-1997
BOX 8	New York Council of the Arts, 1995
BOX 8	Message log, 1996
BOX 8	Miscellany, 1993-1996
BOX 8	Newsletters, brochures, and other printed matter, 1986-1995
BOX 8	Notes, undated

General Office File, 1979-1997

Container	Contents
BOX 8	Print collection and gallery, 1995-1996
BOX 9	Prints
BOX 9	Catalogs
BOX 9	New prints, 1979-1980
BOX 9	Permanent collection, undated
BOX 9	A-P (2 folders)
BOX 10	R-Z
BOX 10	Donations, undated
BOX 10	Price lists, 1996-1997
BOX 10	Sales, 1987-1996
BOX 10	Research inquires, 1994-1995
BOX 10	Subject file
BOX 10	Artists
BOX 10	Birch, Willie, 1994
BOX 10	Graver, Crista, 1995
BOX 10	Miscellaneous, 1995
BOX 11	O'Neal, Mary Lovelace, 1987
BOX 11	Osorio, Hernando, 1993
BOX 11	Purcell, Roy, 1979-1980
BOX 11	Blackburn, Robert Hamilton, 1993-1994
BOX 11	Organizations, 1994-1996
BOX 11	Teaching material, undated (2 folders)
BOX 11	Vendors, undated
BOX DF	Digital File, 1997 Lists of artists and prints in the FP3 file format. The series is comprised of four files and 1.65 MB. The series also includes a 2 MB floppy disk that is unreadable at this time. Exhibitions and Other Events Artist list, 1997 Digital ID: mss85366_27_1 Print list, 1997 Digital ID: mss85366_27_2