

Barbara Blades Papers 1976-2004, undated

Creator: Barbara Blades (1938–)

Extent: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

Language: English

Repository: Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None.

Usage Restrictions: Copyright is retained by the creator.

Preferred Citation: Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Barbara Blades Papers, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

Provenance: The materials were donated to the Women and Leadership Archives on March 14, 2011 by Barbara Blades (WLA2011.30).

Processor: Anne E. Cullen, February 2011.

Processing Information: Finding aid updated January 2025.

Separations: Less than 0.15 linear feet of duplicate materials and extraneous materials were discarded.

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

Biographical History

Barbara Blades is a Chicago-based painter and installation artist. She first became active in the Chicago arts community as a member of the Jan Cicero Gallery from 1978-2002. Since then, she was a member (1991-2001) and co-president (1993-1995) of the Artemisia Gallery, a Chicago women's co-operative. She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Art at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. Her work has been featured both nationally and internationally, notably as part of "The New Millennium: Illinois Women Artists" at the National Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington, DC. She has been the recipient of the Illinois Arts Council Project Completion Grant and the Chicago Artists International Program (CAIP) Grant from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

Scope and Content

The Barbara Blades Papers consists of 0.75 linear feet (2 boxes), spanning the years 1976-2004. This collection is divided into two series: professional, and audiovisual and oversized. The

professional records include a self-made portfolio and various exhibit and publicity materials. The audiovisual and oversized series includes additional exhibit and publicity materials as well as a photograph of her work. The collection is organized alphabetically.

Series 1: Professional, 1976-2004, undated, Box 1

Contains materials relating to Blades’ professional art career before, during, and after her membership in the Artemisia Gallery. These include exhibit cards and brochures. Press clippings both for Blades and for Artemisia are included. Lastly, Blades’ self-made portfolio includes a biography, artist statement, curriculum vitae, press clippings, and photographic examples of her work.

Series 2: Audiovisual and Oversize, 1983-1985, undated, Box 2

Contains publicity materials including the newspaper *ArtViews* Fan, a Polaroid photograph of Blades’ work, and a poster from the “Chicago Paper” exhibit at the Water Tower Gallery at Loyola University Chicago.

Subjects:

- Artemisia Gallery
- Blades, Barbara (1938-)
- Feminism and Art
- Chicago Art Galleries
- Illinois Artists
- Women Artists

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<i>Barbara Blades Papers 1976-2004, undated</i>	
		Series 1: Professional, 1976-2004, undated	
1	1	Exhibit Cards	1978-2004, undated
1	2	Exhibit Cards – Miscellaneous	1982-2004, undated
1	3	Exhibit Brochures	1976-2004, undated
1	4	Portfolio	undated
1	5	Press	1980-2001, undated
		Series 2: Audiovisual and Oversize, 1983-1985, undated	
2	1	Exhibit Poster	undated
2	2	Photograph; Artwork	undated
2	3	Press	1983-1985