

# Guide to the Sharon Irish Women Artists Ephemera collection SC32

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.  
Description is written in: English.

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

[archives@barnard.edu](mailto:archives@barnard.edu)

URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Barnard Archives and Special Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Sharon Irish Women Artists Ephemera collection
<b>ID:</b>	SC32
<b>ID [aspace_uri]:</b>	/repositories/2/resources/458
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1972-2014
<b>Physical Description:</b>	.3 Linear Feet 1 document box
<b>Physical Location:</b>	This collection is located in the Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Sharon Irish Women Artists Ephemera collection includes ephemeral materials collected by art historian Sharon Irish from primarily white, U.S.-based women artists in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

### Preferred Citation

Sharon Irish Women Artists Ephemera collection, 1972-2014; Box and Folder; Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College.

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## Historical Background

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Art and architectural historian Sharon Irish received her PhD in architectural history from Northwestern in 1990 and subsequently became involved in the Women's Caucus for Art (WCA), connecting her art historical study with feminist politics. In 1991, she began reaching out to women artists, at first working from speakers at the 1990 WCA Conference, to acquire slides of their work for her teaching. As she continued her scholarship, working on a book

about American artist Suzanne Lacy, she grew her network of acquaintances. She held onto ephemera and other materials that these artists sent to her, which form this collection.

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## Collection Scope and Content Summary

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The collection contains promotional, fundraising, and communications materials (show cards, newsletters, brochures); catalogs of exhibitions; resumes; correspondence with Irish; slides and other images of artworks; and other artist ephemera exchanged between artists and Irish. Artists represented include Jerri Allyn, Betsy Damon, Mary Beth Edelson, Bonnie Fortune, Janet Goldner, Freda Guttman, Marylee Hardenbergh, Donna Henes, Sarah Kanouse with Shiloh Krupar, Sabra Moore, Claire Pentecost, Sarah Ross, and Faith Wilding, among other artists. Also included are booklets for the Women's Caucus for Art Honor Awards.

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## Collection Arrangement

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The collection is arranged by individual artist, as received from Sharon Irish.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## **Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

## **Accruals**

Accruals are not expected.

## **Acquisition Information**

Donated to the archives by Sharon Irish, 2024.

## **Processing History**

This collection was processed and the finding aid written by Martha Tenney in May 2024, using an inventory created by Sharon Irish. Descriptive Rules Used: Finding aid adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard. Finding aid written in English.

## **Publication Rights**

Copyright is retained by original copyright holders; permission must be requested to publish materials from this collection.

## **Reproduction Restrictions**

Reproductions can be made for research purposes.

## **Appraisal Note**

Women's Caucus for Art Honor Awards booklets from 2001-2013 were removed from the collection and added to the WCA collection at Rutgers.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Collections**

Additional materials related to artist Sabra Moore may be found in SC16, Sabra Moore NYC Women's Art Movement Collection (<https://collections.barnard.edu/public/repositories/2/resources/3830>) and SC22, Connections Project/ Conexus Exhibition Documentation and Artwork (<https://collections.barnard.edu/public/repositories/2/resources/387>).

Women's Caucus for Art Records are held by Rutgers University Archives and Special Collections at New Brunswick (<https://archives.libraries.rutgers.edu/repositories/11/resources/688/>).

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Women artists
- Feminism

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances	
Jerri Allyn, 1978-1991	box 1	folder 1

### Scope and Contents

The Waitresses, 5 pp. summary document about performances in 1978-79  
Sisters of Survival Call for Entries, c. 1982  
Postcards to send to Congress in support of NEA funding, 1990 (4 copies with Michelangelo illustration; 6 copies with Bronzino illustration) distributed by Arts Coalition for Freedom of Expression  
Postcard from Allyn to Sharon Irish, February 5, 1991

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Betsy Damon, 1995-2000	box 1	folder 2
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### Scope and Contents

Keepers of the Waters donation card (via Triangle Foundation), c. 1995  
Thank you card to Sharon Irish for donation, 1995, card designed by Betsy Damon  
Undated letter to Sharon Irish about Keepers of the Waters, on letterhead  
Betsy Damon resume up to 1995 (St. Paul, MN) 2 copies  
Keepers of the Waters, newsletter #1, December 1995  
Keepers of the Waters one-pager, "Connects the Yangzi and Mississippi waters," c. 1995  
Keepers of the Waters brochure, "Connects the Yangzi and Mississippi waters," c. 1995  
Slide set for "Living Water Garden" in Chengdu, China, 1998 20 slides some images online: <https://www.betsydamon.com/artworks/living-water-garden>

Keepers of the Waters Online Network brochure, c.  
2000? (based in Longmont, CO)  
Three photocopied newspaper articles for background

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Mary Beth Edelson, 1995-2000

box 1

folder 3

### Scope and Contents

Resume to 1986, with handwritten note about 1989 video, "For Art's Sake #6"  
List of Upcoming Events/Publications, 1986-c. 1990 (2 copies)  
Seven Sites: Painting on the Wall, 1988  
Shape Shifter: Seven Mediums, 1990  
3/4/1991, Letter to Sharon Irish re: possible commission "An open letter to Thomas McEvilley" photocopy [mentioned in letter to Irish]  
Copy of letter to Suzanne Lacy and Judy Chicago, March 6, 1979, about Lacy's "International Dinner Party" of 1979, San Francisco

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Bonnie Fortune, 2009

box 1

folder 4

### Scope and Contents

Resume to 2012 and Brochure/Catalog: Every Body!  
Visual Resistance in Feminist Health Movements, 1969-2009, 2009 exhibit at I Space, Chicago

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Janet Goldner, 1990-1994

box 1

folder 5

### Scope and Contents

Resume to 1991  
Correspondence between Goldner and Sharon Irish, 1991 (4 letters); 1 letter from 1994  
Artists on the Home Front art show, curated by Janet Goldner and others, 1991, poster and flier  
Color brochure and postcard for Sticks & Stones, 1993  
South African Mail: Messages from Inside: Women Artists in Resistance, 1990, exhibit in NYC, curated by Goldner

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Freda Guttman, 1989-1991

box 1

folder 6

### Scope and Contents

Resume to 1991  
Correspondence between Guttman and Sharon Irish, 1991  
The Global Menu: A Multi-media Exhibition, catalog, 1990  
Global Menu: Global Issues poster of film screenings, 1990

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Marylee Hardenbergh, 2003-2012

box 1

folder 7

## Scope and Contents

Promo postcards for Solstice River, June 2003, June 2007 (XI), June 2008 (XII), June 2011 (XV), June 2012 (XVI); and promo brochure for One River Mississippi, June 24, 2006

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Donna Henes, 1980-1998

box 1

folder 8

## Scope and Contents

One postcard and 3 letters to Sharon Irish between 3/15/91 and 10/08/98  
 Undated 2pp. typescript by Henes and Dominique Mazeaud, "Peace: Piece by Piece" and Bio  
 "Random Interaction Events" list (2pp), 1972-c. 1985, with note to Sharon Irish about slides and "Spider Woman Series" Herstory, 1 p.  
 2 slides of installations of Streams of Conscience, 1985  
 1980 trifold brochure, Chant for Peace  
 1984 color poster for Summer Solstice event, NYC  
 1985 photocopied info packet on Streams of Conscience, 1981-85  
 1987 Summer Solstice celebration, postcard  
 May 1988 Flier for Once in a Blue Moon events, Islip Art Museum, . NY  
 1989 Flier for Tree Planting in Loring Park, Minneapolis, for May day  
 1991 promo postcard for column, "Celestially Auspicious Occasions"  
 1994 Vernal Equinox, Eggs on End, postcard  
 1997 Mailer for program, The Great Goddess, at American Museum of Natural History, NYC

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Sarah Kanouse with Shiloh Krupar, 2013-2014

box 1

folder 9

## Scope and Contents

Towards a National Cold War Monuments and Environmental Heritage Trail, November 1-27, 2013, Figure One gallery, Champaign, IL, postcard for Charrette  
 National TLC Service Brochure, September 2013  
 The National Cold War Monuments and Environmental Heritage Trail: A Design Charrette, National TLC Service, booklet, 2013.  
 National TLC Service, stitched badge  
 Charrette Report Illinois, National TLC Service, booklet, Winter 2013/14

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Sabra Moore, 1984-2022

box 1

folder 10

## Scope and Contents

Sabra Moore Resume up to 1991  
 Sabra Moore Narrative Statement, c. 1991  
 1984 Postcard for "House Dress" Installation in NYC



1985, Poster "Documentation of an Installation: Gladys Apron" NYC  
1987 Poster for Reconstruction Project exhibit at Powerhouse, Montreal  
1987 Postcard for Reconstruction Project exhibit at Eye Level Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
1988 Poster for Connections Project exhibition at Southeastern Mass. University Art Gallery  
March 1988 "Statement for Panel 'Ethics and Aesthetics' for Artists Talk on Art"  
1/28/1991 Letter to Sabra from Sharon Irish introducing self and asking for info  
March 1991 postcard about Know Peace/No Peace exhibit in NYC (2 copies of pc; one handwritten to Sharon Irish), stapled to related photocopies  
4/12/1991 Letter to Sharon Irish about meeting at WCA and sharing documents about her work  
11/22/1991 Copy of letter from Sharon Irish to Sabra Moore, with thanks  
2/18/1993 Letter to Sharon Irish about possible residency at University of Illinois, with Invitation to Sabra's birthday party in Brooklyn, NY  
4/9/1993 Letter to Lori Blewett at University of Illinois about possible residency, with attached proposal (residency never happened)  
1994 postcard about "Pearls: Visual Readings from Under the Manhattan Bridge"  
4/15/95 postcard to Sharon Irish about exhibit proposal in Illinois  
8/7/1995 Letter to Sharon Irish about possible exhibit at University of Illinois of Place/Displace & Pearls  
No date, but texts related to Place/Displace (Acworth Series), photocopied  
12/26/1995 Letter to Sharon Irish about Illinois exhibit, and  
1/17/1996 Sharon Irish letter to Castellani Art Museum about exhibit of Place/Displace  
1996 postcard announcing move to New Mexico  
1997 Postcard for Place/Displace exhibit in Santa Fe, NM  
c. 1997 Back Offerings: letter to sell artist's books  
9/21/1998 Fundraising letter for building roof on studio in Abiquiu, NM with offer of WOOD/WOULD for funders, including color photocopy poster of sample pages of WOOD/WOULD  
2/11/99 Handwritten letter to Sharon Irish about WOOD/WOULD book with insertions about Carreta Boat and Petroglyphs booksigning in NYC  
12/11/99 Letter requesting photocopy of recipient's palm and a word relating to trees for a work in progress  
Brochure for 2002 exhibit in Santa Fe, NM, "Migrate, Immigrate, Translate"  
9/12/2006 Fundraising card to support catalog for Harwood Museum of Art, Taos, NM  
2007 Postcard for Harwood Museum exhibit, "Out of the Woods"  
1/6/2012 2011-12 New Year's Card and envelope

2012 Mailer about "Odes and Offerings" collaborative exhibit in Santa Fe, NM  
 2012-13 New Year's Card and envelope  
 2013-14 New Year's Card  
 11/16/2014 Fundraising letter about Barnard College acquisition of Moore archive  
 2014 Handmade card of "Acceptance" and 10/19/2014 letter to Sharon Irish accompanying card  
 2015 New Year's Card

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Claire Pentecost, 2010	box 1	folder 11
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**Scope and Contents**

Victoryland:...you, I shall answer your letter, threewalls gallery, Chicago, April 23-May 22, 2010, postcard and booklet

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Sarah Ross, 2008-2023	box 1	folder 12
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**Scope and Contents**

Inaction: Preparing for a crash, Dittmar Gallery Northwestern University exhibition postcard, October 1-November 3, 2008  
 The Audacity of Desperation postcard, exhibit postcard for Independent Media Center, Urbana (curated by Sarah Ross and Jessica Lawless), 2008  
 P + NAP Posters, 2023 P + NAP = Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project

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Faith Wilding, 2014	box 1	folder 13
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**Scope and Contents**

Fearful Symmetries: A Retrospective, 2014, Threewalls exhibit booklet

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Bronx Museum exhibition publication, "Women's Collaborative Art and Community", 2008	box 1	folder 14
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Miscellaneous brochures, 1993-2007	box 1	folder 15
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Women's Caucus for Art Honor Awards booklets, 1985-1996	box 1	folder 16
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