

Finding Aid for Mark Rogovin Papers

MS.2009.2

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

Title Mark Rogovin Papers

Date [bulk] Bulk, 1970-1990

Date [inclusive] 1954-2007

Extent 1.0 Linear foot

Language Multiple languages

Language of Materials note Materials mostly in English, with select pieces in Spanish.

Abstract The Mark Rogovin Papers document Rogovin's role in the modern mural movement, specifically in Chicago, as well as aspects of his role as a founder of Chicago's Peace Museum. The collection also gives insight into American social documentary photographer (Mark Rogovin's father) Milton Rogovin's relationship with members of Mexico's Taller Gráfica Popular. The collection includes writings, news clippings, flyers, and administrative records, press releases, grant proposals. Of note are a series of letters to Milton Rogovin and his wife from prominent artists living in Mexico such as Sarah Jimenez and Pablo O'Higgins.

Preferred Citation note

Researchers wishing to cite materials from this collection may use the following acknowledgement: [title of item], Mark Rogovin Papers, Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.

Biographical/Historical note

Mark Rogovin, artist and community activist, received his BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1968 and his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC) in 1970. He is the author of "Mural Manual: How to Paint Murals for the Classroom, Community Center, and Street Corner". Rogovin studied with Mexican muralist David Alfaro Siqueiros and worked with him on the mural, "The March of Humanity". He co-founded the Public Art Workshop after graduating from the AIC. He also co-founded the Peace Museum in Chicago with Marjorie Craig Benton, former U.S. representative to UNICEF, in an era still permeated with tensions of the Vietnam War and Cold War. Rogovin's father, American photographer Milton Rogovin, once blacklisted for his association with the Communist Party USA, documented prominent social issues such as poverty and inequality. Milton Rogovin and wife, Anne, developed close friendships with several members of Mexico's Taller Grafica Popular.

Scope and Contents note

The Mark Rogovin Papers include materials published and unpublished that document activities of the modern mural movement in Chicago during the 1970s and the activities of the Public Art Workshop, an organization active at the time in integrating art into community development through the creation of public murals.

Includes Rogovin's publication, a classic public art guide: "Mural Manual: How to Paint Murals for the Classroom, Community Center, and Street Corner". Includes newspaper articles on mural art, list of mural locations in Chicago, as well as ads and flyers for Public Art Workshop programs. Interviews with Mark Rogovin offer a window into the artist's personal thoughts on the development of U.S. modern mural movement, the balance of aesthetics and politics in art, and commentary on his own creative process. Accompanying these is a lecture by Siqueiros on the relationship of art to the people, and the artist to his country. A Rhode Island School of Design alumni bulletin containing an article written by Rogovin, in addition to a manuscript by José Renau, further underlines Siqueiros' belief on art as a transformative, democratic force.

Collections also includes administrative documents, event flyers and catalogs from The Peace Museum (Chicago), which Rogovin co-founded and directed for several years. Some material in the collection relate to the work and circle of friends of Rogovin's father, American documentary photographer, Milton Rogovin. This includes postcards of Milton Rogovin's photographs, photocopies of newspaper articles that focus on his role as a social documentarist, and photocopies of personal letters from members of Mexico's Taller Grafica Popular including Sarah Jimenez and Pablo O'Higgins.

This collection provides a sense of the dominant social conditions in these years as well as the impetus and motivations for the individual artists involved, and they help weave together a narrative in which not

only is Mark Rogovin's relationship to mural painting explored, but also the complex interplay between the power of public art, the community, and the social conscience.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Peace Museum. (Chicago, Ill.)
- Public Art Workshop. (Chicago, Ill.)

Personal Name(s)

- Anguiano, Raúl , b.1915
- Jimenez, Sarah, b. 1928
- O'Higgins, Pablo, 1904-1983
- Robeson, Paul, 1898-1976
- Rogovin, Mark
- Rogovin, Milton, 1909-2011
- Siqueiros, David Alfaro, 1896-1974

Subject(s)

- Art and society--Mexico--History--20th century
- Art movements--United States--History--20th century
- Artists and community--United States
- Chicano movement--Illinois--Chicago

- Hispanic American art--Illinois--Chicago--20th Century
- Mural painting and decoration, American--Illinois--Chicago--20th century
- Peace movements -- United States
- Public art--Illinois--Chicago
- Social movements--United States--20th century