Mary Ellen Croteau Papers

Creator: Mary Ellen Croteau
Extent: 1.25 linear ft.
Processor: J. Curtis Main, April, 2011

Administration Information
Access Restrictions: None.
Usage Restrictions: Mary Ellen Croteau retains all copyright for the works created by her.
Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Mary Ellen Croteau Collection. Box #, Folder #.
Provenance: The materials were donated to the Women and Leadership Archives on March 11, 2011 by Mary Ellen Croteau. WLA2011.25
Separations: Less than .25 linear feet of duplicate and extraneous material was removed and discarded.
See Also: Other artists related to Artemisia at the Women and Leadership Archives and the Artemisia Records at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Biographical History
Mary Ellen Croteau describes herself as “a radical feminist and artist” who “sees [her] work as social criticism—a visual challenge to all those racist, sexist, and arrogant cultural assumptions that are the bedrock of the American Way.” Through her various forms of artistic expression, which range from her early teens to the present, she exposes and critiques patriarchy and sexism.

Croteau is a Chicago-native born in 1950. She attended the Art Institute of Chicago from 1987 to 1988 and received her BFA in sculpture from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1990. She later went on to receive her MFA from Rutgers University/Mason Gross School of the Arts in 1998. Much of Croteau’s work is based in exposure of the taboo and reversal of social hierarchies. Croteau has also been a member, supporter, and leader of several women’s art collectives and activist groups that challenge injustice through artistic expression, including Artemisia.

Scope and Content
The Mary Ellen Croteau Papers consist of 3 boxes, spanning the years 1963-2011. This collection is divided into three series: professional, audio/visual, and oversized. The professional records include various catalogues and gallery programs, gallery announcements and publicity materials, and magazines and newspapers that Croteau work appeared. Also in the professional records are a portfolio of Croteau’s career made by herself, photocopies by Croteau of her work with the feminist art collective Sister Serpents, and various photocopies made by Croteau of her appearances in media. The audio/visual series includes a data CD of the exhibit “Are We There Yet? 40 Years of Feminism” and over 500 slides of her artwork from the 1970s through the 2000s. The oversized series includes a Chicago newspaper, “New City,” featuring Croteau’s work on the front cover in 2004, a Minnesota-based “Artpaper” magazine featuring Croteau’s work on the front cover in 1991, and a set of three “Slop super market” satirical clearinghouse magazines.

Series 1: Professional, 1989-2011, n.d., Box 1
Contains materials relating to Croteau’s professional art career such as exhibit materials, gallery publicity materials, and newspaper and magazine articles, and advertisements. Other materials include a portfolio of Croteau’s work she compiled for her “Man Made” exhibit, plus some gallery materials of other artists. Many photocopies of Croteau’s work with feminist art collective Sister Serpents are also in these records.

Contains a data CD of a digital presentation to coincide with the art exhibit: “Are We There Yet? 40 Years of Feminism.” Also contains over 500 slides of Croteau’s artwork spanning 4 decades, including detail photographs, collection images, and slides of her “books.” The provenance of the slide order has been maintained.

Series 3: Oversized, 1991-2004, Box 3
Contains five magazines that Croteau kept in which she was featured as cover artist or she collected.

Subjects:
Artemisia Gallery
Feminism and Art
Chicago Art Galleries
### Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Folder</th>
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<th>Dates</th>
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Bellies 1993-1995
Bat & Balls 2003
Collage/Xerox 1990
Artist Boxes 1992, n.d.
Jokes 1992
Men to Avoid 1992, n.d.
High/Low (Skin) 1992-1993, n.d.

2B
250 Words 1994, n.d.
Belly Book 1993
Same Story 1992-1993
Good Girls, Bad 1994
Anna Mendieta 1992, n.d.
Objects 1994, n.d.
War Memorial 1994-1995
Veils 1994
Panties 1994
Briefs 1994
Chador 1994
Bride Gown 1994-1995
Flag Art 1992-1994

2C
God #1 1996-1997
St. Lorena 1996, n.d.
Sisters 1997, n.d.
Medusa 2002

2D
Then/Now 1998
Mercy 1999
Doll- Pins 1997-1999
Mirror 1997, 2000, 2004
Blood on Cement  1998-2000
Apron  1999-2000
Girls Panties  1999-2000
The Club  1999-2000
Desk  1999-2000
De Soto, IL  1999-2001
Waste Management  2000
Beach State Park  2000-2001
Smiley  2000-2001
TV Nation  2000-2001
Tire- Detroit  2000-2001
Indiana  2000-2001
Suburb Utopia  2000-2001
Penis Hotel  2000-2001
Homo Erectus  1992
Clearcut  2001-2002
Here, There, Everywhere  2001
USMC Blanket  1998, 2002
Wargames  2005
Bombast  2004
Rifle Dick  2003

Grenade Dick  2003
Ball Grenade  2003-2004
Camoflag  2004
Toybox  2003-2005
Bucket O’ Brains  2003
G.I. Joe  2004
Which Toy  2004
Baby Bottle  2004-2005
Hats  2004-2005
Family Portraits  2004
Fallout Project  2004
SistersSerpents Posters  1989, 1990-1993,
1995, n.d.
School Paintings  1963-1964, 1973,

Series 3: Oversized, 1991-2004

Artpaper magazine September Issue  1991
Newcity newspaper, October 28 Issue  2004
slopart’s “Super Market Fine Art Products” circular (3 copies)  1997
Women and Leadership Archives  
Loyola University Chicago

Mary Ellen Croteau Papers  
Addendum I  

Creator: Mary Ellen Croteau  
Extent: .5 l. ft.  
Processor: Beth Loch, May 2012

Administration Information  
Access Restrictions: None  
Usage Restrictions: Mary Ellen Croteau retains copyright to her materials.  
Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Mary Ellen Croteau Papers Addendum I. Box #, Folder #.  
Separations: None  
See Also: The original Mary Ellen Croteau Papers at the Women and Leadership Archives. Other artists related to Artemisia at the Women and Leadership Archives and the Artemisia Records at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Biographical/Administrative History  
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Scope and Content
The Mary Ellen Croteau Papers, Addendum 1, consists of .5 linear feet of materials spanning the years 1997 to 2011, including undated materials. The collection includes three series; Professional Materials, Audiovisual Materials, and Digital Materials. The digital materials are available upon researcher request. These series contain correspondence, biographical information, audio and video cassettes, photographs, and digital media. The materials are organized alphabetically within each series.

Contains materials relating to Mary Ellen Croteau’s professional career as an artist. It includes correspondence, her artist statements, biographical information, curriculum vitae, exhibit postcards, and an unttitled newspaper article featuring Croteau.

This series includes an audio cassette of a radio interview with Croteau, transparencies of her artwork, and two video cassettes of programs mentioning her artistic work.

Consists of fifteen digital files of Croteau’s artistic works. Thirteen of the files feature photographs of her artwork and exhibits. Another file has a PowerPoint for a presentation Croteau made for an environmental art lecture. The final file contains materials related to art fairs she contributed to, which includes photographs, price lists, receipts, show cards, and correspondence. The digital files are available to researchers at the Women and Leadership Archives.

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**Series 3: Digital Materials, 2007-2011**

- Art Fair Materials: 2007-2011
- Photographs: “Bag World” Exhibit: 2008-2010
- Photographs: “Clearcut” Exhibit: 2008-2010
- Photographs: “Icons, Idols, & Blasphemies” Exhibit: 2011
- Photographs: Landscapes: 2008-2009
- Photographs: “Man Made” Exhibit: 2008-2010
- Photographs: “Mercy” Exhibit: 2008-2011
- Photographs: Monoprint Series: 2009
- Photographs: “Musee de Nouvelle Renaissance” Exhibit: 2007-2010
- Photographs: School and Early Art: 2011
- Photographs: Sisterserpent and Other Art: 2007-2009
- Photographs: Landscapes “Textures Edited”: 2010
- Photographs: “War Games” Exhibit: 2011
- PowerPoint: Environmental Art Lecture: 2011