

The Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding International Council of Museums, 1951-1965

Finding aid prepared by Celia Hartmann

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The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives
1000 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY, 10028-0198
212-570-3937
archives@metmuseum.org

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Summary Information

Repository	The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives
Title	The Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding International Council of Museums, 1951-1965
Dates	1951-1965 (bulk 1953-1954, 1964-1965)
Extent	6.34 Linear feet (10 full-size document cases, 1 half-size document case, 1 card box)
Language	Primarily in English; some material in French.
Abstract	Founded in 1946, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) is an international nongovernmental organization of museums and museum professionals committed to the conservation, continuation, and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage. The collection provides documentation, from the files of Museum staff involved in their organization, of two meetings of ICOM held at The Metropolitan Museum of Art: the International Congress in Art History and Museology in 1954; and the organization's 7th Annual Conference in 1965. It includes correspondence, schedules, registration information and forms, reports and presentations, brochures, clippings, and other promotional materials.

Preferred Citation note

[Title of item], [date], Box [number], Folder [number], The Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding International Council of Museums, The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives.

Historical note

Founded in 1946, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) is an international nongovernmental organization of museums and museum professionals committed to the conservation, continuation and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage.

In 1954 the Metropolitan Museum hosted an ICOM-sponsored International Congress on Art History and Museology, at which invited guests from museums and cultural institutions worldwide presented papers. The event was held in conjunction with the opening of new galleries at the Museum and the celebration of Columbia University's bicentennial.

The Metropolitan Museum hosted the first ICOM annual meeting to be held outside of Europe in September and October 1965, chaired by Director James J. Rorimer. Before the conference in New York, delegates also participated in site visits at museums in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia. At the Metropolitan, the space at that time occupied by the Junior Museum served as ICOM 65 headquarters, and all general sessions were held in the Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium. In addition to participating in conference sessions at the Museum, the international delegates were hosted at events at local museums, private collections, and galleries and undertook sightseeing outings. A Ladies Committee organized visits for delegates' spouses (almost exclusively wives) to local cultural venues including Old Westbury Gardens and the New York World's Fair, as well as luncheons in private homes.

Scope and Contents note

The Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding The International Council of Museums document, from the files of Museum staff involved in their organization, two meetings of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) held at the Metropolitan Museum: the International Congress in Art History and Museology in 1954, and the organization's 7th Annual Conference in 1965 (sometimes referred to as ICOM 65). The records include correspondence, schedules, registration information and forms, reports and presentations, brochures, clippings, and other promotional materials. They document the Museum's involvement in the international community of cultural heritage professionals in the 1950s and 1960s, a period of intense interest and change in member institutions' research, educational, and cultural roles. Presentations from each meeting provide examples of research interest, administrative focus, and general professional practice in museums at these times. These include two folders of papers and presentations

in Series I. International Congress in Art History and Museology (1954), and various folders within Series II. B. Conference Presentations and Reports.

Materials pertaining to the 1954 event originated from the files of Metropolitan Museum Director Francis Henry Taylor, Secretary Dudley T. Easby, Jr., and Dean of Education Sterling A. Callisen. Those pertaining to the 1965 event originated from the records of Director James J. Rorimer, as chairman of the New York Organizing Committee for ICOM '65, and Harry S. Parker, III, executive assistant to the director.

English and French were the official languages of ICOM; the records contain many documents in both languages.

Files that originated from the office of Metropolitan Museum Curator of Paintings Theodore Rousseau relating to his professional involvement in ICOM are included in the Theodore Rousseau records, which are currently unprocessed in the Archives.

Arrangement note

The Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding International Council of Museums are arranged into two series: I. International Congress in Art History and Museology, New York City (1954), and II. 7th Annual Conference, New York City (1965).

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access note

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use note

Consult Archives staff regarding permission to quote or reproduce.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

International Council on Museum (ICOM) files, Office of the Secretary Records, The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives.

Indexing Terms

Subjects - Corporate Bodies

- General Conference of ICOM (7th : 1965 : New York, N.Y.). -- Archives
- ICOM America.
- International Congress in Art History and Museology (1954: Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.)). -- Archives
- International Council of Museums. -- Archives
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.). -- History

Genres and Forms of Materials

- Administrative records
- Clippings (Books, newspapers etc.)
- Correspondence

Subjects - People

- Callisen, Sterling A., (Sterling Adolph), 1899-1988 -- Correspondence
- Easby, Dudley T., (Dudley Tate), 1905-1973 -- Correspondence
- Parker, Harry S. -- Correspondence
- Rorimer, James J. (James Joseph), 1905-1966 -- Correspondence
- Taylor, Francis Henry, 1903-1957 -- Correspondence

Series I. International Congress in Art History and Museology, New York Ci...

Collection Inventory

Series I. International Congress in Art History and Museology, New York City (1954) 1951-1955

Arrangement note

The series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Delegate correspondence and information. deAndrade, Ashton, Bazin, de la Borbolla, Brandi, Buschbeck, Buschiazzi, de Campos, Caturla. 1953
1	2	Delegate correspondence and information. Cuervo Borda, Benoist d'Azy, Ainaud de Lasarte, Fahkry, Fierans, Gysin, Hendry, Hu Shih, Khaliq, Malraux, McGreevy. 1953
1	3	Delegate correspondence and information. Nordenfalk, Papadimitriu, Plenderleith, Pereira Sales, Riviere, Roell, Rossi, Rubow, Salles, Sanchez Canton. 1953
1	4	Delegate correspondence and information. Schmidt, Sundaram, Thordeman, Trendall, Valcarcel, Vandier, van Schendel, Wittgens, Wolters, Hekimgill, Harada, de Monra. 1953
1	5	Delegate lists. October 1953
1	6	Delegate visits and hotel arrangements. August-December 1953
1	7	Dinner (January 7, 1954). Guest lists and responses. December 1953.
1	8	Insurance, tax, visas. May 1953-January 1954
1	9	Meeting planning. March-July 1953
1	10	Papers and presentations (1 of 2). 1954, 1955
10	1	Papers and presentations (2 of 2). 1954, 1955
2	1	Payments and travel grants. September-December 1953
2	2	Programs and publicity. 1954
2	3	Proposals for international visiting scholars. 1951, 1953
2	4	Responses from Association of American Museum Directors members. October-December 1953
2	5	Responses from embassies. July 1953
2	6	Responses from learned societies. July-October 1953
2	7	Schedules and programs. September 1953

Series II. 7th Annual Conference, New York City (1965) 1960-1966

Arrangement note

Subseries II.A. Planning and Administration

The series is arranged in three subseries: II.A. Planning and Administration, II.B. Conference Presentations and Reports, II.C. Social Program.

Subseries II.A. Planning and Administration 1960-1965**Arrangement note**

The subseries is arranged alphabetically by subject, preceded by a folder listing the original order and titles of the files.

Box	Folder	
2	8	ICOM 1965 file index. 1965-1966
2	9	Announcements. Circular I sent to prospective attendees. June 1964-September 1965
2	10	Announcements. Circular II provisional program. February-March 1965
2	11	Announcements. Invitation and welcoming letter. July 1964, September 1965
2	12	Announcements. Unnumbered circular (June 1965). May-June 1965
2	13	Attendees. Accompanying persons attending conference. June-August 1965
10	2	Attendees. Biographical information, for public relations. 1965
2	14	Attendees. Correspondence. April-October 1965
2	15	Attendees. Lists of attendees. [September 1965]
2	16	Attendees. Registered attendees, by country. 1965
2	17	Attendees. Registration fees paid. Correspondence. June-September 1965
2	18	Bills. September-October 1965
2	19	Delegate visits. Philadelphia. Arrangements. July 1964-September 1965
2	20	Delegate visits. Washington, D.C. National Gallery of Art. March 1962-October 1965
3	1	Delegate visits. Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Institution. March 1962-September 1965
3	2	Delegate visits. Washington, D.C. U.S. State Department. January 1962-September 1965
3	3	Delegate visits. Washington, D.C. UNESCO. June-July 1965
3	4	Delegates' kits. July-August 1965
3	5	Director's Files. Delegate thank you letters. August-December 1965
3	6	Director's Files. General correspondence. September 1960-March 1966
3	7	Director's Files. ICOM US. July 1964-January 1966
10	3	Director's Files. Parker, Harry S. III. Files. 1966
3	8	Director's Files. Unger, Ann. Files. September -November 1965
3	9	Display materials. March-September 1965
3	10	Document handling and printing. Summer 1965
3	11	Final report. Text. November, 1, 1965
3	12	Final report. Appendices 1-21. Form letters, handouts, sample documents. November, 1, 1965
3	13	Final report. Appendix 22. Sample delegate kit. November, 1, 1965
4	1	Fund raising. Donations received. February 1964-October 1965

Subseries II.A. Planning and Administration

4	2	Fund raising. Informational booklets from foundations. 1958-1964
4	3	Fund raising. Outreach to museums and institutions. Contact information on file cards. October 1965
4	4	Fund raising. Outreach to museums and institutions. Draft and final correspondence. 1964-1965
4	5	Guest speaker invitations. April-October 1964
4	6	ICOM Correspondence. General. Advisory Board. May 14, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Includes French translation.
4	7	ICOM Correspondence. General. Advisory Board election. 1965 <i>Note:</i> Some materials in French.
4	8	ICOM Correspondence. General. Background information. 1964
4	9	ICOM Correspondence. General. Brochure and application forms. 1964-1965 <i>Note:</i> Some materials in French.
4	10	ICOM Correspondence. General. Membership lists by country. [1965]
4	11	ICOM Correspondence. General. Membership appeal. 1964-1965
4	12	ICOM Correspondence. Paris. Charter flight. July 1965, undated
4	13	ICOM Correspondence. Paris. Parker, Harry S. III. Visit. June 1965
5	1	ICOM Correspondence. Paris. Secretariat. June 1963-September 1965
5	2	ICOM Correspondence. Paris. Varine-Bohann, Hugues de. Visit. June 1963-October 1964
10	4	Income and expenses. 1964-1966 <i>Access note:</i> Redacted copies of documents with salary information replace originals in this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after July 9, 2150, at the discretion of Archives staff.
5	3	Invitation lists. November 1964-August 1965
5	4	Meeting room assignments. September 1965
5	5	Metropolitan Museum. Planning, staffing. 1960, 1964-1965
5	6	Metropolitan Museum. Planning. 1960-1964
5	7	Metropolitan Museum staff. Assignments and correspondence. June 1962-October 1965
5	8	Program. Correspondence, drafts June 1963-September 1965
5	9	Public relations and publications. <i>Apollo</i> . May-November 1964
5	10	Public relations and publications. <i>Metropolitan Museum Summer Bulletin</i> . April-September 1964
5	11	Public relations and publications. <i>Museum</i> . August 1962
5	12	Public relations and publications. <i>Museum News</i> . June 1964-September 1965
5	13	Public relations and publications. Museums Council leaflet. July 1964-September 1965
10	5	Public relations and publications. Publicity. April-September 1965
5	14	Registration. Procedures, personnel, correspondence. August-October, 1965
11	-	Registration. Registration cards. September 1965

Subseries II.B. Conference Presentations and Reports

5	15	Registration. Registrants' forms. Abdul-Fryer. September 1965
6	1	Registration. Registrants' forms. Fulep-Mathey. September 1965
6	2	Registration, Registrants' forms. Maxon-Singh. September 1965
6	3	Registration, Registrants' forms. Sivaramamurti-Zamoshkin. September 1965
6	4	Stationery, ICOM US. 1963-1964
6	5	Translation services. April 1963-October 1965
6	6	Travel and tourist information. 1961-1965
6	7	Travel arrangements. American Express. May 1963-September 1965
6	8	Travel arrangements. Hotel correspondence. March 1964-May 1965
6	9	Travel arrangements. Hotel registrations and information. December 1964-September 1965
6	10	Travel grants. Correspondence between Metropolitan Museum and ICOM Paris. 1962, 1964-1965 <i>Note: Some materials in French.</i>
7	1	Travel grants. Grantees. Suggested candidates and final recipients. August 1964-March 1965
7	2	Travel grants. Grants accepted, A-L. 1965 <i>Note: Some materials in French.</i>
7	3	Travel grants. Grants accepted, M-Z. 1965 <i>Note: Some material in Spanish, and French.</i>
7	4	Travel grants. Grants not given. 1964-1965
7	5	Travel grants. Grants offered. Cancelled or no reply. 1965 <i>Note: Some materials in French.</i>
7	6	Travel grants. Museum of Modern Art grants. Correspondence. September 1965

Subseries II.B. Conference Presentations and Reports 1965

Scope and Contents note

English and French were the official languages of the conference. The subseries includes materials in both languages.

Arrangement note

The subseries is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box	Folder	
7	7	Advisory Board agendas (September 26, 29, 1965). September 1965
7	8	Agenda, rules of procedure. September 1965
7	9	Director's report, 1963-1965. September 1965
7	10	Draft program and budgets, 1966-1968. September 1965
7	11	8th General Assembly. Resolution. October 2, 1965
7	12	8th General Assembly. Agendas, program, budget. September 1965

Subseries II.C. Social Program

7	13	Executive Committee agendas. September 1965
7	14	ICOM Foundation. Statutes. September 1965
7	15	International Committee report. September 1965
7	16	International committee meetings. General correspondence. November 1963-September 1965
8	1	International committee meetings. Applied Art. February-September 1965
8	2	International committee meetings. Archaeology and History. April-September 1965
8	3	International committee meetings. Architecture. January-September 1965
8	4	International committee meetings. Care of Paintings, and Laboratories. March 1964-September 1965
8	5	International committee meetings. Costume. March-September 1965
8	6	International committee meetings. Documentation. April-September 1965
8	7	International committee meetings. Education. January-September 1965
8	8	International committee meetings. Ethnography. September 1964-September 1965
8	9	International committee meetings. Film and Television. August 1964-October 1965
8	10	International committee meetings. Glass. August 1961-October 1965
8	11	International committee meetings. Museums of Modern Art February-September 1965
8	12	International committee meetings. Musical Instruments. April 1964-September 1965
8	13	International committee meetings. Natural History. February, March, September 1965
8	14	International committee meetings. Regional Museums. August 1964-September 1965
8	15	International committee meetings. Science and Technology. February 1964-September 1965
8	16	International committee meetings. Security. January-September 1965
8	17	International committee meetings. Transport Museums. April 1964-September 1965
8	18	International committee meetings. Committees without meetings. Arms and Military History, Art Museums, Cinema, Performing Arts. September 1964-September 1965
8	19	List of conference participants. September 1965
8	20	List of ICOM publications. September 1965
8	21	National Committee reports. September 1965
8	22	Presentation "Teaching of Museology." September 1965
8	23	Presentation of film <i>Le Musée Vivant [The Living Museum]</i> . September 1965
8	24	Presentations by Antonova, Bonfil, Chatelain, Coremans, Cunningham, Gnudi, Iwasaki. September 1965 <i>Note:</i> Presentation by Antonova includes a version in Russian.
8	25	Presentations by Kuba, Masmoudi, Michalowski, Nunoo, Pope-Hennessy, Ripley, Schafer, Vasquez September 1965
8	26	Sous comité de l'ICOM pour les expositions internationales artistiques [ICOM subcommittee for international art expositions] report. September 1965
8	27	Treasurer's report. September 1965

Subseries II.C. Social Program 1964-1965

Subseries II.C. Social Program

Arrangement note

The records pertaining to delegates' activities are arranged alphabetically by subject; those from the Ladies Committee are arranged chronologically by date of the events, preceded by a folder of general materials.

Box	Folder	
8	28	Delegates. Planning. April 1964-September 1965
8	29	Delegates. American Museum of Natural History. April 1964-October 1965
9	1	Delegates. Asia House gallery. March-October 1965
9	2	Delegates. Brooklyn Museum. February-September 1965
9	3	Delegates. Circle Line cruise. May-September 1965
9	4	Delegates. The Cloisters. July-September 1965
9	5	Delegates. Consulates. 1965
9	6	Delegates. Frick Collection. July 1964-September 1965
9	7	Delegates. Guggenheim Museum. January-September 1965
9	8	Delegates. Jewish Museum. Jun-Spetember 1965
9	9	Delegates. Robert Lehman Collection. May-October 1965
9	10	Delegates. Metropolitan Museum open house. November 1964-September 1965
9	11	Delegates. Morgan Library. January-September 1965
9	12	Delegates. Museum of the City of New York. January-September 1965
9	13	Delegates. Museum of Contemporary Crafts. January-September 1965
9	14	Delegates. Museum of Modern Art. February-September 1965
9	15	Delegates. Museum of Primitive Art. March, May 1965
9	16	Delegates. New York Botanical Gardens and Zoo. April 1964-September 1965
9	17	Delegates. Private entertaining. February -September 1965
9	18	Delegates. Whitney Museum. June 1964-May 1965
9	19	Delegates. Yale University. November 1964-September 1965, undated
9	20	Ladies Committee. Planning. April-June 1965
9	21	Ladies Committee. Luncheons (September 22, 1965). July-September 1965
9	22	Ladies Committee. Westbury Gardens (September 23, 1965). August-September 1965
9	23	Ladies Committee. Lincoln Center (September 24, 1965). May-September 1965
9	24	Ladies Committee. Cosmopolitan Club (September 28, 1965). July-September 1965
9	25	Ladies Committee. New York World's Fair (September 30, 1965). December 1964-October 1965