Bill Howell collection, circa 1945-1975

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Bill Howell collection, circa 1945-1975
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1213
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box) and 1 oversized paper (OP)
Abstract: Photographs and printed material relating to African American artist Bill Howell.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source
Purchase, 2012.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Bill Howell collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Susan Potts McDonald, February 2012.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
William Lowell Howell (1942-1975), African American painter and photographer was born in Jefferson City, Tennessee. During high school he moved to Wilmington, Delaware, and then

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went on to attend the Philadelphia College of Art. He was a successful commercial artist working as art director for J.M. Fields department stores, *Black Theatre Magazine*, and the New Lafayette Theatre in Harlem. He was also the co-owner of the Pamoja Studio Gallery, along with Bob Davis and Ollie Johnson. He was a founding member of the Weusi art collective, also based in Harlem, and took part in a number of black art exhibitions in the 1960s and 1970s.

**Scope and Content Note**
The collection consists primarily of photographs and printed material relating to Bill Howell. The photographs include images of Howell from childhood to adulthood and images of his family including his wife Bonnie, and son, David. The printed material includes a business card for Pamoja Studio Gallery, clippings about Howell, and several exhibit catalogs which include his work.

The collection also contains two items relating to Elizabeth Howell including her diploma from Beaumont School of Practical Nursing (Philadelphia), as well as a class picture (1957).

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged by record type.
## Container List

### Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bill Howell and Bill Howell with others, circa 1943-1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OP1</td>
<td>Elizabeth Howell, Class picture, Beaumont School of Practical Nursing, 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Family [Bill Howell, wife Bonnie, and son David], circa 1960-1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Unidentified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Printed material

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Art print [inscribed &quot;To Yvonne with Love Howell, '74&quot;], 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Card, Pamoja Studio Gallery, New York, no date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Clippings,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Diploma, Elizabeth Howell, Beaumont School of Practical Nursing, 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Exhibit catalogs/cards, circa 1970s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Program, Memorial Service, 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Program, New Lafayette Theatre, &quot;Sometimes a Hard Head Makes a Soft Behind,&quot; by Sonny Gaines, no date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>