

# RG-24.023

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
Finding Aid  
RG-24  
Holocaust in the Arts

**RG-24.023**  
**2005.548**

**Title:** Mary Costanza Collection, 1946-2000.

**Extent:** 15 boxes, 5 oversize boxes

**Provenance:** The collection was purchased from Mr. John Costanza, widower of Mary Costanza, in November 2004.

**Restrictions on access:** No restrictions on access.

**Restrictions on use:** Copyright may apply to individual documents.

**Organization and arrangement:** Arrangement is thematic.

**Language:** In English.

**Preferred citation:** Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch.

**Scope and Content:** The collection contains a variety of materials related to the representation of the Holocaust in the arts, both by Holocaust survivors and post-Holocaust artists. Much of the material was generated during research for Mary Costanza's seminal monograph on the topic titled "The Living Witness."

**Biographical note:** Mary Costanza's compassionate interest in the suffering and welfare of humankind often determined the subjects of her paintings. Social commentary became the thrust of her life and art. Early in her artistic career, Costanza's work was dominated by images of mothers and children. She continued to explore this theme for decades, often in the harrowing images of mothers and children in World War II concentration camps. Mary Costanza made her first paintings of the Holocaust while she was a college student at Temple University and met some survivors of concentration camps. She grew increasingly preoccupied with events of WWII during the 1970s and the atrocities began appearing more frequently in her work. She continued to paint these images well into the 1980s. During this period, she was also teaching a course on the art of the Holocaust and working on a book Living Witness: The Art of the Concentrations Camps. She and husband John traveled to Eastern Europe, Israel and across the U.S. to seek information about artists who had lived and created works of art while prisoners of war. The publishing of her book led to several nationally televised interviews. She

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continued to write, speak and paint through the 1990s. Toward the end of her life, she returned to the theme of mother and child, representing her hope for the future. Her last painting, created just six months before her death in 2000, returns to a tender image of love and compassion.

## **Series 1: RG-24.023\*01, Subject files.**

### **Box 1:**

RG-24.023\*01\*01: Holocaust education related materials for children. Contains a large variety of materials collected by Mary Costanza for the purpose of educating children on the Holocaust including, but not limited to: thank you notes from children who heard Costanza speak, outlines for presentations, news articles, brochures from educational initiatives, scholarly articles, programs for Holocaust commemorations, and teachers guides, 1965-1999.

RG-24.023\*01\*02: Holocaust education related materials for children. Contains a large variety of materials collected by Mary Costanza for the purpose of educating children on the Holocaust including, but not limited to: thank you notes from children who heard Costanza speak, outlines for presentations, news articles, brochures from educational initiatives, scholarly articles, programs for Holocaust commemorations, and teachers guides, 1965-1999. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*03: Holocaust education related materials for children. Contains a large variety of materials collected by Mary Costanza for the purpose of educating children on the Holocaust including, but not limited to: thank you notes from children who heard Costanza speak, outlines for presentations, news articles, brochures from educational initiatives, scholarly articles, programs for Holocaust commemorations, and teachers guides, 1965-1999. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*04: Holocaust education related materials for children. Contains a large variety of materials collected by Mary Costanza for the purpose of educating children on the Holocaust including, but not limited to: thank you notes from children who heard Costanza speak, outlines for presentations, news articles, brochures from educational initiatives, scholarly articles, programs for Holocaust commemorations, and teachers guides, 1965-1999. (Continued.)

### **Box 2:**

RG-24.023\*01\*05: Four hand assembled placards illustrating prisoner classification in the camps as well as camp life and activities. These placards were assembled and used by Costanza in her presentations on the Holocaust, undated.

### **Box 3:**

RG-24.023\*01\*06: Correspondence related to the publication of Mary Costanza's *Children's Roll Call*, 1984-1986.

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RG-24.023\*01\*07: Correspondence and notes related to the Risiera monument and museum in Trieste. Costanza was collecting the material in anticipation of publishing on Risiera, 1980-1988.

RG-24.023\*01\*08: *Brotherhood*, March-April, 1980 with an article by Mary Costanza concerning art in the Holocaust. *The Living Witness* publisher's advertising brochure, 1982.

RG-24.023\*01\*09: Book reviews on Holocaust related publications written by Mary Costanza, 1975-1988.

RG-24.023\*01\*10: Selected bibliography of materials related to the Holocaust, published by Wright-State University library, 1994.

RG-24.023\*01\*11: *Philadelphia*, April 1982 with an article concerning Mary Costanza and her art.

RG-24.023\*01\*12: Correspondence with Yad Vashem concerning the exhibiting of Costanza's work, 1974-1997.

RG-24.023\*01\*13: *Martyrdom and Resistance*, published by the International Society for Yad Vashem, Inc., March-April 1992 and May-June 1992. *Yad Vashem News*, February 1987.

RG-24.023\*01\*14: Letter from Beit Lohamei Haghetat in Tel Aviv, thanking Costanza for the donation of her art work, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*15: Correspondence with Israeli institutions and citizens concerning Costanza's work, 1977-1984.

RG-24.023\*01\*16: Material related to Costanza's participation in Italian American Woman Artists of Philadelphia, 1994-1999.

### **Box 4:**

RG-24.023\*01\*17: Material related to Costanza's college course "Children of the Holocaust" at Gratz College, 1991.

RG-24.023\*01\*18: Material related to Costanza's college course "Children of the Holocaust" at Gratz College, 1991. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*19: Teacher's resources collected for the teaching of Holocaust related subjects, 1985-1992.

RG-24.023\*01\*20: Guidelines and instructions for interviewers in the Gratz College Holocaust oral history project, 1990.

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RG-24.023\*01\*21: Germantown Jewish Center adult education classes on Holocaust related subjects with student grades, 1989-1992.

RG-24.023\*01\*22: Materials related to “Teaching the Lessons of the Holocaust”, a seminar held at Shippensburg University, 1998.

RG-24.023\*01\*23: Material related to Holocaust monuments and memorialization, assembled in preparation for organizing a college class on same, 1959-1993.

RG-24.023\*01\*24: Material related to Holocaust monuments and memorialization, assembled in preparation for organizing a college class on same, 1959-1993. (Continued.)

### **Box 5:**

RG-24.023\*01\*25: News clippings and articles concerning Italian Jews, 1983-1994.

RG-24.023\*01\*26: Material related to, and collected at, the James A. Michener Art Museum symposium on rescuers of the Holocaust, 6 June-26 July 1992.

RG-24.023\*01\*27: Material written by, or pertaining to Elena Makarova, a Russian scholar specializing in Holocaust related art, 1988.

RG-24.023\*01\*28: English-language translation of the Italian publication *Music* by Giuseppe Mazarriol, concerning Zoran music, 1980.

RG-24.023\*01\*29: Two undated news clippings from the 1980’s written by Elie Wiesel concerning art and the Holocaust.

RG-24.023\*01\*30: Articles, obituaries, news clippings and other material related to or written by Nora Levin, a Holocaust scholar, 1989.

RG-24.023\*01\*31: Two articles written by Nina Kaleska, a concentration camp survivor, concerning her experiences, 1973-1988.

RG-24.023\*01\*32: Various brochures, guide books, handouts, and educational materials obtained at Holocaust education conferences in and around the Philadelphia area, 1990-1995.

### **Box 6:**

RG-24.023\*01\*33: News clippings, scholarly articles, and essays concerning music, film, and poetry of the Holocaust, 1975-1995.

RG-24.023\*01\*34: Collection of undated post cards with Holocaust art.

RG-24.023\*01\*35: Large collection of news clippings concerning the art and artists of the Holocaust, 1978-1995.

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RG-24.023\*01\*36: Script for the television production *Of Race and Blood*, a film by Jim Connolly for KRMA television, Denver, 1977.

RG-24.023\*01\*37: News clippings about Holocaust artists with some correspondence with those artists interspersed, 1978-1987.

RG-24.023\*01\*38: Essays, articles, and news clippings of Holocaust survivor accounts of their experiences, 1980-1995.

RG-24.023\*01\*39: Series of electrostatic copies of the interior of the *La Riseria* internment camp in Italy, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*40: Series of articles concerning the Holocaust in Italy with some correspondence with the authors of same, 1979-1997.

### **Box 7:**

RG-24.023\*01\*41: Miscellaneous Holocaust related articles and news clippings, 1974-1996.

RG-24.023\*01\*42: Miscellaneous Holocaust related articles and news clippings, 1974-1996. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*43: Articles related to anti-Semitism, 1978.

RG-24.023\*01\*44: Brochures for Holocaust related commemorations or programs, 1979-2000.

RG-24.023\*01\*45: News clippings and articles concerning concentration camps, 1975-1997.

RG-24.023\*01\*46: Articles concerning the scholarly representation of the Holocaust throughout history, 1974-1993.

RG-24.023\*01\*47: Clippings and articles concerning resistance, 1977-1990.

RG-24.023\*01\*48: Detailed report of a research trip to the USSR made by Mary Costanza from 19 May-2 June 1988.

RG-24.023\*01\*49: Undated news articles concerning American internment camps for Japanese-American citizens.

RG-24.023\*01\*50: Book review for *Hitler and the Armenian Genocide*, by Kevork Bardakjian, from the *Journal of the Armenian Assembly of America*, Vol. 13, No.1, Spring 1986.

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RG-24.023\*01\*51: Articles, clippings, correspondence, and essays concerning “Gypsies” or Roma-Sinti, 1986-1987.

RG-24.023\*01\*52: Undated scholarly notes concerning Native Americans.

RG-24.023\*01\*53: Notes, articles, and clippings concerning Czechoslovakian Jews, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*54: Correspondence with the James A. Michener Museum concerning the exhibit *Rescuers of the Holocaust: Portraits by Gary Block*, 1992.

RG-24.023\*01\*55: Articles, clippings, notes, brief biographies, correspondence, and notes concerning Holocaust artists, 1977-1999.

### **Box 8:**

RG-24.023\*01\*56: Personal correspondence, 1987-1997.

RG-24.023\*01\*57: Folder labeled “Special correspondence” by Mary Costanza, 1974-1998.

RG-24.023\*01\*58: Folder labeled “Important correspondence” by Mary Costanza, 1981-1999.

RG-24.023\*01\*59: Personal business correspondence, 1987-2000.

RG-24.023\*01\*60: Correspondence with politicians, 1978-1998.

RG-24.023\*01\*61: Foreign correspondence related to *Living Witness*, 1978-1984.

RG-24.023\*01\*62: Notes, news clippings, and articles related to Nazism, 1978-1990.

RG-24.023\*01\*63: News article concerning art as propaganda and the Holocaust, 1978-1985.

### **Box 9:**

RG-24.023\*01\*64: Correspondence related to the publication of *Living Witness*, 1978-1987.

RG-24.023\*01\*65: *Living Witness* press reviews, articles, and publicity, 1982-1985.

RG-24.023\*01\*66: Press clippings, articles, and brochures related to Mary Costanza’s art work and exhibitions, 1975-1995.

**Box 10:**

RG-24.023\*01\*67: *Living Witness* artist's contributions, related research notes, and artist correspondence, 1969-1996.

RG-24.023\*01\*68: Notes and survivor correspondence related to *Children's Roll Call*, 1980-1985.

RG-24.023\*01\*69: Academic notes related to *Children's Roll Call*, 1980-1985.

**Box 11:**

RG-24.023\*01\*70: Costanza lectures and lecture notes, 1976-1989.

RG-24.023\*01\*71: Costanza lectures and lecture notes, 1976-1989. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*72: Correspondence regarding lectures, 1985-1996.

**Box 12:**

RG-24.023\*01\*73: Mary Costanza biographies, resumes, awards, and distinctions, 1981-2000.

RG-24.023\*01\*74: Invitations to art exhibitions, 1975-1993.

RG-24.023\*01\*75: Press reviews of various Holocaust related exhibits, 1975-1996.

RG-24.023\*01\*76: Correspondence related to Holocaust conferences, events, and art work, 1975-1997.

RG-24.023\*01\*77: Press releases and news stories concerning Mary Costanza or the Holocaust, 1974-1996.

RG-24.023\*01\*78: Detailed proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Philadelphia Conference on the Holocaust, 16-18 February 1977.

RG-24.023\*01\*79: Correspondence related to the International Conference on the Holocaust, 1977-1978.

**Box 13:**

RG-24.023\*01\*80: Freddy Cantor artist's file, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*81: Yehuda Bacon artist's file, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*82: Esther Lurie artist's file, undated.

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RG-24.023\*01\*83: Esther Lurie artist's file, undated. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*84: Esther Lurie artist's file, 1958. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*01\*85: Luba Krugman-Gurdus artist's file, 1991.

RG-24.023\*01\*86: Fr. Reichental artist's file, 1946.

RG-24.023\*01\*87: Miscellaneous pamphlets and brochures concerning Holocaust and Holocaust-era art.

RG-24.023\*01\*88: Miscellaneous, unlabeled art work, post cards, and notes, undated.

RG-24.023\*01\*89: Halina Olomuki artist's file, 1991.

**Series 2: RG-24.023\*02, *Living Witness* photo page proofs & author's corrections of galley proofs.**

**Box 14:**

RG-24.023\*02\*01: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982.

RG-24.023\*02\*02: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*02\*03: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*02\*04: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*02\*05: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*02\*06: *Living Witness* photo page proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*02\*07: *Living Witness* galley proof with author's corrections, 1982.

**Series 3: RG-24.023\*03, *Living Witness* photo negatives & photo proofs.**

**Box 15:**

RG-24.023\*03\*01: *Living Witness* photo negatives, 1982.

RG-24.023\*03\*02: *Living Witness* photo negatives, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*03\*03: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982.

RG-24.023\*03\*04: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*03\*05: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)



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RG-24.023\*03\*06: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*03\*07: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*03\*08: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

RG-24.023\*03\*09: *Living Witness* photo proofs, 1982. (Continued.)

**Series 4: RG-24.023\*04, *Living Witness* color slides.**

**Photographic negative carton 19-23 (formerly boxes 16-18)**

RG-24.023\*04\*01: *Living Witness* color slides of art work, 1982.

RG-24.023\*04\*02: Color slides of Mary Costanza with Hoffsteter and Leo Haas.

RG-24.023\*04\*03: Color slides of Holocaust survivor artists.

RG-24.023\*04\*04: Color slides of the Philadelphia Jewish Museum Holocaust Art Show and International Conference, 1978.

RG-24.023\*04\*05: Color slides of the Jewish ghetto in Rome.

RG-24.023\*04\*06: Color slides of the Gurs, France and Terezin camps.

RG-24.023\*04\*07: Miscellaneous color slides.

RG-24.023\*04\*08: Color slides of an assigned art lecture: Philip Lowenstein and Terezin.

RG-24.023\*04\*09: Color slides of ghetto art.

RG-24.023\*04\*10: Color slides of post war art.

RG-24.023\*04\*11: Color slides of plaques at the Rome conference.

RG-24.023\*04\*12: Slides for Lecture V: Stars, I.D. cards, passes, etc.

RG-24.023\*04\*13: Slides of memorials at camps, museums, and towns.

RG-24.023\*04\*14: Slides of memorial walls.

RG-24.023\*04\*15: Slides of Fritta, B. (Tommy's book.)

RG-24.023\*04\*16: Slides; Faitlovitz, Sara.

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RG-24.023\*04\*17: Slides; Felsenthal, F.

RG-24.023\*04\*18: Slides; Feder, Aizik.

RG-24.023\*04\*19: Slides; Carpe, Aldo.

RG-24.023\*04\*20: Slides; Bogen, Alexander.

RG-24.023\*04\*21: Slides; Fabiano, Fritz.

RG-24.023\*04\*22: Slides; Buresova, Charlotte.

RG-24.023\*04\*23: Slides; Bert, Lohame; the Hagetrod Collection.

RG-24.023\*04\*24: Slides; Gottleborn Gypsy portraits.

RG-24.023\*04\*25: Slides; Block, Felix.

RG-24.023\*04\*26: Slides; Wiesenthal, Simon.

RG-24.023\*04\*27: Slides; Wolfhorn, Julia.

RG-24.023\*04\*28: Slides; Polish book, the Ravensbruck camp, etc.

RG-24.023\*04\*29: Slides; Vatican collection.

RG-24.023\*04\*30: Slides; Ungar, Otto.

RG-24.023\*04\*31: Slides; Schwesig, Karl.

RG-24.023\*04\*32: Slides; Fleischmann, Karel.

RG-24.023\*04\*33: Slides; Yad Vashem collections: Nagel, Brewer; Zadikow, H; Stassfort; Mussil; Levy; Kien; Grunes.

RG-24.023\*04\*34: Slides; Child victim photos.

RG-24.023\*04\*35: Slides; sculpture.

RG-24.023\*04\*36: Slides; Z. & music.

RG-24.023\*04\*37: Slides; H. Kolb.

RG-24.023\*04\*38: Slides; Aufruf publication in Germany, 1930's.

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RG-24.023\*04\*39: Slides; Aussenberg, Adolf.

RG-24.023\*04\*40: Slides; Ella Liebermann post camp.

RG-24.023\*04\*41: Slides; Lowenstein assigned art.

RG-24.023\*04\*42: Slides; Millersville University Holocaust exhibit.

RG-24.023\*04\*43: Slides; Nussbaum, Felix.

RG-24.023\*04\*44: Slides; Propaganda art: “The Poisoned Mushroom” and games.

RG-24.023\*04\*45: Slides; Consigned art.

RG-24.023\*04\*46: Slides; Secret art in Terezin.

RG-24.023\*04\*47: Slides; Contemporary art on the Holocaust.

RG-24.023\*04\*48: Slides; Holocaust memorial.

RG-24.023\*04\*49: Slides; Lecture on sizes, medium, hiding places, etc.

RG-24.023\*04\*50: Slides; Lebensborn kidnapped children.

RG-24.023\*04\*51: Slides; Grunes.

RG-24.023\*04\*52: Slides; Schalkova, Malvina.

RG-24.023\*04\*53: Slides; Laurie, Esther.

RG-24.023\*04\*54: Slides; Maps.

RG-24.023\*04\*55: Slides; Ochs, Jacques.

RG-24.023\*04\*56: Slides; Zoran music.

RG-24.023\*04\*57: Slides; Hofstatter, Osiah.

RG-24.023\*04\*58: Slides; Various resistance artists.

RG-24.023\*04\*59: Slides; Kantor, Alfred.

RG-24.023\*04\*60: Slides; Kantor, Felix.

RG-24.023\*04\*61: Slides; Gondor, Bertolan.

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RG-24.023\*04\*62: Slides; Haas, Leo.

RG-24.023\*04\*63: Slides; Auschwitz collection.

RG-24.023\*04\*64: Slides; Holocaust monuments.

RG-24.023\*04\*65: Slides; Assigned art.

RG-24.023\*04\*66: Slides; Olomucki, Halina.

RG-24.023\*04\*67: Slides; Various Holocaust artists.

RG-24.023\*04\*68: Slides; Fritz Fabian, Herbert Kolb, and Julie Wolfhorn.

RG-24.023\*04\*69: Slides; Yad Vashem.

RG-24.023\*04\*70: Slides; Leo Baeck institute.

RG-24.023\*04\*71: Slides; Fiest manuscript.

RG-24.023\*04\*72: Slides; Leo Haas later works.

RG-24.023\*04\*73: Slides; Contemporary Holocaust art.

RG-24.023\*04\*74: Slides; Children's art.

RG-24.023\*04\*75: Slides; Buchenwald collection.

### **Box 19: RG-24.023\*05: Audio & video tape interviews.**

RG-24.023\*05\*01\*01: Leo Haas interview, 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*01\*02: Leo Haas interview, 1979. Tape #2.

RG-24.023\*05\*02: Interrogation of Eichmann.

RG-24.023\*05\*03: Dinner with Mimi & Lede Acona and Leo Haas interview (B side.)

RG-24.023\*05\*04: Leo Haas interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*05\*01: Israel Alexander Bogan interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*05\*02: Israel Alexander Bogan interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*06\*01: Mary Costanza interview on WCAU, 7 April 1974.

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RG-24.023\*05\*06\*02: Mary Costanza interview on WCAU, 7 April 1974. 1977 Carter inaugural speech (B side.)

RG-24.023\*05\*07\*01: Mary Costanza interview on WCAU, 1978.

RG-24.023\*05\*07\*02: Mary Costanza interview on WCAU, 1978.

RG-24.023\*05\*08: Anna Marie de Rossi di Rislea interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*09\*01: Anna Marie Conver interview in Trieste, 1980.

RG-24.023\*05\*09\*02: Anna Marie Conver interview in Trieste, 1980.

RG-24.023\*05\*10\*01: Osias Hofstedtfer interview, May 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*10\*02: Osias Hofstedtfer interview, May 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*11: Esther Lurie interview, May 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*12: Dr. Rufus Corneless interviews Yehuda Bauer, December 1977 (A side.) Francuch interview with Mary Costanza, 18 October 1978 (B side.)

RG-24.023\*05\*13: Israel trip, May 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*14: Eva Lax Smolowitz interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*15: Zigi Levine and Sam Rayner interviews (A side.) Susan Levine and Fay Bentch interview (B side.)

RG-24.023\*05\*16: Zigi & Susan Levine and Sam Rayner interview, 30 April 1990.

RG-24.023\*05\*17: Alice Cahana comments.

RG-24.023\*05\*18: Rufus Cornelson interviews Yehuda Bauer, 21 December 1977. Franchuch interview with Mary Costanza, 18 October 1978.

RG-24.023\*05\*19: Sarah Gliksman Faitlou interview.

RG-24.023\*05\*20: Ghetto songs by Morry Helzner.

RG-24.023\*05\*21: Edward R. Murrow reporting live; from the CBS news archives.

RG-24.023\*05\*22: "I never saw another butterfly" and Kiras composition.

RG-24.023\*05\*23: Mary Costanza interview in Plainfield, N.J. (A side.) Conversation with Kirh, 2 years old (B side.)

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RG-24.023\*05\*24\*01: Mary Costanza lectures.

RG-24.023\*05\*24\*02: Mary Costanza lectures.

RG-24.023\*05\*25\*01: Mary Costanza lectures on art in the Holocaust.

RG-24.023\*05\*25\*02: Mary Costanza lectures on art in the Holocaust.

RG-24.023\*05\*26: Holocaust art exhibit and lecture at Stonehill College, 16 March 1979.

RG-24.023\*05\*27: Mary Costanza lecture at the Main Point benefit, Montgomery Community College, 1980.

RG-24.023\*05\*28: Mary Costanza lecture on art in the concentration camps.

RG-24.023\*05\*29: VHS video tape of “Mitka” series; a Holocaust survivor who retraces his roots.