

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Ugo La Pietra Papers

GEN MSS 1308



by Beinecke staff

March 2015

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Processing Information	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Collection Contents	5
Series I: Strutture Tissurali, 1964-1971	5
Series II: Nodi Urbani, 1965-1975	6
Series III: Emergenze Urbane, 1966-1967	7
Series IV: Sistema Disequilibrante, 1966-1973	8
Series V: Casa Telematica MOMA New York, 1971-1972	9
Series VI: Il Commutatore, 1970-1971	10
Series VII: Gradi di Libertà: Recupero e Reinvenzione-Riappropriazione Dell'Ambiente, 1969-1977	11
Series VIII: Gradi di Libertà: Itinerari Preferenziali, 1969-1974	12
Series IX: L'informazione alternativa-Tubi di Pargi 1973, 1973	13
Series X: Global Tools, 1974-1975, 2013	14
Series XI: Riconversione Progettuale, 1970-2013	15
Series XII: Interno/Esterno: Abitare è Essere Ovunque a Casa Propria, 1979, 1983	16
Series XIII: Interno/Esterno: Berlino Case Aperte, 1982, 1984	17
Series XIV: Interno/Esterno: Casette 1977/80, 1977-1980	18
Series XV: Film, 1972-1977	19
Series XVI: Letters and documents, 1969-1984	20
Series VII: Unidentified, undated	21
Selected Search Terms	22

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1308

CREATOR: La Pietra, Ugo, 1938-

TITLE: Ugo La Pietra papers

DATES: circa 1964-2013

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.75 linear feet (5 boxes) + 18 broadsides

LANGUAGE: In Italian.

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, photographs, artwork, printed material and other papers by, to, or relating to Italian artist Ugo La Pietra. The collection documents La Pietra's creative process from the 1960s through the 1980s, exhibitions of his works, and his collaborations with other architects and artists such as Riccardo Dalisi, Gianni Pettena, and Franco Vaccari.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lapietra>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lapietra>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from L'Arengario Studio Bibliografico on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2014.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. The arrangement and titles of works are based on a list received with the collection. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Biographical / Historical

Ugo La Pietra is an Italian artist, architect, filmmaker, and designer, born in Bussi sul Tirino, Italy, in 1938. He has taught at the Politecnico di Milano and the Istituto Statale d'Arte di Monza. Pairing a sharp critique of modernist city planning with a playful and inventive impulse to experiment across multiple genres and formats, La Pietra's projects in the 1960s and 1970s often involved direct interventions in the urban landscape. His push for transgressive gestures of liberation, immersion, and reappropriation had much in common with radical groups such as Archizoom and Superstudio, with whom he collaborated in projects such as Global Tools, an experimental workshop and alternative school for rebellious young architects, artists, and designers in the early 1970s.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, writings, photographs, artwork, printed material and other papers by, to, or relating to Italian artist Ugo La Pietra. The collection documents La Pietra's creative process from the 1960s through the 1980s, exhibitions of his works, and his collaborations with other architects and artists such as Riccardo Dalisi, Gianni Pettena, and Franco Vaccari.

Arrangement

Organized into seventeen series: I. Strutture Tissue, 1964-1971. II. Nodi Urbani, 1965-1975. III. Emergenze Urbane, 1966-1967. IV. Sistema Disequilibrante, 1966-1973. V. Casa Telematica MOMA New York, 1971-1972. VI. Il Commutatore, 1970-1971. VII. Gradi di Libertà: Recupero e Reinvenzione - Riappropriazione dell'Ambiente, 1969-1977. VIII. Gradi di Libertà: Itinerari Preferenziali, 1969-1974. IX. Informazione Alternativa - Tubi di Parigi, 1973. X. Global Tools, 1974-2013. XI. Riconversione Progettuale, 1918-2013. XII. Interno / Esterno: Abitare è Essere Ovunque a Casa Propria, 1979-1983. XIII. Interno / Esterno: Berlino Case Aperte, 1982-1984. XIV. Interno / Esterno: Casette, 1977-1978. XV. Film, 1972-1977. XVI. Letters and Documents, 1969-1984. XVII. Unidentified, undated.

Collection Contents

Series I: Strutture Tissue, 1964-1971

The series includes photographs, artwork, posters, and catalogs documenting La Pietra's work in acrylic in the 1960s through early 1970s called Strutture Tissue, or "textual structures." It includes one acrylic object, "metacrilato lavorato a freddo e a caldo" (1971).

b. 4 (Oversize)	1.1 Photograph: audio-visual environment	1969
b. 1	1.2 Catalog: Galleria Cadario	1969
b. 9 (Broadside)	1.3 Poster: Galleria L'Elefante	1967
b. 1	1.4 Catalog: Galleria Senatore Stoccarda	1968
b. 4 (Oversize)	1.5 Lithograph: Prova d'artista	1964
b. 4 (Oversize)	1.6 Sketch: Programmazione territoriale	1967
b. 5 (Oversize)	1.7 Object: Strutture tissue, metacrilato lavorato a freddo e a caldo	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	1.8 Poster: Galleria Flaviana	1966
b. 1	1.9 Postcard: Rapporti tra campi fessurati	1967
b. 1	1.10 Catalog: Il Cenobio	1967
b. 1	1.11 Catalog: Galleria il Paladino	1967
b. 1	1.12 Catalog: Studio 2B	1967
b. 1	1.13 Catalog: Flavina	1966

Series II: Nodi Urbani, 1965-1975

The series contains sketches made in 1965 and 1966 as part of La Pietra's project "Nodi urbani," as well as a copy of his 1975 book *Autoarchiterapia* (number 25 of 500 autographed copies), which discusses the drawings.

b. 4 (Oversize)	2.1 Sketch	1965
b. 4 (Oversize)	2.2 Sketch on card	1966
b. 4 (Oversize)	2.3 Sketch on card	1966
b. 1	2.4 Sketch on canvas board	1965
b. 1	2.5 Sketch: nosi urbani	1965
b. 1	2.5 Book: <i>Autoarchiterapia</i>	1975

Series III: Emergenze Urbane, 1966-1967

Original designs, sketch and photograph of the model "Calotta ruotante."

b.1	3.1 Sketch: Calotta ruotante	1967
b.1	3.2 Photograph: Calotta routante	1967
b.1	3.3 File: 18 original designs	1966-1967

Series IV: Sistema Disequilibrante, 1966–1973

The series includes sketches, photographs, posters, and catalogs documenting works created by La Pietra related to his theory of the Sistema Disequilibrante, or "Unbalancing System." Includes documentation of his "Immersione" project.

b. 21 (Broadside)	4.1 Multiple: Jabik su alluminio	1973
b. 1	4.2 Notebook: Immersioni (20 sketches)	1967-1971
b. 8 (Broadside)	4.4 Photomontage: Immersione progetto	1967
b. 1	4.5 Photograph: Immersione AudioVisual Environment	1968
b. 1	4.6 Photograph: Uomoovosfera	1968
b. 1	4.7 Photograph: Immersione Planisemisfera	1967
b. 1	4.8 Photograph: Immersione ambiente audiovisivo	1969
b. 1	4.9 Photograph: Immersione ambiente audiovisivo	1969
b. 1	4.10 Photograph: Triennale caschi sonori	1968
b. 1	4.11 Photograph: Triennale Ambiente	1968
b. 1	4.12 Photograph: Immersione	1967
b. 1	4.13 Photograph: Triennale ambiente audiovisivo	1968
b. 1	4.14 Photograph: Triennale ambiente audiovisivo	1968
b. 1	4.15 Photograph: Triennale di Milano	1968
b. 4 (Oversize)	4.16 Sketch: Progetto Triennale di Milano	1968
b. 1	4.17 Photograph: Casco audiovisivo	1968
b. 7 (Broadside)	4.18 Poster: Galleria Cadario	1969
b. 4 (Oversize)	4.19 Photograph: Al di là della pittura	1969
b. 1	4.20 Photograph: Al di là della pittura	1969
b. 1	4.21 Photograph: Al di là della pittura	1969
b. 1	4.22 Photograph: Al di là della pittura	1969
b. 1	4.23 Photograph: Ambienti audiovisivi	1970
b. 1	4.25 Photograph: Immersione nell'acqua	1970
b. 1	4.26 Catalog: Il sistema disequilibrante, Galleria Toselli	1970
b. 6 (Broadside)	4.27 Poster: Galleria Scipione	1970
b. 1	4.28 Book: Il sistema disequilibrante	1971
b. 1	4.29 Catalog: Il sistema disequilibrante, Galleria LP 220	1971

Series V: Casa Telematica MOMA New York, 1971–1972

The series contains photographs, collages and a photomontage/plan documenting La Pietra's projects Il Ciceronelettronico, La cellula abitativa, and Il video comunicatore exhibited at MOMA in 1972.

b. 1	5.2 Photograph: Ambiente	1972
b. 23 (Broadside)	5.3 Photomontage/plan: Repporto città/casa	1971
b. 4 (Oversize)	5.4 Photograph: La cellula abitativa	1972
b. 1	5.5 Photograph: Progetto ambiente audiovisivo	1972
b. 1	5.6 Photograph: Il Ciceronelettronico	1972
b. 1	5.7 Photograph: Ciceronelettronico	1972
b. 4 (Oversize)	5.8 Collage: La cellula abitativa	1972
b. 1	5.9 Collage: La cellula abitativa	1972
b. 1	5.10 Photograph: La cellula abitativa	1972
b. 1	5.11 Photograph: Moma-Allestimento	1972
b. 1	5.12 Photograph: Moma-Allestimento	1972
b. 1	5.13 Photograph: Ambiente audiovisivo	1972
b. 1	5.14 Photograph: Il videocomunicatore	1972
b. 1	5.15 Photograph: Moma-Allestimento	1972
b. 1	5.16 Photograph: Moma-Cellula abitativa	1972
b. 4 (Oversize)	5.17 Collage: Schemi urbani	

Series VI: Il Commutatore, 1970-1971

The series includes a photograph and two photomontages documenting La Pietra's project titled "Il Commutatore," a "comprehension model" affording alternate views of the streetscape.

b.1	6.1 Photograph: Il commutatore	1970
b.1	6.2 Photomontage	1970
b. 22 (Broadside)	6.3 Photomontage	1971

Series VII: Gradi di Libertà: Recupero e Reinvenzione-Riappropriazione Dell'Ambiente, 1969–1977

Photographs, photomontages, collages, documents, and printed material documenting La Pietra's project concerning "degrees of freedom."

b. 15 (Broadside)	7.1 Photomontage: Gradi di libertà	1975
b. 18 (Broadside)	7.2 Photomontage: Gradi di libertà	1975
b. 2	7.3 Photograph	1969
b. 2	7.4 Photograph	1969
b. 20 (Broadside)	7.5 Photomontage	1969
b. 2	7.6 Book: Recupero e reinvenzione (Grafiche Mariano)	1976
b. 2	7.7 Article: Dalla Jugoslavia la riappropriazione dell'ambiente in INPIU'	1974
b. 2	7.8 Photographs and documents	1969-1975
b. 2	7.8 Photographs and documents	1969-1975
b. 2	7.8 Photographs and documents	1969-1975
b. 2	7.9 Letter Galleria Grada	1974
b. 13 (Broadside)	7.10 Collage: I gradi di libertà: Recupero e reinvenzione	1970
b. 2	7.11 Book: I gradi di libertà	1975
b. 2	7.13 Book: La riappropriazione dell'ambiente. Interventi e analisi	1977
b. 16 (Broadside)	7.14 Collage: Al di là della rete la città	1977

Series VIII: Gradi di Libertà: Itinerari Preferenziali, 1969-1974

Photographs, photomontages, collages, and printed material documenting La Pietra's project concerning "degrees of freedom."

b. 19 (Broadside)	8.1 Photomontage	1969
b. 2	8.2 Photograph: Ugo La Pietra con Livio Marzot	1969
b. 2	8.3 File: Programma di ricerca La Pietra/Marzot	1969-1970
b. 2	8.4 Catalog: Decodificazione dell'ambiente: sulla panchina, Galleria Blu	1974
b. 2	8.5 Photograph: Decodificazione dell'ambiente: sulla panchina	1972
b. 2	8.6 Frammento del menabò: Decodificazione dell'ambiente: sulla panchina	1974
b. 14 (Broadside)	8.7 Photocollage: Gli itinerari preferenziali	1969

Series IX: L'informazione alternativa-Tubi di Pargi 1973, 1973

Two photographs related to La Pietra's book "L'informazione alternativa [Tubi di Parigi]," and a copy of the book itself.

b. 4 (Oversize)	9.1 Photograph: I Tubi di Parigi	1973
b. 4 (Oversize)	9.2 Photograph: I Tubi di Parigi	1973
b. 4 (Oversize)	9.3 Book: L'informazione alternativa [Tubi di Parigi]	undated

Series X: Global Tools, 1974-1975, 2013

Photographs, photomontages, catalog and other papers documenting La Pietra's collaboration with other architects and designers on a series of experimental architecture and design workshops called Global Tools.

b. 2	10.1 Photographs: Raduno di Rienze	1974
b. 2	10.2 Photograph: Remo Buti	1974
b. 2	10.3 Photograph: Gruppo "Corpo" Riccardo Dalisi	1974
b. 2	10.4 Photograph: Riunioni del gruppo Global Tools	1974
b. 2	10.5 Photographs: Viaggio sul Rene	1974
b. 4 (Oversize)	10.6 Photomontage: Viaggio sul Reno	1974
b. 2	10.7 Photomontage: Viaggio sul Reno	1974
b. 2	10.8 Photograph: Viaggio sul Reno	1974
b. 2	10.9 Catalog: Ca' di Fra'	2013
b. 2	10.10 Documents relating to Global Tools	1974-1975

Series XI: Riconversione Progettuale, 1970–2013

The series includes photomontages as well as a notebook, sketch, and book documenting La Pietra's project to redesign urban fixtures, distorting their use and making them home tools. Several items relate to "Poles and Chains."

b. 4 (Oversize)	11.1 Photomontage	1978
b. 4 (Oversize)	11.2 Photomontage: "Paletti e catene"	1970
b. 2	11.3 Photograph: Performance "Paletti e catene"	1979
b. 2	11.4 Notebook	undated
b. 2	11.5 Sketch: Riconversione progettuale	1977
b. 4 (Oversize)	11.6 Photomontage/sketch	1978
b. 2	11.7 Book: Attrezzaturen urbane per la collettività	2013

Series XII: Interno/Esterno: Abitare è Essere Ovunque a Casa Propria, 1979, 1983

Sketch, photograph, photomontage and book documenting La Pietra's "interior/exterior" project.

b. 17 (Broadside)	12.1 Sketch and photograph	1979
b. 3	12.2 Photomontage	1979
b. 3	12.4 Book: Abitare la città	1983
b. 3	12.5 Book: Istruzioni per l'uso della città	1979

Series XIII: Interno/Esterno: Berlino Case Aperte, 1982, 1984

Notebook, photograph and catalog documenting La Pietra's "interior/exterior" project.

b. 3	13.1 Notebook	1982
b. 3	13.2 Photograph: Progetto	1982
b. 3	13.3 Catalog: Promemoria	1984

Series XIV: Interno/Esterno: Casette 1977/80, 1977-1980

Notebook, lithograph, and sketch documenting La Pietra's "interior/exterior" project.

b. 3	14.1 Notebook: ""Casette""	1977-1980
b. 10 (Broadside)	14.2 Lithograph: "Dal balcone/poltrona"	1978
b. 3	14.3 Sketch: Interno esterno, china su cartoncino	1978

Series XV: Film, 1972-1977

The series includes the screenplay with the original montage of "Riappropriazione della città," with notes and sketches, as well as photographs, a poster and printed book of "La grande occasione."

b. 4 (Oversize)	15.1 Sceneggiatura con montaggio originale	1977
b. 3	15.3 Photograph: La grande occasione	1972
b. 3	15.4 Photograph: La grande occasione	1972
b. 3	15.5 Photograph: La grande occasione	1972
b. 11 (Broadside)	15.6 Poster: La grande occasione (già consegnato)	1972
b. 3	15.8 Book: La grande occasione	1976

Series XVI: Letters and documents, 1969–1984

The series contains correspondence, photographs, writings, sketches, and other material documenting La Pietra's collaborations with other artists including Riccardo Dalisi, Gianni Pettena, and Franco Vaccari.

b. 3	17.1 Correspondence: Jorge Glusbert	1974
b. 3	17.2 Letter and photograph: Pacus	1975
b. 3	17.3 Letter and catalog: Franco Vaccari	1984
b. 3	17.4 Typescript and and photograph related to G. Magro	1974
b. 3	17.5 Manuscript and 2 photographs: Perusini, "Descrizonone delle opere sull'inquinamento Sincron/Rimini	1971
b. 3	17.6 Manuscript and 11 photographs and 1 sketch by Richard Dalisi	1972
b. 3	17.7 Manuscript and 4 photographs: Franco Summa/Articolo per INPIU	1974
b. 3	17.8 Photomontage and sketch: Ugo La Pietra, Tracce	1973
b. 3	17.9 Draft: Gianni Pettena, article for INIPU 1973/1974	1973-1974
b. 2	17.10 Letter and 2 photographs: Richard Dalisi a Ugo La Pietra, with article "Una Bianca striscia di carta	1978
b. 3	17.11 Sketch: Riccardo Dalisi, "Decorazione su tavolo"	undated
b. 12 (Broadside)	18.12 Photomontage and sketch: Ugo La Pietray, Fuoco e schiuma	1969

Series VII: Unidentified, undated

The series consists of unidentified, undated material.

b. 3

Unidentified

undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Architectural design -- Italy -- 20th Century
Architecture, Modern -- 20th Century
Architecture -- Italy -- History -- 20th Century
Design -- Italy -- 20th Century
Visionary architecture -- Italy -- 20th Century

Names

La Pietra, Ugo, 1938-

Corporate Body

Global tools