

Finding Aid to the Lucia Grossberger Morales Papers, 1981-1989

Summary Information

Title: Lucia Grossberger Morales papers

Creator: Lucia Grossberger Morales (primary)

ID: 116.2576

Date: 1981-1989 (inclusive); 1982-1988 (bulk)

Extent: 2.2 linear feet

Language: The materials in this collection are in English.

Abstract: This collection contains software, publications, and original artwork created by Lucia Grossberger Morales on the Apple II computer using her programs *The Designer's Tool Kit* and *SpaceLace*. The bulk of the materials are dated between 1982 and 1988.

Repository:

Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
One Manhattan Square
Rochester, New York 14607
585.263.2700
library@museumofplay.org

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Use: This collection is open for research use by staff of The Strong and by users of its library and archives. Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, she has given permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.

Custodial History: The Lucia Grossberger Morales papers were donated to The Strong in June 2016 as a gift from Lucia Grossberger Morales. The papers were accessioned by The Strong under Object ID 116.2576 and were received from Morales along with software and a book.

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Controlled Access Terms

Personal Names

- Bishop, Bob
- Grossberger, Lucia
- Morales, Lucia Grossberger
- Rifkind, David
- Vertelney, Harry

Corporate Names

- Apple Computer, Inc.
- Eclectic Electric (Firm)
- Ylem (Organization)

Subjects

- Apple II (Computer)
- Apple II (Computer)--Programming
- Apple II (Computer)--Programming--Handbooks, manuals, etc.
- Computer art--Exhibitions
- Computer art--Software
- Computer art--United States
- Designer's Tool Kit (Software)
- Palo Alto (Calif.)
- Silicon Valley (Calif.)
- SpaceLace (Software)

Biographical Note

Lucia Grossberger Morales (known professionally in the 1980s as Lucia Grossberger) is a Bolivian-American artist and programmer who notably shaped the computer-generated art landscape in the 1980s and 1990s.

Grossberger Morales was born in Catavi, Bolivia in 1952. Her family immigrated to Southern California in 1955. She later attended the University of Southern California, earning a B.A. in Anthropology and an M.S. in Instructional Technology. She enjoyed experimenting with film, video, and animation to tell stories.

In 1979, Grossberger Morales purchased an Apple II computer, in which she saw potential to use as an artistic medium. Working with partner Harry Vertelney and programmer David Rifkind, Grossberger Morales co-authored *The Designer's Tool Kit* (1982), one of the first graphics programs published by Apple Computer, Inc. The software package included a manual with color pages and a graphic tablet overlay used to create and manipulate the artwork. Grossberger Morales's early computer-generated artwork, which she began to exhibit at venues across California, included portraits, fabrics, and abstract images. She also created interactive installations at cultural centers. In 1985, Grossberger Morales co-authored *AppleVisions* with Apple employee Bob Bishop. Two years later, she and Bishop developed *SpaceLace*, a graphics program which allowed the artist to create a digital kaleidoscope.

As of 2017, Grossberger Morales continues to create and exhibit her art installations in museums, galleries, and shows worldwide.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Lucia Grossberger Morales papers contain materials from 1981 through 1989, with the bulk of the papers dated between 1982 and 1988. This collection contains fliers, pamphlets, newsletters, press releases, trade catalogs, newspaper and magazine clippings, prints, photographs, software manuals, 5¼” floppy disks, and framed artwork. Additional scope and content information can be found in the Contents List section of this finding aid.

The Lucia Grossberger Morales papers have been arranged into three series, one of which has been further divided into subseries. The collection is housed in two archival document boxes.

Related Materials

Lucia Morales Grossberger’s book *Huge Pixels: Art Created on the Apple II Using the Designer’s Tool Kit* is housed in the library stacks.

System of Arrangement

- Series I: Software, 1981-1987
- Series II: Publications, 1981-1989
 - Subseries A: Articles, 1982-1989
 - Subseries B: Flier, n.d.
 - Subseries C: Newsletter, 1982
 - Subseries D: Event programs, 1982-1983
 - Subseries E: Press release, 1981
 - Subseries F: Trade catalog, 1982
- Series III: Artwork, 1982-1986 and n.d.

Contents List

Series I: Software, 1981-1987

Scope and Content Note: This series contains software manuals, software related documents, and software on 5¼” floppy disks related to programming and art design on Apple II computer. Lucia Grossberger Morales (known professionally as Lucia Grossberger) co-created the graphics software programs *The Designer’s Tool Kit*, *AppleVisions*, and *SpaceLace*.

Box 1

- Object 1 Manual and software: *The Designer’s Tool Kit*, Lucia Grossberger and Harry Vertelney, with David Rifkind, © 1981, Apple Computer, Inc.
- Object 2 Software: *Art Disks*, Eclectic Electric, Lucia Grossberger, “Geomorph” and “Permutations,” © 1982, Eclectic Electric
- Object 3 Manual and software: *AppleVisions: A Joyful Introduction to Assembly Language Programming*, Bob Bishop and Lucia Grossberger with Harry Vertelney, © 1985, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Inc.
- Object 4 Manual and software: *SpaceLace: An Interactive Kaleidoscope*, Lucia Grossberger and Bob Bishop, ©1987, Great Wave Software [2 copies]
- Folder 1 *The Designer’s Tool Kit* packing list, 1982

Box 2

- Folder 1 *The Designer’s Tool Kit* Graphic Tablet Overlay, © 1982, Apple Computer, Inc.

Series II: Publications, 1981-1989

Scope and Content Note: This series contains published materials (including clippings from newspapers and magazines, fliers, event programs, a press release, a newsletter, and a trade catalog) that provide information about Lucia Grossberger Morales (known professionally as Lucia Grossberger), her artwork, software, and events and exhibits in which she participated.

Subseries A: Articles, 1982-1989

Scope and Content Note: This subseries houses clippings from newspapers and magazines detailing information about Grossberger Morales, her artwork, and the graphic design programs she co-created.

Box 1

- Folder 2 Articles, 1982-1989

Subseries B: Flier, n.d.

Scope and Content Note: Within this subseries is a flier for an event, “Exploring Apple Computer Graphics,” hosted by Lucia Grossberger and Harry Vertelney.

Box 1

- Folder 3 Flier, n.d.

Subseries C: Newsletter, 1982

Scope and Content Note: This subseries holds a newsletter from Ylem (“Artists using Science and Technology”), which features artwork by Lucia Grossberger Morales along with background information on Grossberger Morales as an artist.

Box 1

Folder 4 Newsletters, 1982

Subseries D: Event programs, 1982-1983

Scope and Content Note: This subseries contains original programs for events which exhibited Grossberger Morales’s artwork. [A reproduction of one program is in the folder while the original has been retained in Box 2, Folder 2).]

Box 1

Folder 5 Event programs, 1982-1983

Box 2

Folder 2 Original program for event at University of California, Santa Cruz, “Arts and Technology,” 1983

Subseries E: Press release, 1981

Scope and Content Note: This subseries houses a press release which introduces *The Designer’s Tool Kit* as “essential to the computer’s art applications.”

Box 1

Folder 6 Press releases, 1981

Subseries F: Trade catalog, 1982

Scope and Content Note: This subseries contains the Spring 1982 issue of the Special Delivery Software trade catalog, which describes in detail *The Designer’s Tool Kit* for the Apple II.

Box 1

Folder 7 Trade catalog, 1982

Series III: Artwork, 1982-1986 and n.d.

Scope and Content Note: This series contains photographs, prints, and framed artwork showing original designs created by Grossberger Morales using the Apple II computer and her graphics software programs. Many of the prints are in full color and signed by the artist.

Box 1

Folder 8 Photographs, 1982 and n.d.

Folder 9 Prints, 1983-1986 and n.d.

Box 2

Folder 3 Prints, n.d.

Folder 4 Framed artwork "Changes Series," 1984

Folder 5 Framed artwork "Abstract Series," 1986