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Guide to the Gabriel Paris Collection Relating to France, May 1968

GEN MSS 949



by Mark Custer

2013 March

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 949

CREATOR: Paris, Gabriel, 1924-

TITLE: Gabriel Paris collection relating to France, May 1968

DATES: 1968-1978

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.63 linear feet (3 boxes) + 24 broadside folders

LANGUAGE: French

SUMMARY: The Gabriel Paris collection consists of materials related to the May 1968 protests in Paris, France. The collection contains three screen print posters produced at the Atelier populaire (ex-École des Beaux-Arts) in May-June 1968, several signed lithographs produced between May-July 1968, eleven original maquettes (1968-1970), and two sketchbooks created by Gabriel Paris, each of which contains numerous drawings and sketches that were used in the production of protest posters. The collection also contains 45 black and white photographic prints taken by Paris, which document the May 1968 protests, and over 200 printed political tracts, which were collected by Paris from 1968-1978.

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

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.paris>.

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
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Glenn Horowitz Bookseller, Inc., 2012.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Gabriel Paris Collection Relating to France, May 1968. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including in some instances rehousing and minimal organization, when it arrived at the library. Information included in the Scope and Contents note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Gabriel Paris (1924-2000)

Gabriel Paris was an artist, painter, and activist. He was born in Uzès, France, but spent most of his life in Paris, where he died in 2000.

Scope and Contents

The Gabriel Paris collection consists of materials related to the May 1968 protests in Paris, France. The collection contains three screen print posters produced at the Atelier populaire (ex-École des Beaux-Arts) in May-June 1968, several signed lithographs produced between May-July 1968, eleven original maquettes (1968-1970), and two sketchbooks created by Gabriel Paris, each of which contains numerous drawings and sketches that were used in the production of protest posters. The collection also contains 45 black and white photographic prints taken by Paris, which document the May 1968 protests, and over 200 printed political tracts, which were collected by Paris from 1968-1978.

Arrangement

Organized into four series: I. Sketchbooks, 1968-1974. II. Photographs, 1968. III. Political tracts, pamphlets, and newspaper clippings, 1968-1978. IV. Posters, lithographs, and maquettes, 1968-1970.

Collection Contents

Series I: Sketchbooks, 1968-1974

28 x 38 cm

(2 sketchbooks)

Each sketchbook contains a variety of poster art sketches and designs, many of which are cut out and affixed directly to the pages.

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- | | |
|------------|---|
| b. 1, f. 1 | <p>Chronique a fleur de peau Mai 68–June 69
(60 pages)</p> <p>Title is printed on the bottom of the cover, in black ink. Also printed on the cover, in pencil: "Gabriel Paris: Chronique a fleur de peau 1968–74 / Notes et croquis."</p> <p>Note from the dealer: <i>Chronique a fleur de peau</i> was the proposed title for an autobiographical film that Paris had been working on since the mid-seventies until the time of his death in 2000.</p> |
| b. 1, f. 2 | <p>Projets dessins politiques et affiches
(60 pages)</p> <p>Title printed on bottom of cover, in black ink. The sketchbook also contains a few newspaper clippings, including an editorial piece by Robert Merle from <i>Le Monde</i>, dated 1974 May 25.</p> |
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Series II: Photographs, 1968 May

45 photographic prints, black and white, 7.5 x 8 cm

The photographs are affixed to four separate cardboard pages.

b. 1, f. 3

Series III: Political tracts, pamphlets, and newspaper clippings, 1968-1978, undated

approximately 200 items

Arranged in rough chronological order.

b. 2, f. 1-4	Political tracts and pamphlets Contains a variety of items collected by Gabriel Paris from 1968-1978. Over twenty of the items were published by a community of artists, "MontmARTre aux artistes," of which Gabriel Paris was a member. A few pamphlets detail the 1970s arrest of 3 labor activists -- Houdet, Rousseau, and Ordennez-Aurioles -- who were arrested for putting up posters demanding the release of Devaux, Herve, Trouilleux and Divet. The collection also includes publications attributed to the Jeunesse Communiste Revolutionnaire (JCR), Parti Socialiste Unifie (PSU), Parti Communiste Francais (PCF), L'Union Naitional des Etudiants de France (UNEF), and more.	1968-1978, undated
b. 3 (Oversize), f. 1	Newspaper clippings (4 items) Includes three clippings and a copy of l'Humanité (two-page special edition), dated Monday, 1977 September 26.	1977, undated

Series IV: Posters, lithographs, and maquettes, 1968-1970*(29 items)*

Titles were assigned based on textual phrases that are present in each artwork. If a poster does not contain any text, it was left untitled, with descriptive keywords added in square brackets. Many of the posters, however, contain multiple phrases. In those cases, preference was given to any phrases that appeared on other posters in the collection. For example, the three posters titled "Je regarde l'avenir eclater dans les yeux" are similar compositions, but not identical; each contains a different set of phrases, as well as a slight variation in imagery.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

b. 27 (Broadside)	Adieu De Gaulle 74 x 105 cm <i>Lithograph. On cardstock. Red and black ink.</i> Signed "47/50 Gabriel Paris" in pencil. Includes a long quote attributed to "Combat no. 7423, Michel Ragon," as well as the following text: '20 " 07 Gare de Lyon - Vendredi, 24 Mai 1968.'	1968 May
b. 13 (Broadside)	Alerte à la drogue 57 x 78 cm <i>Original maquette. Black ink. Poster board.</i> Signed "Gabriel Paris." Stamped "Chronique a fleur de peau. Gabriel Paris." Stamped "© Gabriel Paris, tout droits réservés."	1969 September-October
b. 5 (Broadside)	Comite Viet-Nam 60 x 80 cm <i>Original maquette. Black ink and masking tape.</i> Signed "GP"	
b. 3 (Oversize), f. 2	Les CRS VEAUtent VOUI à De Gaulle 50 x 65 cm <i>Screen print poster. Black ink. Newsprint.</i> Stamped "Atelier C8-H40."	
b. 3 (Oversize), f. 3	Le Dernier Barrage 50 x 65 cm <i>Original maquette.</i> Stamped "27 Avril 1969." Also includes repetitions of the word "NON" at the top of the poster.	1969
b. 17 (Broadside)	De Gaulle n'est plus seul 74 x 104 cm <i>Lithograph. Blue, red, and black ink.</i> Signed "32/40 Gabriel Paris" in pencil.	1968 May-June
b. 10 (Broadside)	De Gaulle n'est plus seul (recto); Untitled collage (verso) 67 x 103 cm	1968 May-June
b. 8 (Broadside)	Deserteurs Americains Contre L'Amerique Imperialiste 56 x 80 cm <i>Original maquette. Black ink.</i> Depicts Richard Nixon's head, in cartoonish style, with Viet-Nam written on his forehead; on both sides of his head, there are a number of other geopolitical references, including Formosa, Greece, and Spain.	

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| b. 16 (Broadside) | Il ne reste plus qu'à peindre des fleurs
74 x 105 cm
<i>Lithograph. Black, yellow, red, blue, and green ink.</i>
Signed "45/50 Gabriel Paris" in pencil. | 1968 July |
| b. 3 (Oversize), f. 4 | L'Intox (recto) and Bleeding Skull (verso)
50 x 65 cm
<i>Original maquette. Black and white ink (recto); Black, yellow, and red ink (verso).</i>
Recto: includes a drawing of a parrot, which is being broadcast on television, delivering the following line: "Le Gaullisme rien que le Gaullisme et toujours le Gaullisme." Verso: stamped "Gabriel Paris, Mai / Juin 1968". | |
| b. 26 (Broadside) | Je regarde l'avenir eclater dans les yeux
78 x 116 cm
<i>Original maquette. Black, red, and white ink.</i>
Dated "1.6.68." Dimensions written in pencil, top left. Also has the following: "Poems de Mai 7.6.1968" | 1968 June 1 |
| b. 24 (Broadside) | Je regarde l'avenir eclater dans les yeux
75 x 103 cm
<i>Black and gray ink.</i>
Includes other phrases, such as "Le Chienlit c'est lui," and "Le Pouvoir est dans la rue." | 1968 May |
| b. 9 (Broadside) | Je regarde l'avenir eclater dans les yeux
57 x 79 cm
<i>Black and gray ink.</i>
Stamped "Gabriel Paris Mai 1968 / Ex-ecole des beaux arts." | 1968 May |
| b. 11 (Broadside) | Leur Campagne Commence / Notre Lutte Continue
76 x 100 cm
<i>Screen print poster. Green ink.</i>
Stamped "Atelier Populaire Ex-Ecole Des Beaux-Arts." | |
| b. 3 (Oversize), f. 5 | Oui/Non
50 x 65 cm
<i>Screen print poster, red ink.</i>
Stamped "Atelier C8-H40." | |
| b. 19 (Broadside) | Toi mon camarade toi que j'ignorais, viens parle-nous / Contestation
114 x 155 cm
<i>Original maquette. Black, red, and gray ink. On heavy cardboard. Folded in half.</i>
Signed "Gabriel Paris Mai 1968." | |
| b. 12 (Broadside) | Toi mon camarade toi que j'ignorais, viens parle-nous / Contestation
58 x 78 ¾ cm
<i>Black and white reproduction poster on cardstock.</i>
Signed "Gabriel Paris Mai 1968". Dimensions written in pencil. | 1968 May |
| b. 23 (Broadside) | Toi mon camarade toi que j'ignorais, viens parle-nous
77 x 115 cm
<i>Original maquette. Red and black ink.</i> | |

b. 15 (Broadside)	Unite 74 x 104 cm Black and red ink. Signed "38/45 Gabriel Paris". Includes the phrase, "Dix ans c'est assés / dix ans c'est trop," as well as others.	1968 May-June
b. 22 (Broadside)	Untitled [bleeding head, boot] Black and red ink. 76 x 116 cm	
b. 18 (Broadside)	Untitled [cop / flic, bleeding head, boot] Black and gray ink. 74 x 103 cm	1968 May
b. 21 (Broadside)	Untitled [cop / flic, bleeding head, boot] Red, black and gray ink. Folded in half. 114 x 155 cm	
b. 6 (Broadside)	Untitled [cop / flic, blood, boot] 58 x 80 cm Black and gray ink.	1968 May
b. 20 (Broadside)	Untitled [cop / flic, bleeding skull] 79 x 109 cm On canvas. Black, yellow, red, and gray ink.	1968 May-June
b. 25 (Broadside)	Untitled [cop / flic, bleeding skull] 75 x 116 cm On cardboard. Black, yellow, red and gray ink. Signed "31/40 Gabriel Paris" in pencil.	1968 May-June
b. 7 (Broadside)	Untitled [newspaper collage] 56 x 76 cm Collage of five newspaper clippings, primarily photographic. The only clipping with text has the following printed on it, "Paris Match No. 314 Du 2 Au 9 Avril 1955." On the top right of the poster, "compo 52 x 72" is written in pencil; "LAPIN" is written in the center.	
b. 3 (Oversize), f. 6	Untitled [riot scene] 51 x 69 cm Black, gray and red ink. Cardboard cutout.	
b. 4 (Broadside)	Untitled collage 56 x 76 cm Collage affixed to poster board. "compos 52 x 72" written in pencil, top right.	
b. 14 (Broadside)	Untitled collage 76 x 56 cm Red and black ink, with newspaper print. "compo 52 x 72" written in pencil	

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

Artists -- France
General Strike, France, 1968
Labor movement -- France -- Paris
Political activists -- France
Political posters, French -- France -- Paris
Protest movements -- France -- Paris

Geographic Names

France -- Politics and government -- 1958-1969
-- Posters

Genres / Formats

Lithographs -- France -- 20th Century
Photographic prints -- France -- 20th Century
Printed ephemera -- France -- 20th Century
Protest posters -- France -- Paris -- 20th
Century
Sketchbooks -- France -- 20th Century

Occupations

Artists -- France -- 20th Century
Painters -- France -- 20th Century

Names

Paris, Gabriel, 1924-