This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri, Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org.

**Dates:** 1960s-1990s  
**Creator:** Larson, Sid, 1923-2009  
**Collection Size:** 3 cubic feet

**Introduction**  
The papers of an artist, teacher, and curator of the State Historical Society of Missouri’s art collection include newspaper clippings, correspondence, and research on Thomas Hart Benton, as well as records of Larson’s restoration work on various Missouri murals. Also included are slides from Larson’s art and art history lectures as a professor at Columbia College.

**Donor Information**  
The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mary M. Wells.

**Biographical Sketch**  
Sidney Larson was born on June 16, 1923. He was an art professor at Columbia College before retiring in 2001 after 50 years. Larson’s work included restoration of his mentor Thomas Hart Benton’s murals in the Missouri State Capitol building, and he later became a leading expert on the work of both Thomas Hart Benton and George Caleb Bingham. Larson received numerous awards and honors throughout his career. He died on May 12, 2009.

**Box List**

**Box 1**  
Print Collection St. Clair  
State Historical Society of Missouri  
Original letters from Tom and Rita Benton  
T.H. Benton clippings  
T.H.B and Mark Twain  
T.H.B. and Sid Larson correspondence and remarks  
KC River Club Mural  
T.H.B. Joplin, Missouri Exhibit  
T.H.B. in magazines  
Benton  
Sketch of Indian- Preparation for Truman Library Mural  
Benton and his Critics  
Art Restoration Advice  
Value of Fine Arts  
Genius/Artist; Psychopath/Sociopath Notes  
Cataloguing Benton Drawings
ACCESSION CA6427
SID LARSON PAPERS

Sid Larson Career/Achievements
Mid Amer. Arts Alliance, July 1976
THB clippings
Misc. Clips
Benton at Spiva
Benton clippings (5 folders)
Benton projects
Sid Larson Art and Career (2 folders)
Fakes and Fakers
Bingham
Portraits and Prints
Restoration

Box 2
Benton Publications, Catalogs, etc. (4 folders)
Benton Eulogies and Biographical Info
Japan, November 1984
Guitar Building Murals
Lecture Materials
Thomas Hart Benton’s “Year of Peril”
Jefferson City Mural Restoration, 1960
Benton Articles
Benton’s Indiana Murals
Prints
Sid Larson Murals
G.C. Bingham
Slides
  Gods’ Man: A Novel in Woodcuts
  Restorations
  Conservation Lecture
George Caleb Bingham Authentication
Lecture Capitol Decorations
Capitol—House Chamber Restoration
State Capitol Restoration (2 folders)
Benton Murals Rise in Value, 1980s

Box 3
Restoration Photos (3 folders)
Personal and Travel photographs
Benton clippings
Thomas Hart Benton (2 folders)
Sid Larson career (2 folders)
Colorado- G.C. Bingham Authentication
Other Art/Artists
THB Navy Artworks
Traveling Lectures
Slides
   Misc. History of Art
   Sid Larson Artwork
   Capitol Murals
   Boone County Courthouse Murals, 1993-95
   Dr. Crews Bingham Treatment
   Guitar Mural
   Colorado Springs, 1993
   Benton
   Miscellaneous
   Story Teller Mural: Jefferson City Municipal Building
   Bingham Restorations/Capitol/Benton
   THB Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous