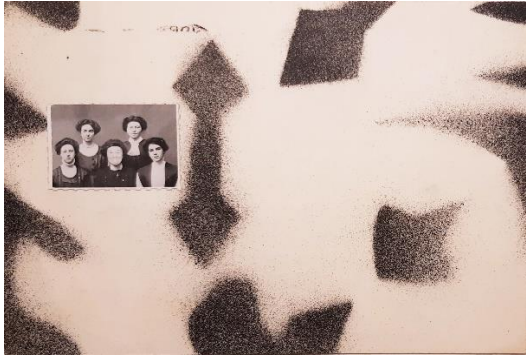


## Dispatch #16, May Wilson

Volatile [redux] Art, Books and Editions

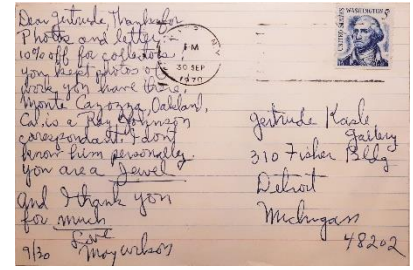
September 2, 2020



Front



detail



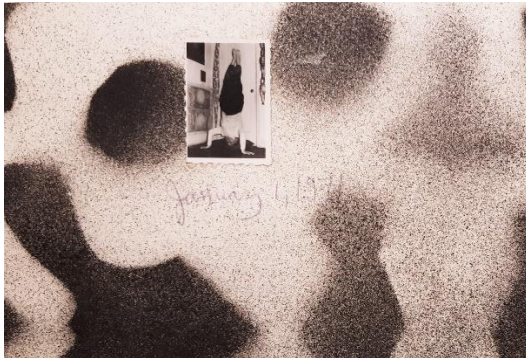
back

May Wilson

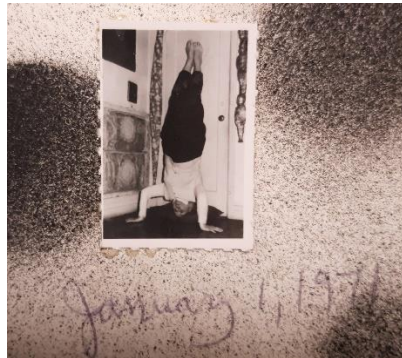
untitled [ridiculous self-portrait/group portrait]

Mail Art/Collage. Post card, lined index card, postmarked 9 SEP 1970, addressed to Gertrude Kasle Gallery, signed "May Wilson". Photographic ridiculous self-portrait b&w, 1"x1.5", affixed to a card spray painted black using a stencil, 4"x6". September 1970

\$500



Front



detail



back

May Wilson

untitled [headstand performance]

Collage. Documentation of May Wilson's annual headstand performance. Lined index card with photographic headstand self-portrait b&w, 1"x1.5", affixed to a card spray painted black using a stencil, 4"x6". January 1971

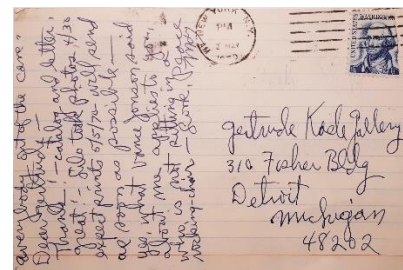
\$750



Front



detail



back

May Wilson

untitled [ridiculous self-portrait/ethnographic figure]

Mail Art/Collage. Post card, lined index card, postmarked 9 MAY 1970, addressed to Gertrude Kasle Gallery, signed "May". Photographic ridiculous self-portrait b&w, 1"x1.5", affixed to a card spray painted black using a text stencil, 4"x6". May 1970

\$500

May Wilson

1905 – 1986, United States

Wilson was an eccentric figure within the New York City avant-garde art world during the 1960s to 1980s and a pioneer of the feminist and mail art movements. She is best known for her "Ridiculous Portrait" photo-collages. The "ridiculous portraits" explore, through humorous juxtapositions, the representation of women in art and mass media – the works were constructed by collaging self-portraits (sometimes photo-booth portraits) onto stencil painted postcards, reproductions of paintings and photographs of idealized women such as religious figures, classical nudes, and imagery from popular culture sources. As a variation of the ridiculous portraits annually on January 1<sup>st</sup> she would photograph herself doing a headstand. In addition, she also created spray-painted stencil (snowflake) paintings on paper, junk assemblage sculpture, and "wiggly eyes" collages where plastic novelty wiggly eyes were affixed to images of faces including illustrations from fashion magazines.

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## *Volatile* [redux]

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