



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Anni Albers Papers,  
1924-1969, in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art  
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Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Anni Albers papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.albeanni
<b>Date:</b>	1924-1969
<b>Extent:</b>	0.2 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Albers, Anni
<b>Language:</b>	One item is in German.
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of artist and weaver Anni Albers measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1924-1969. They consist primarily of printed materials about Albers's exhibitions, Bauhaus training, and Black Mountain weaving classes.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Anni Albers donated the papers in 1969.

### Related Material

Also found among the holdings of the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Anni Albers by Sevim Fesci on July 5, 1968.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed in 2011.

### Preferred Citation

Anni Albers papers, 1924-1969. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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## Biographical Note

Anni Albers (1899-1994) was a textile designer, weaver, writer, and printmaker who worked in Connecticut and at the Black Mountain College in North Carolina.

Anni Albers was born in Germany in 1899 and attended the Bauhaus where she met her husband designer Josef Albers in 1922; they married in 1925. At the Bauhaus, she experimented with new materials for weaving and executed richly colored designs on paper for wall hangings and textiles in silk, cotton, and linen yarns.

When the Bauhaus moved to Dessau, the Albers lived alongside the families of artist teachers Lyonel Feininger, Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, Oscar Schlemmer, and others in one of the masters' houses designed by Gropius. In 1933, the Albers emigrated to the U.S. to work at the experimental Black Mountain College in North Carolina. Both taught at Black Mountain until 1949. During these years Anni Albers' weavings were shown throughout the US and she published many articles on textiles and design, culminating in a 1949 show at the Museum of Modern Art, the first of its kind for a textile artist.

In 1950, Josef accepted the position of chair of the design department at Yale and the Albers moved to Connecticut. During the 1950s and 1960s, Anni worked productively from a home studio, producing fabric patterns, creating "pictorial" weavings, and writing articles and books about weaving, including *On Designing* in 1952 and *On Weaving* in 1965. During the 1960s she also started printmaking and devoted much of her later career to this artform.

Anni Albers died in Connecticut in 1994.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of artist and weaver Anni Albers measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1924-1969. They consist primarily of printed materials about Albers' exhibitions, Bauhaus training, and Black Mountain weaving classes.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as one series:

- Series 1: Printed Materials, 1929-1969 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Art -- Study and teaching  
Weaving, History  
Women artists

Names:

Bauhaus  
Black Mountain College (Black Mountain, N.C.)

Occupations:

Art teachers  
Weavers

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Printed Material, 1929-1969

*0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Box 1, Folder 1	Reviews and Articles, 1950-1965
Box 1, Folder 2	Magazines, 1969
Box 1, Folder 3	Clipping and Monograph, 1957, 1960
Box 1, Folder 4	Magazine and Magazine Clippings, 1960-1965
Box 1, Folder 5	Clippings, 1949-1968
Box 1, Folder 6	Magazine and Announcements, 1957-1967
Box 1, Folder 7	Catalogs, 1956-1969
Box 1, Folder 8	Biographical, 1954-1963
Box 1, Folder 9	Photocopies of Letters, 1961-1968
Box 1, Folder 10	Bibliography, circa 1969
Box 1, Folder 11	Abschrift, 1928
Box 1, Folder 12-13	Printed Articles by Albers, 1924-1950 (2 folders)

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