



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Ella Alluisi papers
relating to Margaret Peterson, 1958-1986,
in the Archives of American Art.

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2022/08/10

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Ella Alluisi papers relating to Margaret Peterson, 1958-1986.....	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Ella Alluisi papers relating to Margaret Peterson
Date:	1958-1986
Identifier:	AAA.alluella
Creator:	Alluisi, Ella
Extent:	0.2 Items
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of Ella Alluisi regarding educator and artist Margaret Peterson measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1958 to 1986. Included are letters from Peterson to Alluisi and scattered records on the Margaret Peterson Trust.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1987 by Ella Alluisi, a friend of Peterson.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reel 4194 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory may not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The collection received a preliminary level of arrangement after donation and was microfilmed on reel 4194. The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022, with funding provided by the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Ella Alluisi papers regarding Margaret Peterson, 1958-1986. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

Conditions Governing Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or

restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the Smithsonian's Terms of Use for additional information.

Biographical / Historical

Margaret Peterson O'Hagan (1902-1997) was an abstract painter and educator active in Berkeley, California.

Margaret Peterson was born in Seattle, Washington studied at and studied at the University of California, Berkeley. She married Canadian writer Howard O'Hagan. In 1950, Peterson resigned her position as a longtime faculty member of the art department at the University of California, Berkeley after refusing to take an oath of loyalty influenced by McCarthyism. After 1950, Peterson continued to exhibit her paintings and moved to British Columbia, Canada. She died in 1997.

Ella Wharton Alluisi (1912-1996) was a painter and sculptor active in California.

Alluisi was born in Houston, Texas and studied at the University of California, Berkeley where she likely became acquainted with Margaret Peterson. She married Jean Alluisi and settled in Santa Cruz, California where she died in 1996.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Ella Alluisi regarding educator and artist Margaret Peterson measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1958 to 1986. Included are letters from Peterson to Alluisi and scattered records on the Margaret Peterson Trust.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women painters
- Women sculptors

Names:

- Peterson, Margaret, 1903-

Occupations:

- Educators -- California -- Berkeley
- Painters -- California -- Berkeley
- Sculptors -- California -- Berkeley

Container Listing

Series 1: Ella Alluisi papers relating to Margaret Peterson, 1958-1986

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Language: English.

Scope and Contents: Found are forty five letters are from Margaret Peterson (O'Hagan) to Ella Alluisi. In these letters, Peterson reflects upon her artistic activities, politics in the U.S., and her living conditions in Canada and Italy. Also included is a file on the Margaret Peterson Trust containing newsletters concerning the activities the foundation and a poem and letters of thanks by Peterson.

Box 1, Folder 1 On Margaret Peterson Trust, 1956-1986

Box 1, Folder 2-3 Correspondence, 1958-1986

[Return to Table of Contents](#)