



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Benny Andrews papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Benny Andrews papers
Date:	1945-1968
Identifier:	AAA.andrbenn
Creator:	Andrews, Benny, 1930-2006
Extent:	5 Microfilm reels
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1968 by Benny Andrews.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to the lender Benny Andrews after microfilming.

Related Materials

Emory University Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library holds the Benny Andrews papers, 1940-2006.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels N68-76 & N68-77, N68-81 through N68-83 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Benny Andrews (1930-2006) was an African American painter and educator in New York, N.Y. After graduating from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1958, he moved to New York to continue his art career. In 1962 he had his first solo exhibition at Forum Gallery. Throughout his career, Andrews developed a reputation as a socially-minded artist and he was an advocate for greater visibility for African American artists in the art world. He led art education programs for underserved students and taught at Queens College through the 1990s, and also served as the Director of the Visual Arts Program for the National Endowment for the Arts from 1982 to 1984. Andrews also co-founded the Black Emergency Cultural Coalition, which demanded greater visibility for people of color in art museums and in 1969 protested the *Harlem On My Mind: Cultural Capital of Black America, 1900-1968* exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Scope and Contents

This microfilm collection of Benny Andrews papers includes autobiographical notes; family, general, and business correspondence; clippings; exhibition catalogs and announcements; notebooks with drawings; sketchbooks; and photographs.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- African American artists
- African American educators
- African American painters

Types of Materials:

- Drawings
- Sketchbooks

Occupations:

- Educators -- New York (State) -- New York
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York