



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Walter and Louise Arensberg papers

Archives of American Art
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	2

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Walter and Louise Arensberg papers
Identifier:	AAA.arenwalt
Date:	1912-1982 (bulk 1917-1982)
Extent:	2 Microfilm reels (558 items on 2 microfilm reels)
Creator:	Arensberg, Walter, 1878-1954 Arensberg, Louise S. (Louise Stevenson), 1879-1953
Language:	Multiple languages .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1985 by the Francis Bacon Library and Foundation, Claremont, Calif. Most, or perhaps all, of the microfilmed material was subsequently physically transferred from the Francis Bacon Foundation to the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1996 and formally given to the Museum in 2001 by the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, which had received it as part of a larger gift from the Francis Bacon Foundation in 1995.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to lender after microfilming, and subsequently donated to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Arensberg Archives.

Related Materials

The Philadelphia Museum of Art, Library and Archives holds the Arensberg Archives, 1905-1957. The Huntington Library holds the Walter Arensberg letters, 1927-1954.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3570-3571 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.

Conditions Governing Use

Authorization to publish, quote, or reproduce requires written permission from Archivist of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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Biographical / Historical

Walter (1878-1954) and Louise Arensberg (1879-1953) were art collectors in New York, New York and Los Angeles, California. Walter Arensberg was also a poet and art critic.

Scope and Contents

The microfilmed Walter and Louise Arensberg papers contain correspondence (1917-1982) with Marcel Duchamp (1917-1968), Beatrice Wood (1952-1982), Charles Sheeler (1953-1955), and others. A few letters are illustrated or include photographs, poetry, and printed material. Some correspondence with Marcel Duchamp is in French. Also included in the papers are a list of art in the Arensberg collection (1951), compiled for a tax return; poetry and essays by the psychiatrist E. E. Southard; and notes and scripts for skits and pantomimes by Guillaume Apollinaire.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting

Names:

Apollinaire, Guillaume, 1880-1918

Duchamp, Marcel, 1887-1968

Sheeler, Charles, 1883-1965

Wood, Beatrice

Occupations:

Art patrons