



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Ruth Armer papers

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

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

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Ruth Armer papers
<b>Date:</b>	1911-1976
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.armeruth
<b>Creator:</b>	Armer, Ruth, 1896-1977
<b>Extent:</b>	0.8 Linear feet (ca. 550 items (on 2 partial reels of microfilm))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Material on reel 2200 donated 1974 by Ruth Armer; material on reel 4046 donated 1986 by John and Robert Brantsen.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 2200 and 4046 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Painter; San Francisco, Calif.; b. 1896; d. 1977. Armer studied at the Mark Hopkins and later in New York City with Henri, Bellows, and Sloan. During her career she worked as a commercial illustrator as well as a landscape and portrait artist. In the late thirties she experimented with abstraction, a tendency reinforced by contact with the California School of Fine Arts abstract expressionist movement in the late forties. She taught for years in the Bay area and was an active exhibiting artist until her death.

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## Scope and Contents

Reel 2200: 27 letters received, 1918-1951; a scrapbook, 1911-1971, containing clippings and printed material pertaining to exhibitions and her painting technique; business papers, 1931-1936; writings and notes, undated; clippings and printed miscellany, 1914-1974.

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## Scope and Contents

Reel 4046: ca. 200 photographs of paintings and sculpture by Armer, and of gallery installations of her work; 8 letters received, 1925-1976; writings and notes; resumes; bookplates designed by Armer; and printed miscellany.

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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 -- Collectors and collecting
- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women painters

Occupations:

- Collectors
- Educators -- California -- San Francisco
- Painters -- California -- San Francisco