



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Matthew Baigell papers

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Matthew Baigell papers
Date:	[ca. 1965-1985]
Identifier:	AAA.baigmatt
Creator:	Baigell, Matthew
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet ((partially microfilmed on 1 reel))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1980, 2002 and 2004 by Matthew Baigell.

Location of Originals

Copy of the Hoyt Sherman interview also available at the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 2086 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.

Biographical / Historical

Art historian; New York, N.Y. b. 1933. Baigell is associate professor of art, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, writings and research material concerning Thomas Hart Benton and Baigell's other writings. Also included is a ca. 1965 interview with Hoyt Sherman conducted by Baigell.

Scope and Contents

REEL 2086: Letters, notes, and writings, some illustrated, ca. 1967-1972, from Thomas Hart Benton to Baigell for Baigell's writings and biography of Benton. Benton writes about synchronism, cubism, regionalism,

social realism, John Weichsel, Stuart Davis, Stanton Macdonald-Wright, Reginald Marsh, and others, and his life. Included is a copy of Benton's 53-page handwritten manuscript, "The Thirties," describing his mural commissions and the controversies with the social realists over his regionalist style of painting. Also included are 2 letters from Louis Lozowick, and one each from William Gropper and Harry Gottlieb in response to Baigell's questions of social realism, regionalism, and art in the 1930's.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION: Letters, research notes, and writings on Thomas Hart Benton, as well as correspondence with Dorothy Dehner, Doris Lee, Louis Lozowick, Raphael Soyer and Ben Shahn, among others, relating to Baigell's book, "The American Scene: American Painting of the 1930s," (1974). Also included is an interview with colleague Hoyt Sherman conducted by Baigell, ca. 1965, in which Sherman discusses perception, Cézanne, and Sherman's most famous pupil, Roy Lichtenstein, who always testified that he was profoundly influenced by Sherman's methods and philosophy. Sherman analyzes Lichtenstein's work and recalls the artist during his student days at Ohio State University, and discusses his possible impact on Lichtenstein.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Cubism
- Muralists
- Regionalism
- Social realism

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Benton, Thomas Hart, 1889-1975
- Cézanne, Paul, 1839-1906
- Davis, Stuart, 1892-1964
- Gottlieb, Harry, 1895-
- Gropper, William, 1897-1977
- Lichtenstein, Roy, 1923-1997
- Lozowick, Louis, 1892-1973
- Macdonald-Wright, Stanton, 1890-1973
- Marsh, Reginald, 1898-1954
- Sherman, Hoyt Leon, 1903-
- Weichsel, John, 1870-1946

Occupations:

- Painters