



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Charles Biederman papers

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

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3
Series 1: Charles Biederman papers, 1930-1977.....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Charles Biederman papers
<b>Date:</b>	1930-1977
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.biedchar
<b>Creator:</b>	Biederman, Charles Joseph, 1906-2004
<b>Extent:</b>	23 Microfilm reels
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1978-1979 by Charles Biederman.

### Location of Originals

Originals returned to lender, Charles Biederman, after microfilming. Biederman subsequently donated his papers to the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota.

### Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Neil Juhl Larsen research material on Charles Biederman, circa 1927-2011 and the microfilmed David Barr papers relating to Charles Biederman, 1963-1976.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 1446-1450 and 1662-1679 available for use 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Charles Biederman (1906-2004) was a painter and sculptor from Red Wing, Minnesota. Biederman was born in Cleveland, Ohio and studied art at the Cleveland Art Institute, and later at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. He worked and lived in Chicago, New York, and Paris before settling in Red Wing, Minnesota in 1942. Biederman was the author of numerous books on art theory, and best known for his three-dimensional painted aluminum constructions, created from the early 1950s to the late 1990s.

## Scope and Contents

The microfilmed Charles Biederman papers contain correspondence, journals, writings, printed material, and published materials. Microfilmed on Reels 1446-1450 are personal and business correspondence regarding Biederman's art and books *Art as Evolution of Visual Knowledge* and *The New Cézanne*. Among the correspondents are John and Joan Barnes, David Barr, David Bohm, Ian Finley, Peggy Guggenheim, S.I. Hayakawa, Marjorie Mercer Kendig, Ron Kostyniuk, and Eugene Pauls. Also included are two copybooks with letters from Biederman to John and Eugenie Anderson. Microfilmed on Reels 1662-1679 are correspondence with Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Eric Bell, Naum Gabo, Kathleen Lonsdale, Dorothy Miller, Victor Pasmore, and poet Jonathan Williams and others; notes and typed manuscripts of Biederman's articles and books about art; an audio script of a film; exhibition catalogs and announcements; clippings; and a biographical sketch.

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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 -- Study and teaching -- United States
- Art criticism -- United States
- Sculpture, Modern -- 20th century -- United States

Occupations:

- Authors -- Minnesota -- Red Wing
- Sculptors -- Minnesota

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Charles Biederman papers, 1930-1977

Reel 1446, Frame 1-1702	Alphabetical Index File, 1946-1959 (A-P)
Reel 1447, Frame 1-487	Alphabetical Index File, 1946-1959 (P-Z)
Reel 1447, Frame 488-1623	Alphabetical Index File, 1946-1952 (A-Z)
Reel 1447, Frame 1624-1715	Alphabetical Index File, 1952-1964 (A-N)
Reel 1448, Frame 1-156	Alphabetical Index File, 1952-1964 (N-Z)
Reel 1448, Frame 157-1648	Alphabetical Index File, 1964-1973 (A-M)
Reel 1449, Frame 1-1109	Alphabetical Index File, 1964-1973 (M-Z)
Reel 1449, Frame 1110-1706	Alphabetical Index File, 1965-1977 (A-M)
Reel 1450, Frame 1-327	Alphabetical Index File, 1965-1977 (M-Z)
Reel 1450, Frame 328-743	Copybooks of Correspondence (Notebook 1 and 2)
Reel 1662, Frame 4-28	Biographical Material
Reel 1662, Frame 29-1356	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1663, Frame 4-1333	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1664, Frame 4-1393	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated

Reel 1665, Frame 4-1397	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1666, Frame 4-1360	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1667, Frame 4-1344	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1668, Frame 4-1263	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1669, Frame 4-1147	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1670, Frame 4-1322	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1671, Frame 4-1310	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1672, Frame 4-1355	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1673, Frame 4-1302	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1674, Frame 4-475	Correspondence, 1935-1977, undated
Reel 1674, Frame 476-1297	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1675, Frame 5-1324	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1676, Frame 7-1475	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1677, Frame 4-1424	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1678, Frame 4-1439	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1679, Frame 4-380	Journals, 1930-1977
Reel 1679, Frame 381-414	Audio Script of Film on Biederman

Reel 1679, Frame 415-460	Exhibition Catalogs, Announcements Invitations, 1936-1973, undated
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Reel 1679, Frame 461-518	Magazine Articles, 1936-1973, undated
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Reel 1679, Frame 519-577	Book Review, 1949-1958, undated
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Reel 1679, Frame 578-740	Clippings, 1936-1973, undated
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*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*