



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Lou Block papers

Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Lou Block papers
Date:	1936-1938
Identifier:	AAA.bloclou
Creator:	Block, Lou, 1895-1969 Federal Art Project (New York, N.Y.)
Extent:	47 Items ((on partial microfilm reel))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1965 by Louis Block.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to Louis Block after microfilming.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel NDA 18 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

Administrator, Federal Art Project; New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

Papers relating to Block's involvement as a supervisor in the WPA Federal Art Project New York City office and as a member of the Artists Congress.

Scope and Contents

Frames 825-889: Photographs of murals in New York City, many unidentified, and photographs of strike and picketing by Artists' Union [microfilm title WPA-FAP, New York].

Scope and Contents

Frames 1013-1300: Correspondence and memoranda regarding rejection of murals for the Harlem Hospital by black artists, and charges of racism and segregation in the FAP; memos and reports by Block on the Index of American Design in New York City, including a roster of master artists on the Index; memos relating to cutbacks and quotas on the FAP; memos from the Supervisors Association of the FAP; Artists Congress report to membership, November 1936; issues of AMERICAN ARTIST; Index of American Design exhibition catalogs; and other printed material.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- African American artists
- Art and state -- New York (State) -- New York
- Federal aid to public welfare -- New York (State) -- New York
- Federal aid to the arts -- New York (State) -- New York
- Mural painting and decoration, American
- New Deal, 1933-1939 -- New York (State) -- New York

Names:

- American Artists' Congress
- Artists' Union (New York, N.Y.)
- Index of American Design

Occupations:

- Arts administrators

Places:

- United States -- Economic conditions -- 1918-1945