



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

John Canaday papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	John Canaday papers
Date:	1932-1973
Identifier:	AAA.canajohn
Creator:	Canaday, John, 1907-1985
Extent:	0.44 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reels 1393, 3482, D257-D259, and 4909 was donated 1966-1974 by John Canaday. Material on reels NYJC1-NYJC6 was lent for microfilming 1965 by Canaday. He subsequently donated the papers he lent to Syracuse University.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the microfilm of 16 scrapbooks microfilmed onto Reels D257-D259. Scrapbooks contain clippings of art columns from newspapers, 1932-1962 and are no longer part of the physical holdings of this collection.

Location of Originals

Reels NYJC1-NYJC 6: Originals located in Syracuse University, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Libraries.

Related Materials

Also in the Archives are papers lent for microfilming in 1965 by John Canaday (microfilm reels NYJC1-NYJC6), including correspondence with artists and others regarding Canaday's articles and reviews written for the New York Times, 1959-1965. Among the correspondents are George Biddle, Balcomb Greene, Adolf Dehn, Ernest Fiene, Joseph Hirsch, Karl Knaths, I. Rice Pereira, Nathaniel Poussette-Dart, Henry Varnum Poor, Selden Rodman, Jack Twoarkov, and William Zorach.

Related Materials

John Canaday papers are also located at Syracuse University.

Other Finding Aids

Microfilm inventory for papers lent for microfilming on microfilm reels NYJC1-NYJC 6 is available at Archives of American Art offices.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels D257-D259, NYJC1-NYJC6, 1393, 3482, and 4909 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. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

John Canaday (1907-1985) was an art critic in New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence; scrapbooks; writings; and clippings.

Scope and Contents

Reel 1393: Correspondence which Canaday received and sent as art critic for the "New York Times". The letters are mostly from the general public, but also from museum staff, other critics, and artists. Many are about the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Barnett Newman. Correspondents include Jacob Burck, Edward and Rosamund Corbett, Stuart Davis, Thomas Hoving, Majorie and Virginia Lewisjohn, Bob Osborne, E. P. Richardson, and Tessim Zorach. Other items include drafts of articles, clippings, and a photo of Canaday in Venice, 1935.

Scope and Contents

Reel 3482: A letter to Canaday, October 7, 1960, from Si Lewen regarding Canaday's "call for a 'moratorium on art' and an invitation to all artists to occupy themselves with domestic service."

Scope and Contents

Reel 4909: A one page letter to Canaday from Nora Scott, February 18, 1973.

Scope and Contents

Unmicrofilmed: A letter from Balcomb Greene to John Canaday, March 14, 1960, written upon reading a review by Canaday of an exhibition of members of the American Abstract Artists art organization, in which Greene provides information and his reminiscences about the organization and several of its members.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

American Abstract Artists

Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.)
Newman, Barnett, 1905-1970

Occupations:

Art critics