



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Federico Castellón Papers, 1925-1968, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | Federico Castellón papers |
| Date: | 1925-1968 |
| Identifier: | AAA.castfred |
| Creator: | Castellón, Federico, 1914-1971 |
| Extent: | 1.5 Linear feet |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | The papers of Federico Castellón measure 1.5 linear feet and date from 1925 to 1968. The papers document Castellón's career as a painter and graphic artist through correspondence, scrapbooks, clippings, exhibition announcements, artwork, and photographs. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1966-1971 by Federico Castellón.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is an oral history interview with Federico Castellón conducted by Paul Cummings, April 7-14, 1971.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reels D297 and 74 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

Portions of the collection were microfilmed on receipt on reels D297 and 74. The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Ricky Gomez in 2023.

Preferred Citation

Federico Castellón papers, 1925-1968. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

Federico Castellón (1914-1971) was a painter, sculptor, and graphic artist from Almeria, Spain who worked in Brooklyn, New York.

Castellón immigrated to Brooklyn, New York as a child. In 1934, with the help of Diego Rivera, Castellón secured a four-year fellowship from the Spanish government to travel through Europe to study painting. In 1940 he received a Guggenheim fellowship and exhibited at institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Art Institute of Chicago. Castellón taught at Teachers College, Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and Queens College. He was elected to membership in the National Academy of Design in New York and to the Society of American Graphic Artists.

Castellón died in 1971.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Federico Castellón measure 1.5 linear feet and date from 1925 to 1968. The papers document Castellón's career as a painter and graphic artist through correspondence, scrapbooks, clippings, exhibition announcements, artwork, and photographs.

Correspondence consists primarily of letters to and from Federico Castellón to his second wife, Hilda. Also included is one file of correspondence with friends and one file of business correspondence. Some of the correspondence features sketches by Castellón.

Professional activity files consist of photographs of Castellón and his family, scrapbooks of his works, some clippings, and some exhibition catalogs. Also included are magazine articles featuring some of his works.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1940-1968 (0.9 linear feet; Box 1)
 - Series 2: Professional Activity Files, 1925-1966 (0.6 linear feet; Boxes 1-2, OV 3-5)
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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:

Latino and Latin American artists
Scrapbooks

Occupations:

Graphic artists -- New York (State) -- Brooklyn

Painters -- New York (State) -- Brooklyn
Sculptors -- New York (State) -- Brooklyn

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, 1940-1968

0.9 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Correspondence consists primarily of letters to and from Federico Castellón to his second wife, Hilda. Also included is one file of correspondence with friends and one file of business correspondence. Some of the correspondence features sketches by Castellón.

Arrangement: The series is arranged in chronological order by grouping: Federico Castellón, Hilda Castellón, Federico and Hilda Castellón, with friends, and business.

Federico Castellón

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 1-2 | Correspondence, 1943 |
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Hilda Castellón

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|-----------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Correspondence, 1940 |
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|-------------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 4-5 | Correspondence, 1943 |
|-------------------|----------------------|

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|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Correspondence, March-May 1945 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|

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|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 7-8 | Correspondence, June 1945 |
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|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Correspondence, July 1945 |
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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Correspondence, August 1945 |
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| Box 1, Folder 11 | Correspondence, September-November 1945 |
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|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 12-13 | Correspondence, 1950-1951 |
|---------------------|---------------------------|

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 14-16 | Correspondence, 1965 |
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|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 17-18 | Correspondence, 1966, 1968 |
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Federico & Hilda Castellón

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 19-20 | Correspondence, 1940 |
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|---------------------|----------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 21-22 | Correspondence, 1945 |
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| Box 1, Folder 23 | Correspondence, March 18 - June 19, 1945 |
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|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 24-25 | Correspondence, 1955 |
| Box 1, Folder 26 | Correspondence, 1965 |
| Box 1, Folder 27 | Correspondence, 1966 |
| Box 1, Folder 28 | Correspondence, 1967 |
| Box 1, Folder 29 | From Friends, 1943-1965 |
| Box 1, Folder 30 | Business, 1943-1967 |
| Box 1, Folder 31 | Miscellaneous, 1944-1946, 1965 |

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Series 2: Professional Activity Files, 1925-1966

0.6 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 3-5)

Scope and Contents: Professional activity files consist of photographs of Castellón and his family, scrapbooks of his works, some clippings, and some exhibition catalogs. Also included are magazine articles featuring some of his works.

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|---------------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 32-33 | Photographs, 1925-1958 |
| Box 1, Folder 34 | Legal Documents, 1935-1964 |
| Oversize 5 | Commercial Art, circa 1938-1943 |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Commercial Art, circa 1940-1946 |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Illustrations in "Ciba Symposia" Magazine, 1942-1943 |
| Oversize 3 | Scrapbook of Works, circa 1942-1947 Notes: Scrapbook material is divided between OV 3 and OV 4 |
| Oversize 4 | Scrapbook of Works, circa 1942-1947 Notes: Scrapbook material is divided between OV 3 and OV 4. |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Illustrations in "The Lamp" Magazine, 1947 |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | Clippings, 1949-1952 |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | "Life" Magazine Articles, 1951, 1956 |
| Box 2, Folder 6 | Scrapbook, Trip to South America, 1955 |
| Box 2, Folder 7 | Exhibition Catalogs, 1955, 1963 |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | Artwork, Flags, circa 1965 |
| Box 2, Folder 9 | Miscellaneous, 1958-1966 |

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| AAA.castfred holdings | |
| Reel 0074.castell c2 | AAA - microfilm ILL- Duplicate |
| Reel 0074.castellon | AAA - microfilm ILL- no restrictions |

Reel D297.castellon

AAA - microfilm ILL- no restrictions

Reel
wdcD297.castellon

AAA - microfilm D.C.- no restrictions