



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Minna Wright Citron Papers, 1930-1980, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received Federal support from the Collections
Care Initiative Fund, administered by the Smithsonian American
Women's History Initiative and the National Collections Program.

2020/08/25

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Minna Wright Citron papers
Identifier:	AAA.citrminn
Date:	1930-1980
Creator:	Citron, Minna Wright, 1896-1991
Extent:	1.3 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of painter, printmaker and muralist Minna Wright Citron measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1980. Found are scattered biographical materials, correspondence, writings for articles and lectures, printed material, photographs, and artwork.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Minna Wright Citron donated her papers to the Archives of American Art in several installments from 1968 to 1981.

Related Materials

Syracuse University also holds the Minna Citron papers, 1932-2014.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reels 97 and 268 at 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

The collection was processed, an a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2020.

Preferred Citation

Minna Wright Citron papers, 1930-1980. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Painter and printmaker Minna Wright Citron (1896-1991) was active in New York City, New York. She worked with the Works Progress Administration Federal Art Project as a teacher and completed multiple murals for Tennessee post offices.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, Minna Wright Citron began her study of art at the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences in 1924. She juggled the work of raising two small sons, a husband, and her art career and had her first solo exhibition in 1930 at New School for Social Research. In 1934, she divorced her husband Henry Citron and moved her children, Casper and Thomas, from Brooklyn to Manhattan.

Citron spent her early career as a painter, muralist, and educator. After World War II, she began to experiment with printmaking techniques and produced woodblock prints, etchings, and lithographs. She exhibited her works around the world, notably in Zagreb, Croatia (formerly Yugoslavia).

Minna Wright Citron died in 1991.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter, printmaker and muralist Minna Wright Citron measure 1.3 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1980. Found are scattered biographical materials, correspondence, writings for articles and lectures, printed material, photographs, and artwork.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women painters
- Women printmakers

Types of Materials:

- Drawings

Occupations:

- Educators -- New York (State) -- New York
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
- Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Minna Wright Citron papers, 1930-1980

1.3 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 3)

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials include short biographical sketches, resumes, and printed pamphlets for Casper Citron's run for the United States House of Representatives.

Correspondence is with family, friends, and colleagues. Letters from the 1940s discuss her murals in Newport and Manchester, Tennessee. Other correspondents include the American Color Print Society and the U.S. Department of State which helped to organize her international exhibitions. Also found are typescripts of letters Citron wrote to family while in Paris in 1947.

Writings include notes and outlines for lectures and articles on art by Citron. Printed materials include many exhibition announcements and catalogs for her exhibitions in the United States and abroad, some of which are annotated. There are portraits and snapshots of Citron and of Citron with her art, as well as photographs of events, family, friends, exhibitions, studio spaces, and Citron's artwork. Also found are pencil sketches, ink sketches, an etching, a woodblock print, and two lithographs.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1940-1967
Box 1, Folder 2-8	Correspondence, 1940-1980
Box 1, Folder 9	Correspondence, Typescripts of Letters from Paris, 1940s
Box 1, Folder 10-11	Writings and Notes, Lectures, 1950s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 12	Writings and Notes, Articles by Minna Wright Citron, 1940s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 13	Writings and Notes, Articles by Others, 1949-1960s
Box 1, Folder 14	Contract, Lafayette College, 1947
Box 1, Folder 15-20	Printed Material, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1930-1980
Box 1, Folder 21-23	Printed Material, Clippings, 1930s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 1	Photographs of Minna Wright Citron, 1940s-1970s
Box 2, Folder 2	Photographs of Minna Wright Citron with Friends and Family, 1930s-1970s
Box 2, Folder 3	Photographs of Exhibitions and Studio, 1940-1973
Box 2, Folder 4	Photographs of Works of Art, 1940s-1960s
Box 2, Folder 5	Artwork, Etching, circa 1950

Box 2, Folder 6 Artwork, Sketches, circa 1940-circa 1970

Oversize 3 Artwork, Oversized Woodcut and Lithographs, 1939-1940s

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