A Finding Aid to the Samuel Colman Papers, 1855-1901, in the Archives of American Art

Rihoko Ueno

2022/05/20

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Samuel Colman papers
Date:	1855-1901
Identifier:	AAA.colmsamu
Creator:	Colman, Samuel, 1832-1920
Extent:	0.01 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of New York-based landscape painter Samuel Colman measure 0.01 linear feet and date from 1855 to 1901. The collection consists of 15 letters to his sister Mela, his brother-in-law Emerson Howard, and other family, dated 1855-1861; also one undated letter and one written in 1901 to Kate; and an undated letter of a descendant. Colman also writes of painter George H. Boughton, with whom he shared a studio and rooms. In addition there are 16 drawings and sketches, probably the work of several persons, and "The Death Song of a Cherokee Indian," written by William Colman in 1809.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Samuel Colman papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by Mrs. David Prince, Colman's grandniece, in 1973.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reel 832 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

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Rihoko Ueno in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Samuel Colman papers, 1855-1901. 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. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Samuel Colman (1832-1920) was a painter of landscape and genre subjects, etcher and watercolorist who was primarily based in New York City. He was born in Portland, Maine and studied in New York with Asher B. Durand, and abroad. Last name is alternatively spelled Coleman.

Scope and Contents

The papers of New York-based landscape painter Samuel Colman measure 0.01 linear feet and date from 1855 to 1901. The collection consists of 15 letters to his sister Mela, his brother-in-law Emerson Howard, and other family, dated 1855-1861; also one undated letter and one written in 1901 to Kate; and an undated letter of a descendant. In Colman's letters from France, he writes of life there, and expresses sentiments for the family. Colman also writes of painter George H. Boughton, with whom he shared a studio and rooms. In addition there are 16 drawings and sketches, probably the work of several persons, and "The Death Song of a Cherokee Indian," written by William Colman in 1809.

Arrangement

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

• Series 1: Samuel Colman Papers, 1855-1901 (Folder 1; 34 Items)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Drawings

Names:

Boughton, George Henry, 1834-1905
Colman, William

Occupations:

Landscape painters -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
Watercolorists -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Samuel Colman Papers, 1855-1901

34 Items (Folder 1)

Scope and Contents:	The Samuel Colman papers consist of 15 letters to his sister Mela, his brother-in-law Emerson Howard, and other family, dated 1855-1861; also one undated letter and one written in 1901 to Kate; and an undated letter of a descendant. In Colman's letters from France, he writes of life there, and expresses sentiments for the family. Colman also writes of painter George H. Boughton, with whom he shared a studio and rooms. In addition there are 16 drawings and sketches, probably the work of several persons, and "The Death Song of a Cherokee Indian," written by William Colman in 1809.

Folder 1   Samuel Colman papers, 1855-1901