



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Kenyon and Louise Cox
Papers, 1876-1977, in the Archives of American Art

Erin Corley

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection
was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Kenyon and Louise Cox papers
Identifier:	AAA.coxkenyl
Date:	1876-1977
Extent:	0.3 Linear feet
Creator:	Cox, Kenyon, 1856-1919
Language:	English .
Summary:	<p>The papers of Kenyon and Louise Cox measure 0.3 linear feet and date from 1876 to 1977. Included are Kenyon and Louise's Certificate of Marriage, autobiographical notes by Louise focusing on her time at the National Academy of Design, writings, and correspondence, primarily from Kenyon Cox, including several illustrated letters. Also found is artwork by Kenyon and others, including Julian Alden Weir, biographical material on Jacob Dolson Cox, Kenyon's Father, photographs and printed reproductions of artwork, magazine and newspaper clippings, an unpublished bibliography on Kenyon Cox, and a handwritten list of Kenyon Cox paintings in the National Academy of Design permanent collection.</p>

Administrative Information

Provenance

The collection was donated by Charles E. Feinberg, 1955-1968, the National Museum of American Art in 1967 and 1984, and the Cooper Hewitt Museum in 1983. The material was microfilmed upon receipt as two separate manuscript collections.

Related Material

Also found in the Archives of American Art are the Allyn Cox papers, 1870-1982. His papers contain correspondence, biographies, photographs, sketchbooks, writings, and printed material, some of it relating to his father, Kenyon Cox.

Alternative Forms Available

The papers of **Kenyon and Louise Cox** were digitized in 2006 by the Archives of American Art, and total 168 images.

Processing Information

The collection was microfilmed upon receipt as two separate manuscript collections on reels 3060, D8, 2803 and 3134. It was fully merged, arranged, and described by Erin Corley in 2005,

and the bulk of it was scanned, with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

Preferred Citation

Kenyon and Louise Cox papers, 1876-1977. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

The bulk of this collection has been digitized and is available online via AAA's website. Use of material not digitized requires an appointment.

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Biographical Note

Kenyon Cox was a prominent American painter, lecturer, and art critic. He was born in 1856, in Warren, Ohio, and he studied painting at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and in Paris, where he befriended artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Cox returned to the United States and made a living illustrating magazines and books, and teaching at the Art Students League in New York. In 1892 he married his student Louise Howland King, born in San Francisco in 1865. Together they became prominent painters and were responsible for the murals that decorated the Liberal Arts Building at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. During his career, Cox contributed articles and essays on art subjects to various magazines. He was a member of the Society of American Artists, the National Academy of Design, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Kenyon Cox died in 1919 and Louise in 1945. Their son, Allyn, born in 1896, became a successful muralist.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Kenyon and Louise Cox measure 0.3 linear feet and date from 1876 to 1977. Included are Kenyon and Louise's Certificate of Marriage, autobiographical notes by Louise focusing on her time at the National Academy of Design, writings, and correspondence, primarily from Kenyon Cox, including several illustrated letters. Also found is artwork by Kenyon and others, including Julian Alden Weir, biographical material on Jacob Dolson Cox, Keyon's Father, photographs and printed reproductions of artwork, magazine and newspaper clippings, an unpublished bibliography on Kenyon Cox, and a handwritten list of Kenyon Cox paintings in the National Academy of Design permanent collection.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection, items are categorized into one series. Items are arranged chronologically within each folder.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Muralists -- New York (State) -- New York
Painting, American
Works of art

Types of Materials:

Illustrated letters
Photographs

Names:

Cox, Louise Howland King, 1865-1945

Occupations:

Art critics

Container Listing

Series 1: Kenyon and Louise Cox papers, 1876-1977

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1, OV 2)

Box 1, Folder 1	Certificate of Marriage, 1892 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1876-1877, 1882 Image(s) Oversize material housed in OV 2
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, 1893-1929 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 4	Autobiographical Notes by Louise Cox, 1945 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 5	Speech by Kenyon Cox, 1915 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 6	Writings, "Artist and Public" by Kenyon Cox, undated Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 7	Writings, Miscellaneous, 1892, 1933, 1967 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8	Drawings, 1876, undated Image(s) Oversize material housed in OV 2
Box 1, Folder 9	Biographical Material on Jacob Dolson Cox, circa 1929 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10	Photographs of Artwork, 1888-1922, undated
Box 1, Folder 11	Printed Material, Reproductions of Artwork, undated Oversize material housed in OV 2
Box 1, Folder 12	Printed Material, Clippings, 1884-1977, undated Image(s) Oversize material housed in OV 2
Box 1, Folder 13	Printed Material, Miscellaneous, 1901-1923

Box 1, Folder 14	Bibliography on Kenyon Cox, circa 1954 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 15	List of Paintings by Kenyon Cox in the N.A.D. Permanent Collection, undated Image(s)
Box OV 2	Oversize Correspondence Oversize material scanned with Box 1, Folder 2
Box OV 2	Oversize Drawings Oversize material scanned with Box 1, Folder 8
Box OV 2	Oversize Printed Material, Reproductions of Artwork Oversize material from Box 1, Folder 11
Box OV 2	Oversize Printed Material, Clippings Oversize material scanned with Box 1, Folder 12

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