



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Arthur L. and Joyce Lyon Dahl papers

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/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Arthur L. and Joyce Lyon Dahl papers
<b>Date:</b>	1926-1988
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.dahlarth
<b>Creator:</b>	Dahl, Arthur L., 1942- Dahl, Joyce Lyon
<b>Extent:</b>	3.6 Linear feet ((microfilmed on 7 reels))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1977-1986 by Arthur and Joyce Lyon Dahl.

### Acquisition Information

The second movement of Mark Tobey's composition, "Suite for Flute," was used on the sound track of "Mark Tobey," a 20-minute experimental film made in Seattle in 1952 by Robert Gardner. In 1959, Marian Willard Johnson, on the occasion of Tobey's birthday, engaged John Wummer to record this work privately. The record contained within this set of papers is the one she gave to Mark Tobey. Tobey gave the record to Dahl sometime before moving to Switzerland in 1960.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 1785-1788, 3829, 1819 & 4909 available for use at the 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. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Art collectors; Pebble Beach and San Francisco, California. The Dahls became close friends with Mark Tobey (1892-1976) through their involvement in the Baha'i World Faith and corresponded regularly with him.

---

## Scope and Contents

Letters; photographs; writings; sketches; financial records; a scrapbook; a phonograph album; exhibition announcements and clippings mainly relating to Mark Tobey.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 3829: Six letters to Dahl from Mark Tobey; a letter from Jermayne MacAgy requesting Tobey's painting "Autobiography" for an exhibit and Dahl's response; a letter from the Whitney Museum of Art regarding a Tobey painting; and a letter from the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of the U.S. regarding a Tobey exhibit. Also included is a phonograph album, 1959, of a Tobey musical composition "Suite for Flute," performed by John Wummer, inscribed on the jacket "To Mark Tobey, composer - Marion - 12/59."

---

## Scope and Contents

REELS 1785-1788: Correspondence; writings on Tobey; three sketches by Tobey; financial records relating to the sale of art works; organizational records of the Pacific Northwest Arts Center; exhibition announcements and catalogs; clippings; a scrapbook; and 13 photographs. Among the correspondents are Tobey, Pehr Hallsten, art dealers Otto D. Seligman, Dan Rhodes Johnson, and Marian Willard Johnson, museum curator William C. Seitz, and Tobey's attorney Arthur Barnett.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 1819: Photographs of two retrospective exhibitions of Mark Tobey's paintings at the Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Louvre, Paris, 1961, and at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1962. Included are installation shots and photographs of Tobey, Pehr Hallsten, William C. Seitz, Joyce Lyon Dahl, Andre Malraux, Georges Mathieu, Otto Seligman, Darthea Speyer, Arthur Barnett, Marian Willard Johnson, and Jacques Guerin.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 4909(fr. 972-980): Two letters 1971 & 1975, from Arthur Barnett to Arthur Dahl regarding Tobey; a black and white photograph taken by Arthur Dahl of Mark Tobey having tea with friends, including Joyce Dahl, on the occasion of his retrospective at the Louvre, 1961; and a snapshot of Dahl, his wife, Tobey, Pehr, and others taken at the home of George and Lucile Herbert.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Abstract expressionism  
Art -- Collectors and collecting  
Artists and patrons -- France -- Paris

Types of Materials:

Scrapbooks

Names:

Barnett, Arthur  
Guérin, Jacques  
Hallsten, Pehr, d. 1965

Johnson, Dan Rhodes  
Malraux, André, 1901-1976  
Mathieu, Georges, 1921-  
Seitz, William C. (William Chapin)  
Seligman, Otto D., 1890-1966  
Speyer, Darthea  
Tobey, Mark  
Willard, Marian, 1904-  
Wummer, John

Occupations:

Painters -- France -- Paris  
Painters -- Washington (State) -- Seattle