A Finding Aid to the Research Material on Amedeo Modigliani, circa 1920-1962, bulk circa 1950s, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Research material on Amedeo Modigliani
Identifier: AAA.datralbe
Date: circa 1920-1962
(bulk 1950-1959)
Extent: 2.1 Linear feet
Creator: d'Atri, Alberto G.
Language: Multiple languages
Many records are in French, and to a lesser extent, Italian.
French; Italian
Summary: Research material on Amedeo Modigliani, circa 1920-1962, measures 2.1 linear feet and was compiled by art critic Alberto G. d'Atri for his unpublished work, "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Modigliani Amedeo, 12 Juillet 1884 - 24 Janvier 1920 par Alberto G. d'Atri," circa 1950-1956. Found is Modigliani's death certificate, correspondence, writings, notes, printed material, reproductions, extensive photographs of artwork, and a register of Modigliani's works of art.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The research material on Amedeo Modigliani was donated to the Archives of American Art by Alberto G. d'Atri's daughter, Lisa Claire Martin, in 1995.

Processing Information
The collection was minimally processed and arranged by Joy Weiner in 2003, and described by Sarah Haug in 2009.

Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
The collection is open for research. Use requires an appointment.
Ownership and Literary Rights

The research material on Amedeo Modigliani is owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical Note

Alberto G. d'Atri was an art critic based in Paris, France. His subject was the Italian painter Amedeo Modigliani (1884-1920).

Scope and Content Note

Research material on Amedeo Modigliani, circa 1920-1962, measures 2.1 linear feet and was compiled by art critic Alberto G. d'Atri for his unpublished work, "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Modigliani Amedeo, 12 Juillet 1884 - 24 Janvier 1920 par Alberto G. d'Atri," circa 1950-1956. Found is Modigliani's death certificate, correspondence, writings, notes, printed material, reproductions, extensive photographs of artwork, and a register of Modigliani's works of art.

Correspondence includes letters to and from Alberto d'Atri with European and American museums and galleries, and scholars. A significant portion of the correspondence is in French, and to a lesser extent, Italian. Writings consist of typed manuscripts, drafts, and research notes, primarily in French. Notes include lists of Modigliani's works of art in the collections of museums, galleries, and private owners, and notes for an exhibition catalog of the artist's works.

Printed Material includes a handful of photocopied clippings, two exhibition announcements, and scattered articles and essays on Modigliani. Found among the reproductions are facsimiles of letters from Modigliani, prints, postcards and various printed material of Modigliani's artwork. Much of the research material consists of photographs of works of arts by Modigliani, many of which have provenance-related information written on the back of the photograph. Also found are a handful of reproduced photographs of Modigliani and his artist friends and models, and d'Atri's oversized one-volume register of Modigliani's works of art which contains 329 entries indicating titles, dimensions, dates, descriptions, ownership, provenance, and exhibition history for each work.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 8 series:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1948-1962 (Box 1; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 3: Writings, circa 1950-1956 (Box 1; 0.4 linear feet)
- Series 4: Notes, circa 1950s-1960 (Box 1; 8 folders)
- Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1920-1959 (Box 1; 3 folders)
- Series 6: Reproductions of Modigliani's Works of Art, circa 1937-1957 (Box 1; 4 folders)
- Series 7: Photographs, circa 1950s-1960s (Box 1-3; 0.9 linear feet)
- Series 8: Register of Modigliani's Works of Art, 1908-1920 (Box 4; 0.3 linear feet)
The materials in each series likely reflect the original arrangement by d’Atri. The bulk of d’Atri’s research and writing appears to have been conducted during the 1950s; therefore, many undated materials have been given the circa date 1950s.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Art critics -- France

Types of Materials:
- Drafts (documents)
- Manuscripts
- Notes
- Photographs

Names:
- Modigliani, Amedeo, 1884-1920
Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s

(Box 1; 1 folder)

Box 1, Folder 1  Modigliani's Death Certificate, circa 1950s

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Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1948-1962

(Box 1; 0.3 linear feet)

Correspondence includes letters to and from Alberto d'Atri with European and American museums and galleries, and scholars. Some folders contain photographs, notes, and other printed material. A significant portion of the correspondence is in French, and to a lesser extent, Italian.

Folders are arranged chronologically. Business cards and loose envelopes are filed after correspondence.

Box 1, Folder 2  Correspondence Relating to Portrait of Beatrice Hastings, circa 1948-1958
Box 1, Folder 3  Correspondence, circa 1950
Box 1, Folder 4  Correspondence with Galerie Bing, 1950-1951
Box 1, Folder 5  Correspondence, 1951
Box 1, Folder 6  Correspondence, 1952
Box 1, Folder 7  Correspondence (Romanet Blum), circa 1952-1957
Box 1, Folder 8  Correspondence, 1953-1954
Box 1, Folder 9  Correspondence, 1955
Box 1, Folder 10  Correspondence, 1956-1957
Box 1, Folder 11  Correspondence with Richard Dervan, 1957-1958
Box 1, Folder 12  Correspondence, 1958-1960
Box 1, Folder 13  Undated Correspondence, circa 1950s
Box 1, Folder 14  Business Cards, undated
Box 1, Folder 15  Loose Envelopes (Including Postal Receipts), circa 1951-1962
Box 1, Folder 16  Undated Loose Envelopes, circa 1950s

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Series 3: Writings, circa 1950-1956

(Box 1; 0.4 linear feet)

Writings consist of typed manuscripts with edits, drafts, and research notes. The bulk of the material is in French.

Box 1, Folder 17  "Modigliani: Sa Vie et Son Oeuvre", undated

Box 1, Folder 18-20 "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Modigliani Amedeo, 12 Juillet 1884 - 24 Janvier 1920 par Alberto G. d'Atri", circa 1950s
(includes photographs)

Box 1, Folder 21  Forward to "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Amedeo Modigliani", circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 22  Introduction to "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Amedeo Modigliani", circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 23  Drafts for "La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Amedeo Modigliani", circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 24  Drafts for Catalogue des Oeuvres de Amedeo Modigliani, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 25  Typescripts on Modigliani, circa 1950-1956

Box 1, Folder 26  Typescripts on Modigliani by d'Atri, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 27  Typescripts of a Talk by d'Atri, circa 1950s

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Series 4: Notes, circa 1950s-1960

(Box 1; 8 folders)
Notes include lists of Modigliani’s works of art in the collections of museums, galleries, and private owners, and notes for an exhibition catalog of the artist’s works. The bulk of the material is in French.

Folders are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1, Folder 28-29  Exhibition Lists of Modigliani’s Works of Art, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 30-31  Lists of Modigliani’s Artwork in the Collections of Museums, Galleries, and Owners, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 32  Notes for Catalog, 1954, undated

Box 1, Folder 33  d’Atri’s Research Material on Raphael, 1960, undated

Box 1, Folder 34  Various Notes, 1951-1958, undated

Box 1, Folder 35  Various Notes, undated

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Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1920-1959

(Box 1; 3 folders)

Printed Material includes a handful of photocopied clippings, two exhibition announcements, and scattered articles and essays on Modigliani. The bulk of the material is in French.

Folders are arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Box 1, Folder 36  Clippings (Photocopies), circa 1958-1959
Box 1, Folder 37  Exhibition Announcements, 1952, 1958
Box 1, Folder 38  Various Printed Material Including Reviews on Modigliani's Work, circa 1920-1952
Series 6: Reproductions of Modigliani’s Works of Art, circa 1937-1957

(Box 1; 4 folders)

Reproductions includes facsimiles of letters from Modigliani (circa 1908-1909), prints, postcards and various printed material of Modigliani’s artwork.

Folders are arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Box 1, Folder 39 Reproductions, 1953, 1956, undated

Box 1, Folder 40 Reproductions of Works of Art, circa 1937-1957

Box 1, Folder 41 Reproductions of Works of Art, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 42 Reproductions of Works of Art, circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 43 Reproductions of Works of Art, Postcards, undated

Image(s)

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Series 7: Photographs, circa 1950s-1960s

(Box 1-3; 0.9 linear feet)

Found are numerous black and white photographs of works of art by Modigliani. On the back of many photographs, d’Atri has written in French provenance-related information of the artwork. Some folders also contain letters, notes, and certification documentation. In addition, there are a handful of reproduced photographs of Modigliani, his artist friends and models, and scattered photographs of artwork by various other artists.

Photographs have been minimally arranged in a loose chronology based on the creation date of the earliest artwork in the folder, as indicated on the back of the photograph. Most folders are further arranged by the artwork’s subject matter or type of material.

Box 1, Folder Works of Art by Modigliani

Box 1, Folder 44 (1904-1919), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 45 Portraits (circa 1905-1913), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 46 Portraits (circa 1906-1917), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 47 Primarily Male Portraits (circa 1907-1919), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 48-50 Female Portraits (circa 1908-1919), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 51 Portraits (circa 1908-1919), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 52 Portraits (circa 1908-1920), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 53 Pencil Drawings (circa 1908-1918), circa 1950s

Box 1, Folder 54 Pencil Drawings (circa 1908-1919), circa 1950s

Box 2, Folder 1 Sculptures (circa 1909-1910), circa 1950s-1960s

Box 2, Folder 2 Pencil Drawings (circa 1910-1918), circa 1950s

Box 2, Folder 3 Caryatids (circa 1910-1916), circa 1950s

Box 2, Folder 4 Male Portraits (circa 1910-1919), circa 1950s

Box 2, Folder 5 Figures in Pencil (circa 1912-1918), circa 1950s

Box 2, Folder 6 Pencil Drawings (circa 1914-1918), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 7  Female Portraits (circa 1914-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 8  Female Portraits (circa 1915-1916), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 9  Female Portraits (circa 1915-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 10 Male Portraits (circa 1915-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 11 Primarily Pencil Drawings (circa 1915-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 12 Primarily Portraits of Beatrice Hastings (circa 1915-1916), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 13 Portraits of Paul Guillaume (circa 1915-1916), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 14 Portraits (circa 1915-1917), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 15 Primarily Portraits (circa 1915-1918), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 16 Portraits of Chaim Soutine (circa 1916-1918), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 17 Female Nudes in Pencil (circa 1916-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 18 Portraits (circa 1916-1919), circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 19 (Circa 1916-1920), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 1 Portraits of Leopold Zborowksi (circa 1916-1920), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 2 Female Portraits (circa 1916-1920), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 3 Portraits and Certification Documentation (circa 1916-1919), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 4-5 Primarily Female Portraits (circa 1917), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 6 Female Nudes (circa 1917), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 7 Portraits (circa 1917-1919), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 8 Portraits (circa 1917-1919), circa 1950s

(Includes letters, notes, and clippings)
Box 3, Folder 9 Portraits of Signora Zechowska (circa 1917-1919), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 10  Female Portraits (circa 1917-1920), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 11  Primarily Portraits (circa 1918), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 12  Sculptures (dates unknown), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 13  Undated Artwork, circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 14  Installation Shots of Modigliani’s Works of Arts, circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 15  Images of Modigliani, Family Members, and Artist Friends (circa 1912-1940s), circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 16-17  Various, circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 18  Various, Paintings by Other Artists from 1750-1896, undated

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Series 8: Register of Modigliani's Works of Art, circa 1950s

(Box 4; 1 folder)

This series is comprised of d'Atri's oversized one-volume register of Modigliani's works of art from 1908-1920. The register includes 329 entries indicating titles, dimensions, dates, descriptions, ownership, provenance, and exhibition history for each work.

Box 4, Folder 1 Register of Modigliani's Works of Art, circa 1950s

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