



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Paula Eliasoph Papers, 1917-1980, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2023/05/22

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Paula Eliasoph papers
Date:	1917-1980
Identifier:	AAA.eliapaul
Creator:	Eliasoph, Paula
Extent:	0.9 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of painter, printmaker, and educator, Paula Eliasoph measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1917 to 1980. While focusing on Eliasoph's later career in arts education and exhibitions, the papers also include sketches from 1917. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, drawings by Eliasoph and one by Abraham Walkowitz, photographs, printed material, a teaching file, and writings.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Paula Eliasoph donated her papers to the Archives of American Art in multiple accretions between 1971 and 1980.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reels 118 and 34 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The papers were microfilmed on Reels 18 and 34 after receipt. The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Paula Eliasoph papers, 1917-1980. 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.

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Biographical / Historical

Paula Eliasoph (1895-1983) was a painter, printmaker, and educator in New York City, New York. She studied at the Pratt Institute and had an adjoining studio with Childe Hassam. With Hassam, she edited his catalog raisonne of etchings. She taught courses in art to adults and children and exhibited her artwork around New York City.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter, printmaker, and educator, Paula Eliasoph measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1917 to 1980. While focusing on Eliasoph's later career in arts education and exhibitions, the papers also include sketches from 1917. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, drawings by Eliasoph and one by Abraham Walkowitz, photographs, printed material, a teaching file, and writings.

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

Names:

- Hassam, Childe, 1859-1935
- Walkowitz, Abraham, 1880-1965

Occupations:

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

Container Listing

Series 1: Paula Eliasoph Papers, 1917-1980

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

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials include artist statements, awards, and material concerning Eliasoph's service with the Air Warden Service United States Citizens Defense Corps. Correspondence is with friends, art institutions, and business associates, and mainly concerns exhibitions and includes scattered letters from John Howard Griffin and Abraham Walkowitz.

The majority of drawings are by Eliasoph and include sketches of the Pratt Institute building, people, and a mock-up of an advertisement for one of her art classes. Photographs depict Paula Eliasoph taken by G. Maillard Kessler, her husband Joseph Eliasoph, and her works of art. Printed materials consist of books and publications featuring writings or artwork by Eliasoph, clippings, and exhibition announcements and catalogs. Of note is a copy of *Childe Hassam: Handbook of the Complete Set of Etchings and Drypoints* published by Leonard Clayton Gallery, Inc., N.Y., in 1933; the publication is annotated by Childe Hassam, with a statement by Eliasoph. A teaching file includes advertisements, outlines, and statements regarding Eliasoph's art courses. Also found are handwritten and typescript poems and writings on artwork by Eliasoph.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1944-1971
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1929-1939
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, 1940-1949
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, 1960-1969
Box 1, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1970-1980
Box 1, Folder 7	Drawings, 1917-1963
Oversize 3, Folder 1	Drawings, Oversized, 1917-1963
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs, Portraits of Paula and Joseph Eliasoph, circa 1920-1937
Oversize 3, Folder 2	Photographs, Portraits of Paula Eliasoph, Oversized, 1937
Box 1, Folder 9-10	Photographs, Works of Art, circa 1940-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 11-12	Printed Material, Books, 1933-1968
Box 2, Folder 1-2	Printed Material, Clippings, circa 1930-1957

Box 2, Folder 3-5	Printed Material, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1931-1978
Box 2, Folder 6	Teaching File, circa 1940-1970
Box 2, Folder 7	Writings, circa 1950-1970

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