



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Michael M. Engel 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/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Michael M. Engel papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.engemich
<b>Date:</b>	1937-1969
<b>Extent:</b>	3 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Engel, Michael M., 1896-1969
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1975 by Mary Black Diller, widow of Michael M. Engel, and in 1994-1995, by their son, Michael M. Engel.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Painter, collector, lecturer, writer; New York, N.Y. Engel worked as public relations director for M. Grumbacher & Co., an artists' supplies firm. He contributed to Art Digest and other magazines, and founded Audubon Artists in 1940.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, writings, clippings, photographs, scrapbooks, and miscellany.

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## Scope and Contents

ADDITION: Biographical material; writings, including notes, drafts, and finished copy for Engel's columns, "Do You Know That?" and "The Bright Palette," manuscripts of articles about collecting autographs, and "Miscellaneous Art Notes-- Michael M. Engel" (1 vol.); art research files; letters from Engel's collection of artists' autographs, many of which are illustrated; and artists' files, containing mainly clippings, exhibition

announcements, photographs, and a small amount of correspondence, except for the Hugo Ballin file, which contains a large number of letters with illustrated envelopes.

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## Scope and Contents

Also, printed matter, including M. Grumbacher & Co. publicity, promotions, and biographical information on artists featured in their advertisements, articles about Engel and his palette collection, annual exhibition catalogs and other printed matter of Audubon Artists and other art organizations and galleries; photographs and slides of Engel, artists who represented M. Grumbacher & Co., palettes, paintings produced in Grumbacher demonstrations and other works of art, and one album of photographs of paintings by various artists with notes on palettes; files on camouflage, containing printed matter, notes, and photographs; and scrapbooks, including 3 on National Art Week, a WPA-Federal Art Project event, compiled by his wife, Mary Black Diller, an artist active in promoting it, and 3 compiled by Engel containing publicity material on Artists for Victory "Four Freedoms," Florida International Art Exhibition at Grand Central Galleries, and "Wayman Adams Film Painting a Portrait."

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Autographs -- Collections
- Autographs -- Collectors and collecting
- Camouflage (Military science)
- Federal aid to the arts -- United States  
palettes

### Types of Materials:

- Scrapbooks

### Names:

- Adams, Wayman, 1883-1959
- Audubon Artists (New York, N.Y.)
- Ballin, Hugo, 1879-1956
- Diller, Mary Black, 1899-
- Federal Art Project. National Art Week
- M. Grumbacher Inc

### Occupations:

- Artists -- United States
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York