



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Kennedy Galleries
Miscellaneous Records, 1864-circa
1983, in the Archives of American Art

Barbara Aikens

Funding for the processing of this collection was provided by the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund.

Glass plate negatives in this collection were digitized in 2019 with funding provided by the Smithsonian Women's Committee.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Kennedy Galleries Miscellaneous records
Identifier:	AAA.fleimart
Date:	1864-circa 1983
Extent:	1.28 Linear feet
Creator:	Kennedy Galleries
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Kennedy Galleries Miscellaneous Records date from 1864 - circa 1983 and measure 1.28 linear feet. These scattered records were compiled by gallery owner Martha Fleischman and relate to art collections and artists historically represented by or associated with the gallery. The collection includes a few letters, one essay, reports, ledger pages, a certificate, printed materials, and photographs of artists and artwork, particularly artwork by Walt Kuhn.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

These records were donated to the Archives in 2005 and 2006 by Martha Fleischman, director of the Kennedy Galleries, who compiled these miscellaneous items from the Kennedy Galleries' storage.

Related Materials

Also found at the Archives of American Art are the Lawrence and Barbara Fleischman Papers, 1837-1984, bulk 1935-1979; an interview of Lawrence A. Fleischman conducted in 1970, Feb. 28-Mar. 9, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art; an interview of Lawrence A. Fleischman conducted 1994 Apr. 18, by Gail Stavitsky, for the Archives of American Art; and an interview of Barbara Fleischman (Lawrence Fleischman's wife) conducted 2011 Dec. 27 and 2012 Jan. 5, 20, and 23 by Avis Berman for the Archives of American Art.

Processing Information

The collection was processed by Nicole Blechynden and Barbara Aikens in 2016-2017, and the finding prepared by Barbara Aikens in 2017. Funding from the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund supported this work.

Preferred Citation

Kennedy Galleries miscellaneous records, 1864-1983, bulk 1900-1948. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Washington, D.C. Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

Established in 1874 by Hermann Wunderlich as H. Wunderlich & Co. in Manhattan, Kennedy Galleries has a long history of dealing American art. When Wunderlich died in 1892, Edward G. Kennedy took over the gallery and changed the name in 1912 to Kennedy & Co. Kennedy was the first U.S. dealer to exhibit the etchings and paintings of James McNeill Whistler, and he compiled a 1910 catalogue raisonné of the artist's work. Kennedy retired in 1916, and Herman Wunderlich (Jr.) became senior partner.

Lawrence A. Fleischman, joined the gallery in 1966 as a partner with the late Rudolf G. Wunderlich. In the course of more than a century in business, the gallery has promoted work by artists the likes of Albert Bierstadt, William Merritt Chase, Frederic E. Church, John Singleton Copley, Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, Walt Kuhn, Georgia O'Keeffe and Ben Shahn, among others. Under Lawrence A. Fleischman, the gallery served as adviser to the Vatican Museum, Rome in the early 1970s assisting in the selection and acquisition of modern art. Lawrence Fleischman was also the founder of the Archives of American Art, now a part of the Smithsonian Institution. He also served on the White House Committee for the Fine Arts during the administrations of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

In 1966, the gallery moved to East 56th street; and in 1974 moved again to a newly constructed gallery on West 57th Street. In 2005, the gallery became a private dealership under the direction of Martha Fleischman, Lawrence A. Fleischman's daughter.

Scope and Contents

The Kennedy Galleries Miscellaneous Records date from 1864 - circa 1983 and measure 1.28 linear feet. These scattered records were compiled by gallery owner Martha Fleischman and relate to art collections and artists historically represented by or associated with the gallery. The collection includes a few letters, one essay, reports, ledger pages, a certificate, printed materials, and photographs of artists and artwork, particularly artwork by Walt Kuhn.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series.

- Series 1: Kennedy Galleries Miscellaneous Records, 1864-circa 1980 (1.1 linear feet; Box 1, OV 2)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Fleischman, Martha
Kuhn, Walt, 1877-1949

Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Kennedy Galleries Miscellaneous Records , 1864-circa 1983

1.1 Linear feet (Boxes 1, OV 2)

There is one folder of printed materials regarding the Arundel Society and one catalog from the Brooklyn Art Association. Also found is a photograph of M. E. Albers, a photograph of painter William Holbrook Beard in his studio; two photographs of painter Thomas Bigelow Craig in his studio; a letter from Albert Bierstadt to W. H. Woolverton, June 7, 1898; photographs of painter John Stuart Curry at work, photographs of works of art by Curry, and printed materials about Curry.

There are miscellaneous papers concerning painter Vincent Colyer that include his business card, pages from a ledger, receipts, and letters of introduction from Ulysses S. Grant and William Tecumseh Sherman, a certificat of introduction from Ulysses S. Grant, and printed material including "Report of the Hon. Vincent Colyer, United States Special Indian Commissioner, on the Indian Tribes and their surroundings in Alaska Territory, from personal observation and inspection in 1869," and "Brief Report of the Services Rendered by the Freed People to the United States Army in North Carolina, in the Spring of 1862, after the Battle of Newbern, by Vincent Colyer," 1864.

There is one letter from Childe Hassam to Mr. Milkman, Feb. 24, 1929, and written comments by Jack Levine about Marvin Cherney's paintings used in a 1980 Kennedy Galleries exhibition catalog.

The bulk of the collection consists of circa 500 photographs, glass plate negatives and slides, negatives, and transparencies of works of art by painter Walt Kuhn. There are also several photographs of Kuhn, including one taken by Harold Weston, and an illustrated letter written by Kuhn to "Alfred".

The files are arranged alphabetically by name.

Glass plate negatives have been scanned.

Box 1, Folder 1	M.E. Albers, Photograph of on Horseback, circa 1860s-1900
Box 1, Folder 2	Arundel Society Printed Materials , circa 1894-circa 1912
Box 1, Folder 3	William Holbrook Beard, Photograph of , circa 1860s Oversized Photograph housed in OV 2.
Box 1, Folder 4	Albert Bierstadt Letter to W. H. Woolverton, 1898, June 07
Box 1, Folder 5	Brooklyn Art Association Printed Material, 1864-1872
Box 1, Folder 6	Vincent Colyer, Printed Reports to U.S. Government , 1862-1869 "Report of the Services Rendered by the Freed People to U.S. Army in North Carolina...after the Battle of Newbern" by Vincent Colyer, 1864. "Report of the Hon. Vencent Colyer, U.S. Special Indian Commissioner on the Indian Tribes and their Surroundings in Alaska Territory...", 1869 and "Letter of the Secretary of the Interior Communicating....the Report of Vincent Colyer", 1870.

Box 1, Folder 7	Vincent Colyer, Letters and Certificate of Introduction from Ulysses S. Grant and General William Tecumseh Sherman, 1869 Oversized certificate housed in OV 2.
Box 1, Folder 8	Vincent Colyer Miscellaneous Ledgers and Notes, circa 1873-circa 1890 Oversized ledger sheet housed in Box 2.
Box 1, Folder 9	Thomas P. Craig, Photographs of , circa 1860s-1900
Box 1, Folder 10	John Stuart Curry, Photographs of, circa 1926-1948
Box 1, Folder 11	John Stuart Curry, Photographs of Works of Art , circa 1926-1948
Box 1, Folder 12	John Stuart Curry, Printed Materials , 1936-1972 Oversized printed materials also housed in OV 2.
Box 1, Folder 13	Childe Hassam Letter to Mr. Milkman, 1929, 24 February
Box 1	Walt Kuhn
Box 1, Folder 14	Walt Kuhn Letter to "Alfred", 1948 July 10
Box 1, Folder 15	Photograph of Walt Kuhn in Studio (3 prints), circa 1904-1905
Box 1, Folder 16	Photograph of Walt Kuhn by Edward Weston , 1928
Box 1, Folder 17	Printed Materials , circa 1960s
Box 1, Folder 18-20	Photographs of Works of Art in Private Collections , circa 1900-1948 Photographs arranged in loose alphabetical order by title of artwork.
Box 1, Folder 21-23	Photographs of Works of Art "Identified but not Placed" , circa 1900-1948
Box 1, Folder 24-26	Photographs of Works of Art "No Private Collections" , circa 1900-1948
Box 1, Folder 27	Miscellaneous Photographs of "Works of Art and 1966 Exhibition", circa 1900-1966
Box 1, Folder 28	Miscellaneous Photographs of "Works of Art and 1967 Exhibition", circa 1900-1967
Box 1, Folder 29-32	Unidentified Photographs of Works of Art , circa 1900 - circa 1948
Box 1, Folder 33	Photographs of Works of Art Destroyed , circa 1920-1938

- Box 1, Folder 34 Walt Kuhn Negatives and Transparencies of Works of Art , circa 1910-circa 1963
- Box 1, Folder 35 Jack Levine's Written Comments on Marvin Cherney's Paintings , 1980
Comments used in 1980 Kennedy Galleries' exhibition catalog.
- Box 1, Folder 36 Paul Magriel (Collector), Miscellaneous Printed Materials, 1955-1983
- Box OV 2 Oversized Photograph of William Holbrook Beard, circa 1860s
- Box OV 2 Vincent Colyer, Oversized Certificate and Ledger Sheet, 1869
- Box OV 2 John Stuart Curry, Oversized Printed Materials , 1936-1972
- Box MGP 2 Walt Kuhn, Glass Plate Negatives and Lantern Slides of Works of Art , circa 1900-circa 1948
[Image\(s\)](#)
(6 lantern slides and 2 glass plate negatives)
- Box MGP 1 Walt Kuhn, Glass Slide of Work of Art , circa 1900-circa 1948
[Image\(s\)](#)
(1 colored glass slide)

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