



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Rita and Daniel Fraad Papers, 1926-1997, in the Archives of American Art

Carla De Luise

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Rita and Daniel Fraad papers
<b>Date:</b>	1926-1997
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.fraarita
<b>Creator:</b>	Fraad, Rita
<b>Extent:</b>	3.3 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of art collectors Rita and Daniel Fraad measure 3.3 linear feet and date from 1926 to 1997. The collection consists of art documentation files that reflect their American art collecting activities. Found in the files are any combination of the following materials: correspondence, sales receipts, treatment reports and photographs, loan agreements, facilities reports, exhibition and auction catalogs, clippings, photographs, transparencies, and slides.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers were donated in 2005 by Rita and Daniel Fraad via Jurate Nemickas, Fiduciary Administrator for the estate of Rita and Daniel Fraad.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed by Carla De Luise in 2007.

### Preferred Citation

Rita and Daniel Fraad papers, 1926-1997. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Biographical Note

Rita (1915-2004) and Daniel Fraad (1912-1987) were American art collectors in New York, New York.

Rita (née Ritch) and Daniel Fraad were born in Brooklyn, New York, and met in their youth. Daniel graduated in 1935 from Brown University with a B.A. in biology and Rita graduated from Smith College in 1937 with a degree in political science. In 1938, Daniel joined Allied Maintenance Corporation (later Ogden Maintenance Corporation), a maintenance and cleaning services company started by his father in 1888. In the same year that Daniel joined the family business, Rita and Daniel were married. The couple eventually settled in Scarsdale, New York.

Rita and Daniel Fraad actively supported art institutions such as the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Academy of Design, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among others. In 1965, the couple became members of the Archives of American Art and in 1989 Rita joined the Board of Trustees. She also sat on the Visiting Committee on American Art and Sculpture for the Metropolitan Museum of Art and was a member of the American Art Forum of the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM). Rita was a SAAM commissioner for twelve years, and served as chair of the Collections Committee.

Over the years, Rita and Daniel Fraad amassed a museum-quality collection of American art which included works from George Bellows, William Merritt Chase, Thomas Cole, Jasper Cropsey, Arthur Davies, Charles Demuth, Marsden Hartley, Robert Henri, Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, George Luks, Maurice Prendergast, John Singer Sargent, Everett Shinn, John Sloan, Joseph Stella, and James Whistler. In 1964, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, organized an exhibition of the Fraad collection which traveled to the Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. In 1985, the Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas also presented an exhibition of the Fraad collection.

Daniel Fraad died in 1987 and Rita passed away in 2004. In December 2004, the Fraad collection was auctioned at Sotheby's and raised over sixty five million dollars. The sale broke auction records; the amount was the highest total for any single owner's collection.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of art collectors Rita and Daniel Fraad measure 3.3 linear feet and date from 1926 to 1997. The collection consists of art documentation files that reflect their American art collecting activities. Found in the files are any combination of the following materials: correspondence, sales receipts, treatment reports and photographs, loan agreements, facilities reports, exhibition and auction catalogs, clippings, photographs, transparencies, and slides.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 1 series:

- Series 1: Artwork Documentation Files, 1926-1997, undated (Boxes 1-4; 3.3 linear feet)
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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:

Art -- Collectors and collecting  
Art, American

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Fraad, Daniel

Occupations:

Collectors -- New York (State) -- New York

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Artwork Documentation Files, 1926-1997, undated

#### 3.3 Linear feet (Boxes 1-4)

Scope and Contents: Artwork documentation files contain any combination of the following materials: correspondence, sales receipts, condition reports and photographs, loan agreements, facilities reports, exhibition and auction catalogs, clippings and magazine articles, photographs, transparencies, and slides.

Files are arranged alphabetically by artist and by date of artwork. A file containing miscellaneous correspondence is located at the beginning of the series.

Box 1, Folder 1	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1971-1986, undated
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Box 1, Folder 3	Ault, George C., Chimneys (1936), 1962-1968, undated
Box 1, Folder	Bellows, George
Box 1, Folder 4	Kids (1906), 1964-1995, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	The Knock Out (1907), 1976-1995, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Shore House (1911), 1942-1943, 1972-1995, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Punching Tom and Pinching Mildred, The Embodiment of Good Nature (1912), 1976-1977, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	Artists Judging Works of Art (1916), 1968, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Between Rounds, No. 1, Large (1916), 1968, 1981, undated
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Box 1, Folder 11	Introducing the Champion, No.1 (1916), 1968
Box 1, Folder 12	Introducing John L. Sullivan (1916), 1968
Box 1, Folder 13	Preliminaries to the Big Bout (1916), 1968
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Box 1, Folder 17	Stag at Sharkey's (1917), 1972, 1992
Box 1, Folder 18	The Studio (1919) 1985-1995, undated
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Box 1, Folder 21	Counted Out, No. 1 (1921), 1968
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Box 1, Folder 40	Fishing Shacks Beneath Cliffs (undated), 1985, undated
Box 1, Folder 41	Buechner, Thomas S., Mintz Chicken Coop (1982), 1983, 1985
Box 1, Folder 42	Bunker, Dennis M., The Station (circa 1888), 1964-1996, undated
Box 1, Folder 43	Burchfield, Charles, Wild Geese and Poplars (1956), 1958, 1969, undated
Box 1, Folder	Chase, William Merritt
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Box 4, Folder 4	Lawson, Ernest, Horses Grazing by a Stream (1910-1920), 1962-1984, undated
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