



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Betty Freeman papers

Archives of American Art
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Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Betty Freeman papers
Date:	1951-1969
Identifier:	AAA.freebett
Creator:	Freeman, Betty
Extent:	1.2 Linear feet ((on 2 microfilm reels)) 32 Items (Addition)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1986, 2001 and 2002 by Betty Freeman.

Location of Originals

At the time that the letters were given to Betty Freeman, Clyfford Still held the original letters.

Related Materials

Papers of Betty Freeman, 1965-2008, are also located at the Mandeville Special Collections Library.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 4060-4061 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Patrons must use microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Writer, art historian; Beverly Hills, Calif.

Scope and Contents

Research material on painters Clyfford Still (1904-1980) and Sam Francis (1923-1994), including correspondence, photographs, notes, and unpublished drafts of manuscripts.

Scope and Contents

The Still material includes detailed notes from various interviews with Still (none of which were tape recorded); correspondence between Freeman and Still; and photocopies of letters from Still to Alfonso Ossorio, Mark Tobey and others, which Freeman obtained from Still; copies of letters from Still to Betty Parsons; an interview with Claire Falkenstein on the subject of Still's paintings; texts by other authors, some annotated by Still; and photographs of Still and his paintings .

Scope and Contents

Sam Francis material includes several files of research notes and approximately 375 photographs of Francis and his paintings.

Scope and Contents

Draft manuscripts include Clyfford Still: A Critical Study (1963, 200 pages), Clyfford Still: A Study (1968, 212 pages), and Sam Francis: Ideas and Paintings (1969, 212 pages). Freeman did not have any of these writings published. The manuscript on Sam Francis coincided with the publication of another book on Francis by Peter Selz, and the manuscript on Still was blocked when Still rescinded his permission to quote and to use illustrations of material which he controlled.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION: Biographical information on Sam Francis and postscript.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Names:

Francis, Sam, 1923-1994

Still, Clyfford, 1904-1980

Occupations:

Art historians -- California -- Beverly Hills

Painters