



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Elisabeth Rungius Fulda Papers, 1893-1968, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Elisabeth Rungius Fulda papers
Date:	1893-1968
Identifier:	AAA.fuldelis
Creator:	Fulda, Elisabeth Rungius, 1879-1968
Extent:	0.9 Linear feet
Language:	Materials are in English and German.
Summary:	The scattered papers of painter and graphic artist Elisabeth Rungius Fulda measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1893 to 1968. Found are artworks, biographical material, correspondence, personal business records and legal documents, photographs of Fulda and of works of art, and writings by Fulda. Also found are records regarding the Society of Animal Artists.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reels N695, 2812, and 3482 was donated to the Archives of American Art in 1966 by Elisabeth Rungius Fulda. Material on reel 101 was donated by Ruth Mooney, a friend of Fulda's.

Separated Materials

Photographs of watercolor renderings from the Federal Art Project by Elisabeth Fulda on reel N695, frames 14-56, were returned after microfilming and are not described in the collection container listing.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reels 101, 2812, 3482, and N695 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 collection received a preliminary level of arrangement after donation and was microfilmed on reels N695, 2812, 3482, and 101. The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Elisabeth Rungius Fulda papers, 1893-1968. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Elisabeth Rungius Fulda (1879-1968) was a painter and graphic artist active in New York City, New York. She is known for her paintings of animals.

Elisabeth Rungius was born outside of Berlin, Germany in 1879. She learned drawing from her brother, Carl Rungius, early in her life. She came to the United States and settled in New York City in 1905 where she studied at the Cooper Union. She stopped painting upon her marriage to Dr. Carl Fulda with whom she had a daughter, Irene. Elisabeth and Carl divorced in 1916.

Fulda returned to art and produced works for the American Museum of Natural History and the New York Zoological Park. She was an active member of the Association of Women Artists and was a founder of the Society of Animal Painters.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of painter and graphic artist Elisabeth Rungius Fulda measure 0.9 linear feet and date from 1893 to 1968. Found are artworks, biographical material, correspondence, personal business records and legal documents, photographs of Fulda and of works of art, and writings by Fulda. Also found are records regarding the Society of Animal Artists.

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:

- Animals in art
- Women artists
- Women painters

Names:

- Fulda, Carl
- Rungius, Carl, 1869-1959
- Society of Animal Artists

Occupations:

Animal painters -- New York (State) -- New York
Graphic artists -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Elisabeth Rungius Fulda Papers, 1893-1968

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

Scope and Contents: Found are three sketchbooks, two with watercolor drawings of landscapes and one with scattered pencil sketches of animals. An autograph book, in German, contains small bits of poetry from the 1890s. Additional artworks consist of unsigned etchings and pencil sketches, likely by Fulda. Biographical materials include artist statements and self-critiques, awards and certificates, biographical sketches, a baby book, and vital records including a marriage certificate for Rungius's marriage to Carl Fulda, and birth certificates for herself and daughter Irene Fulda.

Correspondence is primarily professional and includes letters from the American Museum of Natural History, Glenbow Foundation, the Library of Congress, Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Association of women Artists, Inc., National Geographic, and the Treasury Relief Art Project. Of note are greeting and holiday cards featuring original artworks including prints, paintings, and sketches sent to Fulda by artist friends.

Personal business records include loan and sales records and legal material regarding Fulda's divorce in 1916. Also found are housing and rental information. Photographs depict Fulda, family, and friends. Some photographs of the Rungius family are reprints from a photo album. Also found are photographs of works of art. Printed materials include scattered clippings and exhibition announcements and catalogs from Fulda's career. Writings are by Fulda and include a copy of a biography she wrote on her brother, Carl Rungius, and a printed booklet of poems written and illustrated by Fulda.

Also found are records from the Society of Animal Artists including correspondence, administrative information, lists, and drafts of memoranda.

Box 1, Folder 1-2	Artwork, Sketchbooks, circa 1925-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 3	Artwork, Sketches and Prints, circa 1910-1964
Oversize 3	Artwork, Oversized, circa 1920
Box 1, Folder 4	Autograph Book, 1893-1895
Box 1, Folder 5-7	Biographical Material, 1894-1968
Oversize 3	Biographical Material, Oversized, 1912
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence, 1900-1967
Box 1, Folder 9-10	Correspondence, Greeting Cards, 1940s-1960s
Box 2, Folder 1-2	Personal Business Records, 1914-1968
Box 2, Folder 3	Society of Animal Artists, 1960-1967

Box 2, Folder 4-5 Photographs, of Fulda, Rungius Family, and Others, 1920-1960s

Box 2, Folder 6 Photographs, Works of Art, circa 1920-1950s

Box 2, Folder 7 Printed Material, 1950s-1960s

Box 2, Folder 8-10 Writings and Notes, by Elisabeth Fulda, circa 1910-1960s

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