



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

R. H. Ives Gammell papers

Archives of American Art
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Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	R. H. Ives Gammell papers
Date:	1883-1981
Identifier:	AAA.gammr
Creator:	Gammell, R. H. Ives (Robert Hale Ives), 1893-1981
Extent:	29 Volumes ((on 3 microfilm reels)) 0.4 Linear feet (Addition)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Diaries and notebooks on reels 4675-4677 were lent for microfilming 1991 by Elizabeth Hunter, goddaughter of R.H. Ives Gammell. She donated additional papers 1998. Additions from Hunter are expected.

Location of Originals

Reels 4675-4577: Originals returned to the lender, Elizabeth Hunter, after microfilming.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 4675-4677 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Painter, writer; Boston, Mass. Studied with Boston School painter William MacGregor Paxton. In 1946, Gammell's *Twilight of Painting: an Analysis of Recent Trends to Serve in a Period of Reconstruction*, was published. In addition to being a prolific writer, he was an allegorical painter; his major works incorporated classical, religious, imaginative, and contemporary cultural elements. A series of paintings based on Francis Thompson's poem, "Hound of Heaven" are considered to be some of his most important works. His biography of painter Dennis Miller Bunker was published in 1953.

Scope and Contents

REELS 4675-4677: Twenty-six diaries (1919-1981) and 3 notebooks with sketches, relating to European travel (1928-1930). There are no diaries for 1921-1928. The diaries were begun in Paris to record ideas and concepts relating to painting. They were later expanded to include reflections and thoughts about people, and they also reflect Gammell's strong interest in Jungian psychology and opera. He often used code names for people chosen from Biblical, mythological, or foreign language sources.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION: Papers, 1883-1956, comprised mainly of writings, the bulk relating to French academic painting, including 2 annotated typescripts of his *Twilight of Painting* (published 1946), with photo transparencies of Henri Regnault's "Automedon" for its cover. Other writings relate to Francis Thompson's poem "The Hound of Heaven" with illustrations based on a mural series by Gammell, ca. 1955-56; and to his colleague and teacher William MacGregor Paxton, "William Paxton and the End of an Epoch," (unpublished), ca. 1941-45. Also found are photographs of the Jean Léon Gérôme atelier, Paris, 1883 (mounted) and of Dennis Miller Bunker.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Impressionism (Art)
- Modernism (Art)
- Painting
- Painting -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Painting, French

Names:

- Bunker, Dennis Miller, 1861-1890 -- Photographs
- Gérôme, Jean Léon, 1824-1904
- Paxton, William McGregor, 1869-1941

Occupations:

- Painters