



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Margarita Gibbons Papers, circa 1920-1976, bulk 1938-1946, in the Archives of American Art

Sabine Lipten

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Margarita Gibbons papers
Date:	circa 1920-1976 bulk 1938-1946
Identifier:	AAA.gibbmarg
Creator:	Gibbons, Margarita
Extent:	2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of painter Margarita Gibbons measure 2 linear feet and date from circa 1920 to 1976, with bulk dates from 1938 to 1946. The papers document her career as a painter in New York and her relationship with her husband, American illustrator Arthur Getz through biographical material; correspondence with Getz, friends, and other artists; gallery records such as price lists, dimension notes and a signed exhibition guestbook; news clippings, and exhibition flyers; photographs; detached scrapbooks of photographs of artwork, news clippings, and exhibition flyers; and artwork including two sketchbooks and an oil self portrait by Arthur Getz.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The records were donated to the Archives of American Art by owner Margarita Gibbons, February 1975 and the Arthur Getz letters were donated by William Gibbons, nephew of Margarita Gibbons, June 1977.

Related Materials

Also found in the Archives of American Art is the Arthur Getz letter from Charles E. Burchfield March 19, 1961.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Sabine Lipten in 2022.

Preferred Citation

Margarita Gibbons papers, circa 1920-1976, bulk 1938-1946. 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

Margarita Gibbons (1906-1976) was a painter from New York City. Gibbons originally performed as a ballerina for the Metropolitan Opera House before pursuing a career as a fine artist. She studied at the Art Students League, Pratt Institute and later in Paris and Amsterdam. Her work has been shown in a number of galleries and museums including the Argent gallery, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Gibbons first husband was Ecuadorian painter Camilo Egas, whom she brought to the United States. Her second husband was American illustrator and painter Arthur Getz.

Scope and Contents

The Margarita Gibbons papers measure 2 linear feet and date from circa 1920 to 1976, with bulk dates from 1938 to 1946. The papers document her career as a painter in New York City and her relationship with her husband, American illustrator Arthur Getz through biographical material; correspondence with Getz, friends, and other artists including holiday cards from painter Moses Soyer. Also found are gallery records comprised of price lists, dimension notes and a signed exhibition guestbook. Printed material is comprised of news clippings and exhibition flyers. Additionally, there are detached scrapbooks of photographs of artwork, news clippings, and exhibition flyers. Photographs consist of black and white prints of artwork as well as portraits of Gibbons, her family and friends. Artwork includes two sketchbooks of graphite figure drawings as well as an oil self portrait of Arthur Getz.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as seven series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1960-1968 (0.2 Linear feet: Box 1)
 - Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1938-1973 (1.3 Linear Feet: Box 1-2)
 - Series 3: Gallery Records, circa 1960-1972 (0.2 Linear Feet: Box 2)
 - Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1944-1976 (0.1 Linear Feet: Box 2)
 - Series 5: Scrapbooks, circa 1942-1968 (0.2 Linear Feet: Box 2)
 - Series 6: Photographic Material, circa 1920-1968 (0.2 Linear Feet: Box 2)
 - Series 7: Artwork, circa 1920-1976 (0.2 Linear Feet: Box 2)
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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:

Women artists

Women painters

Types of Materials:

Scrapbooks
Sketchbooks

Names:

Getz, Arthur

Occupations:

Cartoonists -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1960-1968

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: This series include resumes, biographical summaries and award letters.

Box 1, Folder 1 [Biographical Summaries and Resumes, circa 1964-1967](#)

Box 1, Folder 2 [Award Announcements, 1960-1968](#)

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Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1938-1973

1.3 Linear feet (Box 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Correspondence is arranged alphabetically and consist mostly of letters and sketches from Gibbon's husband, painter and illustrator Arthur Getz, which are arranged chronologically. Most of the letters were written during World War II when Getz was in the army stationed in the Philippines and the United States. Also included are holiday cards from painter Moses Soyer.

Arthur Getz, circa 1938-1946	
Box 1, Folder 3	Artur Getz, 1938
Box 1, Folder 4	Artur Getz, 1939
Box 1, Folder 5	Artur Getz, 1941
Box 1, Folder 6	Artur Getz, 1942
Box 1, Folder 7	Artur Getz, 1942 July-August
Box 1, Folder 8	Artur Getz, 1942 September-November
Box 1, Folder 9	Artur Getz, 1942 November-December
Box 1, Folder 10-15	Artur Getz, circa 1943
Box 1, Folder 16-20	Artur Getz, circa 1944
Box 1, Folder 21-22	Artur Getz, circa 1945
Box 2, Folder 1-3	Artur Getz, circa 1945
Box 2, Folder 4-5	Artur Getz, circa 1945-1946
Box 2, Folder 6	Artur Getz, circa 1946
Box 2, Folder 7	Letters to Arthur Getz from Margarita Gibbons, circa 1938-1946
Box 2, Folder 8	Letters to Arthur Getz from Others, 1942-1946
Box 2, Folder 9	Auxiliary Aircraft Warning Service, 1942-1946
Box 2, Folder 10	G, 1943, 1973
Box 2, Folder 11	May Heiloms, 1963
Box 2, Folder 12	M, 1942, 1973

Box 2, Folder 13	Hal Rand, 1944
Box 2, Folder 14	Holiday cards from Moses Soyer, circa 1959-1973
Box 2, Folder 15	Miscellaneous, last name unsigned, 1944-1945

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Series 3: Gallery Records, circa 1960-1972

0.2 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Gallery records date from 1960-1972 and contain price lists, a guest book and artwork dimension notes.

Box 2, Folder 16	Artwork Dimension Notes, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 17	Gallery Signature Guestbook, circa 1967
Box 2, Folder 18	Price Lists, 1960-1972

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Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1944-1976

0.1 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: This series contains magazine and newspaper clippings, as well as exhibition announcements related to Margarita Gibbon's career.

Box 2, Folder 19	Exhibition Announcements, circa 1944-1976
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Box 2, Folder 20	News Clippings, circa 1944-1976
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Series 5: Scrapbooks, circa 1942-1968

0.2 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: This series consists of detached scrapbooks of photographs of artwork, news clippings, and exhibition flyers documenting Gibbon's career.

Box 2, Folder 21-22 Scrapbook of Artwork Photographs and News Clippings, circa 1942-1968

Box 2, Folder 23 Scrapbooks of News clippings and Exhibition Flyers, circa 1942-1968

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Series 6: Photographic Material, circa 1920-1968

0.2 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Photographs consist of black and white portraits and snapshots of Gibbons, her friends and family as well as prints of her artwork.

Box 2, Folder 24	Prints of Artist, Family and Friends, circa 1920-1929, 1943
Box 2, Folder 25	Prints of Early Artwork, circa 1940-1949
Box 2, Folder 26	Prints and Contact Sheets of Late Artwork, circa 1959-1967

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Series 7: Artwork, circa 1920-1976

0.2 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Artwork includes two sketchbooks of graphite figure drawings as well as an oil self portrait of Arthur Getz.

Box 2, Folder 27	Sketchbooks, circa 1959-1967
Box 2, Folder 28	Arthur Getz Self Portrait, circa 1920-1976

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