



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Marion Greenwood
papers, 1883, circa 1933-circa 1960,
in the Archives of American Art

Megan Bean

2016 August 1

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	3
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 1960.....	4
Series 2: Printed Materials, 1883, 1937-1960 (bulk 1937-1960).....	5
Series 3: Photographic materials, circa 1933-circa 1960.....	6

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Marion Greenwood papers
Identifier:	AAA.greemari
Date:	1883, circa 1933-circa 1960
Extent:	0.5 Linear feet
Creator:	Greenwood, Marion, 1909-1970
Language:	The collection is in English.
Summary:	The papers of painter and muralist Marion Greenwood (1909-1970) measure 0.5 linear feet and date from circa 1933 to circa 1960. The collection is comprised of biographical materials, printed materials, photographs and negatives.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Marion Greenwood in 1964, and at an earlier, unknown date.

Related Materials

Within the collections of the Archives is the Oral history interview with Marion Greenwood, 1964 Jan. 31, by Dorothy Seckler.

Available Formats

A portion of this collection is available on 35 mm microfilm reel 85 at the 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

This collection was minimally processed and a finding aid prepared by Megan Bean in 2016.

Preferred Citation

Marion Greenwood papers, 1883, circa 1933-circa 1960. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

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

Terms of Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the [Smithsonian's Terms of Use](#) for additional information.

Biographical / Historical

Marion Greenwood (1909-1970) was an American social realist painter and muralist who worked in both the United States and Mexico.

Greenwood was born in Brooklyn, and educated at the Art Students League of New York and the Academie Colarossi in Paris. She travelled extensively throughout Mexico, China, and the United States, and her travels were often reflected in her paintings. She was the first female American painter to receive a mural commission from the Mexican government, and painted a series of commissioned murals from 1932-1936. Greenwood also worked for the U. S. Works Progress Administration Federal Art Project from 1936-1940, painting murals and frescoes in housing projects in Red Hook, Brooklyn, and Camden, NJ, as well as in the post office of Crossville, TN. After 1940, Greenwood primarily focused on easel painting. In 1944, she was commissioned as a war artist by the Army Medical Corps and by the pharmaceutical company Abbott Laboratories to document soldiers returned from war and their medical care. Greenwood served as a visiting professor at the University of Tennessee from 1954-1955, and was commissioned to paint a mural for the university in 1955.

Marion Greenwood died in Woodstock, NY in 1970.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter and muralist Marion Greenwood (1909-1970) measure 0.5 linear feet and date from circa 1933 to circa 1960. The collection is comprised of biographical materials, printed materials, photographs and negatives.

Biographical materials consist of a resume. Printed materials include exhibition announcements and catalogs; clippings of Greenwood's art in commercial publications; a profile of Greenwood written for *American Artist* magazine; and other miscellaneous material. Photographs in the collection include black and white originals, negatives, copies, and snapshots, primarily depicting Greenwood's work as a muralist and painter. Also present are photographs of the artist, including images of Greenwood with Mexican Muralist Diego Rivera, sculptor and designer Isamu Noguchi, friends, and family.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as three series.

- Series 1: Biographical material, circa 1960 (1 folder; Box 1)
 - Series 2: Printed Material, 1883, 1937-1960 (4 folders; Box 1)
 - Series 3: Photographic material, circa 1933-circa 1960 (0.3 linear feet; Box 1-2, OV 3)
-

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Muralists -- Mexico
Muralists -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
Social realism
Women artists -- Mexico
Women artists -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Noguchi, Isamu, 1904-1988 -- Photographs
Rivera, Diego, 1886-1957

Occupations:

Painters -- Mexico

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 1960

1 Folder (Box 1)

This series consists of a resume written circa 1960 which details Marion Greenwood's education, professional experiences, exhibitions, and achievements.

Box 1, Folder 1 Biographical Materials, circa 1960

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Printed Materials, 1883, 1937-1960 (bulk 1937-1960)

4 Folders (Box 1)

This series consists of printed materials including representation of Greenwood's work in commercial publications, including an advertisement by Abbott Laboratories; a profile of Greenwood written by Henry Salpeter for *American Artist*; exhibition announcements and catalogs, including a pamphlet for a proposed architectural work at the New York 1939 World's Fair where Marion exhibited; and a clipping from *Demorest's Monthly Magazine* from 1883.

Box 1, Folder 2	Commercial Artwork, circa 1945
Box 1, Folder 3	<i>Demorest's Monthly Magazine</i> clipping, 1883
Box 1, Folder 4	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1937-1960
Box 1, Folder 5	Salpeter, Henry. "Marion Greenwood", 1948

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Photographic materials, circa 1933-circa 1960

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

This series consists of photographic material including black and white originals, negatives, copies, and snapshots, primarily documenting Marion Greenwood's work as a muralist and painter. Work created from 1932 to 1955 is represented, including murals, paintings, and sketches commissioned by the Mexican government, the WPA Federal Arts Program, Abbott Laboratories pharmaceutical company, and others, as well as non-commissioned work. Photographs of the artist show Greenwood painting, with Mexican Muralist Diego Rivera, who inspired Greenwood to paint murals in his style; sculptor and designer Isamu Noguchi; friends; and family.

Box 1, Folder 6-7	Photographs of Abbott Laboratories War Art drawings, circa 1944-circa 1960 (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs of Abbott Laboratories War Art paintings, circa 1944-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 9	Photographs of artist, 1936-1949
Box 1, Folder 10	Photographic negatives of artist, circa 1936
Box 1, Folder 11	Photographs of Camden, NJ housing project mural (oversized materials housed in OV 3) , circa 1936 Oversized material housed in OV 3
Box 1, Folder 12	Photographs of Crossville, TN post office mural, circa 1936
Box 1, Folder 13	Photographs of exhibition, circa 1940-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 14	Photograph of Hotel Taxqueno Mural, 1932
Box 1, Folder 15	Photograph of Mercado Abelardo Rodriguez mural, circa 1932-circa 1936
Box 2, Folder 16-18	Photographs of paintings (3 folders)
Box 2, Folder 19	Photographs of Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY housing project mural, 1939-1940
Box 2, Folder 20	Photographs of Rodriguez Civic Center mural, circa 1935
Box 2, Folder 21	Photographs of University St. Nicolas Hidalgo mural, circa 1934
Box 2, Folder 22	Photographs of University of Tennessee, Knoxville mural, circa 1955
Box OV 3	Oversized photograph of Camden, NJ housing project mural from Box 1, folder 10

[Return to Table of Contents](#)