



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Magda Heuermann Papers, 1876-1982, 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:	Magda Heuermann papers
Date:	1876-1982
Identifier:	AAA.heuemagd
Creator:	Heuermann, Magda, 1858-1962
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet
Language:	Some of the documents, including William Henry Heuermann's diary, are in German.
Summary:	The scattered papers of miniature portrait painter Magda Heuermann measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1876 to 1982. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, photographs, printed material, a scrapbook, and writings. Also found is a diary kept by Heuermann's father Henry William Heuermann.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were donated in 1988 by T.M. Hamilton, Heuermann's nephew and Jean T. Hamilton (Mrs. Henry Hamilton), the wife of T.M.'s brother.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reel 4076 available at Archives of American Art offices. 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 was microfilmed after receipt on reel 4076. The papers were processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Magda Heuermann papers, 1876-1982. 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

Magda Heuermann (1868-1962) was a miniature portrait painter active in Chicago, Illinois. Heuermann studied at the Art Institute of Chicago with F.H.C. Sammons and for over three years in Germany with Franz von Lenbach, Franz von Stuck, Roth Deurr, and Max Doerner. She donated 80 of her miniatures to the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1950.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of miniature portrait painter Magda Heuermann measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1876 to 1982. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, photographs, printed material, a scrapbook, and writings. Also found is a diary kept by Heuermann's father Henry William Heuermann.

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:

- Women artists
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Diaries
- Scrapbooks

Occupations:

- Miniature painters -- Illinois -- Chicago

Container Listing

Series 1: Magda Heuermann Papers, 1876-1982

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials include an award ribbon from an exposition of women's artwork in New Orleans in 1885; biographical sketches; lists of artwork; and lists of members of the Chicago Society of Artists. Correspondence is scattered and includes a letter of compliments from Count von Bernsdorff and letters from the Illinois Institute of Technology referring to Heuermann's donation of miniatures in 1950. Photographs depict Heuermann and include portraits and photos of Heuermann with her art. Also found is an inventory with photographs of artworks held by Heuermann's family after her death. Printed materials include clippings, exhibition announcements, and reproductions of works of art. Also found is an issue of *The Sketchbook* from 1907. Writings and notes are largely by Heuermann and concern painting and the work of creating miniature portraits. Also found is a note by Eleanor Jewitt.

A mixed media scrapbook concerns Magda Heuermann and her father, Henry William Heuermann who was a chemist and apothecary. The scrapbook includes biographical material, correspondence, photographs, and printed material. Also found is a diary kept by Henry William Heuermann while he served as chaperone for Magda while she was studying in Germany.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1885-1950
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1909-1962
Box 1, Folder 3	Diary, 1890-1892
Box 1, Folder 4	Photographs, of Magda Heuermann, 1876-1962
Box 1, Folder 5	Photographs, of Inventory of Works of Art, 1982
Box 1, Folder 6	Printed Material, 1907-1962
Box 1, Folder 7	Scrapbook, circa 1890-1952
Box 1, Folder 8	Writings and Notes, circa 1920-circa 1940

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