



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Jerry Hudson de Leon Papers, circa 1920s-1980, in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Jerry Hudson de Leon papers
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1920s-1980
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.hudsjerr
<b>Creator:</b>	Hudson de Leon, Jerry, circa 1905-1980
<b>Extent:</b>	0.9 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	The collection is in English.
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of illustrator, painter and teacher Jerry Hudson de Leon measure 0.9 linear feet and date from circa 1920s-1980. The papers primarily feature her sketches done in pencil, pen, watercolor and pastel. Also included in this collection are personal letters, various printed materials as well as examples of her illustration work.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 2012 by Robert Lewis Croft, Jr., a close friend of Jerry Hudson de Leon.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimal level and a finding aid prepared by Lindsay Alderman in 2013. The collection has been minimally rearranged and retains the existing/original folder titles when possible. All materials have been rehoused in archival folders and boxes for long-term stability, but often staples and other fasteners have not been removed. Materials within folders have not been rearranged.

### Preferred Citation

Jerry Hudson de Leon papers, circa 1920s-1980. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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## Biographical / Historical

Jerry Hudson de Leon (circa 1905-1980) was an illustrator, painter, and teacher from Minnesota. She was a teacher and textbook writer in addition to her freelance illustration work.

Hudson de Leon attended the University of Minnesota and is known for her textbook series for Art Instruction, Inc. where she authored many books such as *Commercial Art and Design: The Human Figure Division 8* in the 1950s. Besides writing she also taught art at both the Minneapolis School of Art and the Art Instruction Schools in Minneapolis. She was an accomplished illustrator and painter with one of her paintings, *Strike Headquarters*, in the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of illustrator, painter and teacher Jerry Hudson de Leon measure 0.9 linear feet and date from circa 1920s-1980. The papers primarily feature her sketches done in pencil, pen, watercolor and pastel. Also included in this collection are personal letters, various printed materials as well as examples of her illustration work.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series.

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1930-1980 (2 folders; Box 1)
- Series 2: Notes, circa 1940s (1 folder; Box 1)
- Series 3: Photographs, circa 1950-1974 (1 folder; Box 1)
- Series 4: Printed Material, 1933-1958 (5 folders; Boxes 1, 3)
- Series 5: Artwork, circa 1920s-1950s (0.4 linear feet; Boxes 1-3)
- Series 6: Sketchbooks, circa 1940s-1950s (4 folders; 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:

Illustrators -- Minnesota  
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Sketches

Occupations:

Painters -- Minnesota  
Painters -- Minnesota

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Correspondence, 1930-1980

#### *2 Folders (Box 1)*

Scope and Contents: Found here are personal letters to and from friends and family, post cards from travels and holiday and greeting cards. Included are letters written to Robin Croft, a friend and fellow artist.

Box 1, Folder 1      Correspondence with Friends and Family, 1930-1980

Box 1, Folder 2      Letters to Robin Croft, 1977-1980

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## Series 2: Notes, circa 1940s

### 1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Included here are packing lists, lists of sites visited, and notes on the conjunction of Spanish Verbs. These are most likely from her time spent in Mexico.

Box 1, Folder 3	Notes, circa 1940s
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## Series 3: Photographs, circa 1950-1974

### *1 Folder (Box 1)*

Scope and Contents: Photographs include various photos of the artist traveling, working, and with friends.

Box 1, Folder 4	Photographs of Jerry Hudson de Leon, circa 1950-1974
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## Series 4: Printed Material, 1933-1958

### *5 Folders (Boxes 1, 3)*

Scope and Contents: Printed material consists of newspaper clippings, ephemera, and other publications in which the artist is featured.

Box 1, Folder 5	Miscellaneous Printed Materials, 1937-1955
Box 1, Folder 6	Minnesota State Fair Ribbons, 1933-1935
Box 1, Folder 7	Commercial Design Booklet, 1948
Box 1, Folder 8	Magazine Clippings, circa 1944
Box 3, Folder 1	Introducing Your Art School Booklet, 1950-1958

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## Series 5: Artwork, circa 1920s-1950s

### 0.4 Linear feet (Boxes 1-3)

Scope and Contents: Contained within in Artwork are examples of Hudson de Leon's sketches and drawings, painted sketches and illustrations. Included are illustrations as part of a manuscript for the *Tanglewood Tales*. Found with her chameleon sketches are letters received from the New York Zoological Society, the Smithsonian Institution National Zoological Park and The American Museum of Natural History as well as books and other research materials regarding chameleons. Besides sketches and watercolors of Mexico, there are also sketches of designs, portraits, and city scenes. The board illustrations contain figure studies and portraits. The undated painting of a woman is an oil study on board.

Box 1, Folder 9	Illustrations for La Gringa, circa 1942-1944
Box 1, Folder 10	Dog and Cat Sketches, circa 1920s
Box 1, Folder 11	Chameleon Sketches, Letters and Research, 1948-1949
Box 1, Folder 12-13	Sketches and Watercolor Studies of Mexico, circa 1940s
Box 1, Folder 14	Various Sketches and Watercolors Studies, circa 1940s-1950s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 3, Folder 2.
Box 2, Folder 1	Sketches for Tanglewood Tales, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 2	Artwork by Others, undated
Box 3, Folder 2	Various Sketches and Watercolor Studies, circa 1940-1944 Notes: Oversized material from Box 1, Folder 14.
Box 3, Folder 3	Board Illustrations, undated
Box 3, Folder 4	Final Illustrations for Tanglewood Tales, circa 1940s
Box 3, Folder 5	Painting of a Woman, undated

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## Series 6: Sketchbooks, circa 1940s-1950s

### *4 Folders (Box 2)*

Scope and Contents: Found here are four sketchbooks highlighting Hudson de Leon's various travels through the United States and Europe and experiments with new styles of illustration such as Japanese brushwork.

Box 2, Folder 3	Japanese Brush Drawings Sketchbook, 1950
Box 2, Folder 4	North Africa and France Sketchbook, 1953
Box 2, Folder 5	Travel Sketchbook, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 6	Travel Sketchbook, 1950-1955

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