



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Leigh H. Hunt Papers,  
1870-1937, in the Archives of American Art

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June 2005

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Leigh H. Hunt papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.huntleig
<b>Date:</b>	1870-1937
<b>Extent:</b>	5.9 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Hunt, Leigh H. (Leigh Harrison), 1858-1937
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The collection measures 5.9 linear feet, dates from 1870-1937, and documents the career of art history instructor, printmaker, and physician Leigh Harrison Hunt. Found within the papers are scattered biographical material for Hunt; letters; miscellaneous financial records; diaries written by his wife Grace Storrs Hunt; notes and writings; art work by Hunt; scrapbooks; miscellaneous printed material; photographs; and commercial printing blocks.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The Leigh H. Hunt papers were donated in 1967 by Phyllis Leon, the executor of the Hunt Estate.

### Processing Information

The papers were processed to an intermediate level arrangement in June 2005 by Jean Fitzgerald.

### Preferred Citation

Leigh H. Hunt papers, 1870-1937. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research. Use requires an appointment and is limited to the Washington, D.C. research facility.

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## Biographical Note

Leigh Harrison Hunt was born on May 19, 1858 in Galena, Illinois, the son of businessman Leigh A. Hunt and Eliza (Harrison) Hunt. He was a maternal descendant of Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The family moved to New York City in the early 1860s, and in 1877, Hunt graduated from the City College of New York, receiving medals in history, belles-lettres, mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, and English. He was also appointed as tutor in the City College's Art Department. In the same year, he entered Bellevue Medical School to study anatomy but was persuaded to finish the course and was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1880.

While continuing to teach at City College, Dr. Hunt taught histo-pathology at the medical school, and for a brief time practiced medicine. In 1882, he received an M.S. degree and soon after abandoned all medical pursuits to devote himself entirely to producing art and teaching art history. Hunt was made head of the art department in 1918 and continued in that position until his retirement in 1928.

Hunt was a member of several art-related organizations including the New York Etching Club, the Salmagundi Club, the Society of American Etchers and the Artists' Fund Society. In 1931, he founded the Haden Etching Club whose members were artists who were also physicians.

Hunt and his wife, Grace (née Grace Anna Storrs), enjoyed travel and made frequent voyages to Europe between the 1880s until the outbreak of the first World War in 1914. Several of their voyages were on *R. M. S. Lusitania*.

Leigh Harrison Hunt died Dec 16, 1937 in New York City.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of art history instructor, printmaker, and physician Leigh H. Hunt measure 5.9 linear feet and date from 1870-1937. Found within the papers are scattered biographical material for Hunt; letters from friends and colleagues primarily concerning the celebration of Hunt's 50-year teaching career; auction records and miscellaneous receipts; diaries written by his wife Grace Storrs Hunt describing daily life and specific European trips; notes and writings including art history lecture notes; art work by Hunt; scrapbooks of clippings; miscellaneous printed material including voyage-related ephemera; photographs of Hunt, his family, friends, and residence; and commercial printing blocks.

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## Arrangement

The collection has been arranged into 10 series. All series are arranged chronologically, except for the lecture notes which are arranged alphabetically. Oversized material from various series has been housed in Box 11 (Sol), OV12 and OV13, and is noted in the Series Description/Container Listing Section at the appropriate folder title with see also/see references.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1877-1937, undated (Box 1, 11, OV12; 3 folders)

- Series 2: Letters, 1881-1937, undated (Box 1; 16 folders)
- Series 3: Financial Records, 1904-1911, undated (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 4: Diaries by Grace Hunt, 1884-1931 (Box 1; 11 folders)
- Series 5: Notes and Writings, 1878-1937, undated (Box 1, 2, 11; 56 folders)
- Series 6: Art Work, 1884-1930, undated (Box 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,11, OV12, OV13; 1.6 linear feet)
- Series 7: Scrapbooks, 1877-1925, undated (Box 3; 9 folders)
- Series 8: Printed Material, 1870-1937, undated (Box 3, 4, 11, OV12; 1.4 linear feet)
- Series 9: Photographs, 1880-1934, undated (Box 4, 5, 11; 30 folders)
- Series 10: Artifacts, undated (Box 5; 2 folders)

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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:

Etchers -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Diaries  
Drawings  
Photographs  
Scrapbooks  
Sketches

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1877-1937, undated

*(Box 1, 11, OV12; 3 folders)*

Biographical material includes a passport, diplomas, a medical report and death certificate for Hunt.

Box 1, Folder 1      Calling Card, Passport, Medical Report, and Death Certificate, 1914-1937, undated

Box 11              Oversized Diplomas, 1880

Box OV 12          Oversized Diplomas, 1877-1883

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## Series 2: Letters, 1881-1937, undated

*(Box 1; 16 folders)*

Letters are from friends and colleagues and primarily consist of messages of congratulation on Hunt's 50th anniversary as a faculty member at City College of New York. There is also an etching, 1888, used as an invitation to the Salmagundi Club.

Box 1, Folder 2-16      Letters, 1881-1937, undated

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## Series 3: Financial Records, 1904-1911, undated

*(Box 1; 2 folders)*

There are two pages of auction records listing the prices of miscellaneous household items. Receipts are for dues payments for the Thomas Hunter Association and entrance fees for the American Universities Club of London.

Box 1, Folder 17      Auction Records, undated

Box 1, Folder 18      Miscellaneous Receipts, 1904-1911

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## Series 4: Grace Hunt Diaries, 1884-1931

(Box 1; 11 folders)

Travel diaries describe trips to New York City, Milwaukee, Canada, and Holland. Also included is a diary describing various cycling trips. Five-year diaries contain brief daily annotations and ephemera including dried flowers, clippings, ticket stubs, and photographs. The diary for 1911-1915 contains entries describing passage on the *R. M. S. Lusitania*.

Box 1, Folder 19	Travel Diary (New York City, Milwaukee, and Canada), 1884-1885
Box 1, Folder 20	Travel Diary (Holland), 1889
Box 1, Folder 21	Items Found in Travel Diary, 1889
Box 1, Folder 22	Cycling Diary, 1898-1913
Box 1, Folder 23	Five-Year Diaries, 1901-1910
Box 1, Folder 24	Five-Year Diaries, 1911-1920
Box 1, Folder 25-26	Items Found in Diaries, 1911-1920
Box 1, Folder 27	Five-Year Diaries, 1921-1930
Box 1, Folder 28	Items Found in Diary, 1926-1930
Box 1, Folder 29	Diary, 1931

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## Series 5: Notes and Writings, 1878-1937, undated

*(Box 1-2, 11; 56 folders)*

This series primarily consists of art history lecture notes accumulated over many years by Hunt for use in conducting his classes at City College of New York. The autograph book contains 3 drawings by Leigh Hunt and friends.

Box 1, Folder 30	Autograph Book for Grace Hunt, 1878-1893
Box 1, Folder 31	Lists of Art Work by Hunt, undated
Box 1, Folder 32	Constitution and By-Laws of the Haden Etching Club
Box 1, Folder 33	Minutes of a Meeting of the Quill Club, 1921
Box 1	Lecture Notes by Leigh Hunt
Box 1, Folder 34-36	American Art, 1927-1931, undated
Box 1, Folder 37	"Armor," undated
Box 1, Folder 38	"Art 31: Aesthetics Introductory Lecture," undated
Box 1, Folder 39-40	Barbizon School, 1922, undated
Box 1, Folder 41-43	"British Art," undated
Box 1, Folder 44-45	"Elements in Picture Criticism," undated
Box 1, Folder 46	"For Comparative Literature and Art," undated
Box 1, Folder 47	"Foreign or Today," 1917, undated
Box 2	Lecture Notes by Leigh Hunt
Box 2, Folder 1-3	French Art, undated
Box 2, Folder 4	"Furniture," 1919-1929
Box 2, Folder 5	"How to Get the Best Out of Pictures," 1926
Box 2, Folder 6-7	"Impressionism," undated
Box 2, Folder 8-11	"Italian Art," 1919, undated

Box 2, Folder 12	"Japanese Color Prints," , undated
Box 2, Folder 13-14	Northern European Art, undated
Box 2, Folder 15	"Pewter, Brass, Copper, Sheffield Plate, Etc.," , undated
Box 2, Folder 16	"Pre-Raphaelites," , undated
Box 2, Folder 17-18	Printmaking, 1918, undated
Box 2, Folder 19	Sculpture, 1928-1930, undated
Box 2, Folder 20-24	Spanish Art, undated
Box 2, Folder 25	Watercolor and Pastel, undated
Box 2, Folder 26-27	"Whistler," , undated
Box 2, Folder 28	Miscellaneous Lecture Notes, undated
Box 2, Folder 29	School Manuscript "The Scholars' Protest," , undated
Box 2, Folder 30	Typescript for Speech at Burchard's Dinner, undated
Box 2, Folder 31	Introduction by Leigh Hunt for book <i>Byzantine Art</i> by Pantelis Zografos, 1931
Box 2, Folder 32	Notebook of Writings and Art History Notes by Leigh Hunt, 1892, undated
Box 2, Folder 33	Notebook of Writings by Grace Hunt, 1878-1881
Box 2, Folder 34	Manuscript "The Relation of Music to Sculpture" by Grace Hunt, 1881
Box 2, Folder 35	Hand-written Notebook of Medical Information, undated
Box 2, Folder 36	Typescript "Tribute to Professor Leigh Harrison Hunt" by Frederick B. Robinson, 1937
Box 2, Folder 37	Miscellaneous Poems, 1898, undated
Box 2, Folder 38	Miscellaneous Notes and Writings, undated
Box 11	Oversized Chart of the Italian Schools of Painting, undated

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**Series 6: Art Work, 1884-1930, undated***(Box 2-3, 6-11, OV12, OV13; 1.6 linear feet)*

Art work includes sketchbooks, drawings, watercolors, and prints primarily depicting scenes from Hunt's European travels. All prints, except for one lithograph, are etchings.

Box 2, Folder 39-48	Sketchbooks, 1887-1908, undated
Box 2, Folder 449-50	Drawings by Hunt, 1887-1889, undated
Box 2, Folder 51	Watercolors by Hunt, undated
Box 2, Folder 52-57	Prints by Hunt, 1884-1930, undated
Box 3, Folder 1-3	Prints by Hunt, 1884-1930, undated
Box 3, Folder 4	Bookplates for Hunt, undated
Box 3, Folder 5-8	Prints by Others, undated
Box 3, Folder 9-13	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 3, Folder 14	Painted Notebook Covers, 1917, undated
Box 6, Folder 1-6	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 7, Folder 1-7	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 8, Folder 1-6	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 9, Folder 1-6	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 10, Folder 1-5	Etching Plates, 1887-1930, undated
Box 11	Oversized Sketchbook, 1901
Box 11	Oversized Drawing, undated
Box 11	Fifteen Oversized Etchings, 1888-1914, undated
Box 11	Oversized Lithograph, undated
Box 11	Oversized Steel-Faced Etching Plate, undated

Box OV 12                  Six Oversized Etchings, 1888-1890, undated

Box OV 13                  Oversized Steel-Faced Copper Etching Plate, 1892

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## Series 7: Scrapbooks, 1877-1925, undated

*(Box 3; 9 folders)*

Scrapbooks contain clippings mentioning Hunt, and topics of interest to Hunt including James Abbott McNeill Whistler and cartoons of social commentary.

Box 3, Folder 15-16	Scrapbooks Containing Cartoons of Social Commentary, undated
Box 3, Folder 17	Scrapbook about Whistler, undated
Box 3, Folder 18	Scrapbook of Clippings, undated
Box 3, Folder 19	Scrapbook of Clippings, 1877-1879
Box 3, Folder 20	Scrapbook of Clippings, 1888-1899
Box 3, Folder 21	Scrapbook of Clippings, 1925, undated
Box 3, Folder 22-23	Scrapbook of Clippings and Programs by Grace Hunt, 1878-1899

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## Series 8: Printed Material, 1870-1937, undated

Printed material includes clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, lecture announcements, and miscellaneous programs and brochures. Also included is voyage-related printed material primarily consisting of passenger lists, menus, brochures, and maps of the Hunts' voyages to England, Holland, and Belgium, including material concerning *R.M.S. Lusitania*.

Box 3, Folder 24-39	Clippings, 1880-1937, undated
Box 3, Folder 40-42	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Hunt, 1897-1933, undated
Box 3, Folder 43	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Others, 1907-1935, undated
Box 3, Folder 44	Lecture Announcements, 1921, undated
Box 3, Folder 45-47	Programs and Presentation Books Honoring Hunt's 50-Year Teaching Career at City College of New York, 1927-1928
Box 3, Folder 48	Miscellaneous Programs, 1881-1928, undated
Box 3, Folder 49-54	Voyage-Related Printed Material, 1889-1914, undated
Box 3, Folder 55-60	Picture Postcards of Europe, Canada, and the United States, undated
Box 4, Folder 1-3	Picture Postcards of Europe, Canada, and the United States, undated
Box 4, Folder 4	Brochures, 1883-1927, undated
Box 4, Folder 5-7	Booklets, 1870-1923, undated
Box 4, Folder 8	Auction Catalogs, 1905-1925, undated
Box 4, Folder 9-10	Reproductions of Art Work by Others, undated
Box 4, Folder 11	Yearbook from City College of New York, 1928
Box 4, Folder 12-17	Miscellaneous Books About Art History and Travel, 1881-1932
Box 4, Folder 18	Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1887, undated
Box 11	Oversized Program, 1913
Box 11	Oversized Voyage-Related Map, 1889



Box 11                    Oversized Souvenir Certificate from a Dinner Commemorating the 10th  
Anniversary of Graduation, 1887

Box OV 12                Oversized Floor Plan for S.S. *Lapland*, 1914

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## Series 9: Photographs, 1880-1934, undated

(Box 4-5, 11; 30 folders)

Photographs are of Hunt and his wife, including childhood portraits and six tintypes, that show them at home, on board ships, and riding in several of their early automobiles. Photographs of friends include several of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bowker. Commercially produced photographs are of locations visited by the Hunts in England, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and the United States. A photograph of painting *Arrangement in Gray and Green* is autographed by James Abbott McNeill Whistler, including his signature butterfly.

Box 4, Folder 19	Photograph Album, undated
Box 4, Folder 20	Photographs of Hunt's Parents, undated
Box 4, Folder 21-23	Photographs of Hunt, 1861?-1937?
Box 4, Folder 24-25	Photographs of Grace Hunt, 1880, undated
Box 4, Folder 26-30	Photographs of Hunt and His Wife, 1902, undated
Box 4, Folder 31-33	Photographs of the Hunts with Friends, 1898-1934, undated
Box 4, Folder 34-37	Photographs of Hunt's Residence, undated
Box 5, Folder 1	Photographs of Hunt's Office at City College of New York, undated
Box 5, Folder 2	Photograph of a Print Shop, undated
Box 5, Folder 3-8	Commercially Produced Photographs of European and American Scenes, 1887, undated
Box 5, Folder 9	Miscellaneous Travel Photographs, undated
Box 5, Folder 10-11	Photographs of Art Work by Others, undated
Box 11	Oversized Photograph of Hunt, undated
Box 11	Oversized Photograph of Early European Altarpiece, undated

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## Series 10: Artifacts, undated

*(Box 5; 2 folders)*

Artifacts consist of two photomechanical printing blocks for reproductions of Hunt's art work, and a commercial engraving plate for Hunt's coat of arms.

Box 5, Folder 12-13      Commercial Printing Blocks, undated

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