



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to Amy Jones Papers, 1910s-2015,  
bulk 1930s-1992, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian  
Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National  
Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

2020 November 17

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
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	3
Names and Subjects .....	3
Container Listing .....	4
Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-2015.....	4
Series 2: Correspondence, 1943-2000.....	6
Series 3: Subject Files, 1941-1993.....	7
Series 4: Printed Material, 1930s-1992.....	9
Series 5: Photographs, 1910s, 1930s-1980s.....	10
Series 6: Artwork, circa 1930s-1980s.....	11
Series 7: Scrapbooks, 1935-1943, 1980.....	12

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Amy Jones papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.joneamy
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1930-1990
<b>Extent:</b>	3.5 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Jones, Amy, 1899-1992
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of painter, muralist, and educator Amy Jones measures 3.5 linear feet and date from 1910s-2015, with the bulk of the records dating between 1930s-1992. The papers document Jones' career through biographical material, several recorded interviews and talks, correspondence, subject files, printed material, photographs, artwork, and scrapbooks.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

A portion of the collection was donated by Amy Jones in 1985, and the remainder was donated in 2015 by Lucy Jones Berk, Amy Jones' daughter.

### Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reel 3814 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Christopher DeMairo in 2020.

### Preferred Citation

Amy Jones papers, 1910s-2015. 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. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact References Services for more information.

## Conditions Governing 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

Amy Jones (Frisbie) (1899-1992) was a painter, printmaker, sculptor, and art educator in New York.

After attending Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, New York, Jones studied under Xavier Gonzalez, Ben Wolf, and Anthony di Bona at the Pratt Institute. She left school early and moved to Buffalo, New York with her new husband, Blair Jones, and they had a daughter, Lucy. Jones continued to work on her art over the next few years designing Christmas cards and painting still lifes, portraits, and landscapes. Jones completed three murals between 1937-1941 for the U.S. Treasury Relief Art Project in Winsted, Connecticut; Painted Post, New York; and Scotia, New York. Jones established herself as a watercolorist in the U.S. and internationally by the 1940s. Her solo exhibitions include those held at Mount Holyoke College, Galleria Santo Stefano in Venice, Italy, a 10-year survey at New Britain Museum of American Art, and Katonah Gallery; and group exhibitions at National Gallery of Art, Corcoran Gallery, American Institute of Arts and Letters, and Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Her work may be found in the collections of the Ford Motor Company, Springfield College of Illinois, New Britain Museum of American Art, and the homes of many private collectors.

---

## Scope and Contents

The papers of painter, muralist, and educator Amy Jones measures 3.5 linear feet and date from 1910s-2015, with the bulk of the records dating between 1930s-1992. The papers document Jones' career through biographical material, some recorded interviews and talks, correspondence, subject files, printed material, photographs, artwork, and scrapbooks.

Biographical materials include awards and certificates, audio and video recordings from interviews and talks, resumes, inventories of works, membership cards, and writings. Correspondence pertains to Jones' dealings with galleries, museums, collectors, and also includes Christmas cards illustrated by Jones. Subject files include records of the sale and exhibition of her artwork; custodial history of her archive; project files; and some papers relating to her work as an art educator. Printed materials include newspaper and magazine clippings, exhibition announcements, catalogs, and posters, and publications that reproduced Jones' work. Photographs depict Jones as well as many of her watercolor landscapes, still lifes, and portraits. Artwork consists of loose sketches and drawings as well two sketchbooks. Scrapbooks contain correspondence, photographs, notes and sketches, contracts, expenses, and printed material documenting three of Jones' mural paintings between 1937-1941 as part of the U.S. Treasury Relief Art Project.

---

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 7 series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-2015 (Box 1; .5 linear feet)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1943-2000 (Box 1; 8 folders)
- Series 3: Subject Files, 1941-1993 (Box 1-2; .6 linear feet)
- Series 4: Printed Material, 1930s-1992 (Box 2-3; 1 linear feet)
- Series 5: Photographs, 1910s, 1930s-1980s (Box 3; 9 folders)
- Series 6: Artwork, circa 1930s-1980s (Box 3; 9 folders)
- Series 7: Scrapbooks, 1935-1943, 1980 (Box 3-5; .6 linear feet)

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Federal aid to the arts  
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Scrapbooks  
Sound recordings  
Video recordings

Names:

United States. Dept. of the Treasury. Section of Fine Arts

Occupations:

Muralists -- New York (State)  
Painters -- New York (State)

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-2015

#### *0.5 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Included in this series are awards and certificates; audio and video recordings from interviews and talks, resumes, inventories of works, and membership cards. Writings in this series include drafts and notes from Jones' memoir as well as an essay by her first husband, Blair Jones.

Box 1, Folder 1	Awards, American Watercolor Society, 1960, circa 1990
Box 1, Folder 2	Awards, Baltimore Watercolor Society, 1958
Box 1, Folder 3	Awards, Open Airs Art Show, 1964
Box 1, Folder 4	Awards, Third Place Ribbon, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Interview, Conversation with Amy Jones, 1984 April 30 <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 1, Folder 6	Interview, Amy Jones, circa 1980s <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>
Box 1, Folder 7	Interview, A Conversation with Amy Jones (copy) with Amy Jones by Lucy Jones Berk, circa 2015 <i>2 Videodiscs (DVD)</i>
Box 1, Folder 8	Interview, by Lucy Jones Berk, 1988 February 13 <i>1 Sound cassette</i>
Box 1, Folder 9	Inventory of Amy Jones Works, 1989-1990
Box 1, Folder 10	Lithograph Records, circa 1950s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 11	Membership and Business Cards, 1990s
Box 1, Folder 12	Memoir Notes and Writings, circa 1970s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 13	Notes on Recorded Materials, circa 1980s, 2015
Box 1, Folder 14	Records of Amy Jones Works, 1965-1984
Box 1, Folder 15	Resumes, 1980s

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 16 | Stationery, circa 1984  |
| Box 1, Folder 17 | Talk, Amy Jones Frisbie, 1986<br><i>1 Sound cassette</i>                                      |
| Box 1, Folder 18 | Writings, "Italy's Adriatic Coast"; Ford Motor Company, 1955<br><i>1 Sound cassette</i>       |
| Box 1, Folder 19 | Writings, "History of Ohio, Unexpurgated," by Blair Jones, undated<br><i>1 Sound cassette</i> |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 2: Correspondence, 1943-2000

### *8 Folders (Box 1)*

Correspondence includes letters from publishers and others that reproduced Jones' artwork; museums, galleries, and collectors regarding the exhibition and sale of her artwork; and general correspondence relating to more personal matters such as properties and family. Also included are files consisting of Christmas cards illustrated by Jones as well as letters that belonged to her daughter, Lucy Jones Berk, concerning her mother's death and artwork.

Box 1, Folder 20-21	Art Correspondence and Records, 1943-1985
Box 1, Folder 22	Christmas Cards, 1940s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 23-26	General Correspondence , 1940s-1980s, undated
Box 1, Folder 27	Lucy Berk Letters Regarding Her Mother, 1991-2000

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*



## Series 3: Subject Files, 1941-1993

### *0.6 Linear feet (Box 1-2)*

Folders contain correspondence, pricelists, checklists, printed material, notes and writings, poetry, some legal documents, and a notebook concerning a variety of Jones' endeavors throughout her career. Materials document the sale and exhibition of her artwork at galleries and museums, in particular the Katonah Gallery, Somerstown Gallery, Sragow Gallery, Galleria Santo Stefano in Venice, and Adirondack Museum; the custodial history of Jones' records with John Jay College and the Archives of American Art; Jones' involvement with art associations and memberships; and her work as an art educator. Other items include notes on printmaking, an inventory of sculpture materials, several sketches, and one file concerning Jones' newspaper advertisements.

Box 1, Folder 28	Adirondack Museum, 1987-1988
Box 1, Folder 29	American Artist, 1941-1952
Box 1, Folder 30	American Watercolor Society, 1950s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 31	Artists Equity Association, 1950-1954, circa 1986
Box 1, Folder 32	Collectors, 1987, undated
Box 2, Folder 1	Exhibitions, 1950s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 2	Exhibitions, Saranac Lake Free Library Show, circa 1990
Box 2, Folder 3	Exhibitions, Selected Works by Amy Jones and Clara Haas; Venice, 1972, circa 1980s
Box 2, Folder 4	Federal Works Agency Buildings Administration, 1942
Box 2, Folder 5	Felicita Foundation, 1987-1988
Box 2, Folder 6	Galleries, Katonah Gallery, 1987-1992
Box 2, Folder 7	Galleries, Somerstown Gallery; Schoolhouse Gallery, 1983-1993
Box 2, Folder 8	Galleries, Sragow Gallery, 1986-1989
Box 2, Folder 9	Galleries, Miscellaneous, 1954, 1986
Box 2, Folder 10-11	Italy, Papers and Reviews, 1972-1979
Box 2, Folder 12	John Jay College; Archives of American Art, 1979-1987

Box 2, Folder 13	R. R. Bowker Co., 1945-1949
Box 2, Folder 14	Sculpture House, undated
Box 2, Folder 15	Teaching Notebook, 1975-1981
Box 2, Folder 16	Marianne Moore, 1975, 1987
Box 2, Folder 17	Murals, circa 1969-1988
Box 2, Folder 18	Newspapers, 1972-1985
Box 2, Folder 19	New York Library, Art Education Project, 1951, 1955
Box 2, Folder 20	Painted Post, 1941-1942, 1986-1987
Box 2, Folder 21	Philadelphia Watercolor Club, 1954
Box 2, Folder 22	Poetry, circa 1940-1970s
Box 2, Folder 23	Pratt Institute, 1986
Box 2, Folder 24	Printmaking Notes, undated
Box 2, Folder 25	Williams & McCormick, 1987

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 4: Printed Material, 1930s-1992

### *1 Linear foot (Box 2-3)*

Files include newspaper and magazine clippings of cartoons as well as reviews and articles about Jones, exhibitions that included her artwork, and her various public murals; announcements, catalogs, and some posters from group and solo exhibitions; and copies of publications that used Jones' artwork.

Box 2, Folder 26	Clippings, Magazine Cartoons, 1940s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 27	Clippings, Obituaries, 1992
Box 2, Folder 28-29	Clippings, Reviews and Articles, circa 1930s-1980s
Box 2, Folder 30-35	Exhibition Material, 1937-1949
Box 3, Folder 1-6	Exhibition Material, 1950-1991, undated
Box 3, Folder 7	Printmaking Class, College of New Rochelle, 1972
Box 3, Folder 8	Publications, <i>A Child's Garden of Verses</i> , by Robert Louis Stevenson; Pictures by Amy Jones, 1946
Box 3, Folder 9	Publications, <i>The Spider's House</i> , by Paul Bowles; Jacket Illustration by Amy Jones, circa 1955
Box 3, Folder 10-11	Publications, 1940s-1980s

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 5: Photographs, 1910s, 1930s-1980s

### *9 Folders (Box 3)*

Files mostly consist of black and white and color prints, slides, negatives, and transparencies of Amy Jones' artwork, the bulk of which are watercolor landscapes, still lifes, and portraits. Also included are some images of Jones, her family, and her art studio.

Box 3, Folder 12	Amy Jones, circa 1910, 1937-1980s
Box 3, Folder 13	Amy Jones, Art Studio, undated
Box 3, Folder 14-15	Artwork, Identified Paintings, 1930s-1980s
Box 3, Folder 16	Artwork, Portraits, 1940s-1986
Box 3, Folder 17	Artwork, Portraits, Negatives, circa 1940s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 18	Artwork, Unidentified Paintings, 1930s-1980s
Box 3, Folder 19	Artwork, Miscellaneous, 1940s-1980s
Box 3, Folder 20	Artwork, Miscellaneous Transparencies, 1940s-1960s

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 6: Artwork, circa 1930s-1980s

### *9 Folders (Box 3)*

Included are loose sketches and drawings as well two sketchbooks.

Box 3, Folder 21	Character on Camel's Back, undated
Box 3, Folder 22	Muir Woods, California, 1965
Box 3, Folder 23	Paris Sketches, undated
Box 3, Folder 24	Pencil Sketch for <i>Bus Terminal</i> (copy), 1944
Box 3, Folder 25	Robbie Greenbreast, 1962
Box 3, Folder 26	Sketchbook, circa 1930s-1950s
Box 3, Folder 27	Sketchbook, circa 1970s
Box 3, Folder 28	Sketches, "A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum"; "My Fair Lady", 1962, 1964
Box 3, Folder 29	Statue of Liberty, Xerox, circa 1986

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 7: Scrapbooks, 1935-1943, 1980

*0.6 Linear feet (Boxes 3-5)*

Three scrapbooks documenting murals completed by Amy Jones between 1937-1941 in Winsted, Connecticut; Painted Post, New York; and Scotia, New York. Scrapbooks contain correspondence, photographs, notes and sketches, contracts, expenses, and printed material. Also included is one scrapbook containing original copies of Christmas cards designed and painted by Jones, printed material, and several watercolor paintings.

Box 5	Amy Jones Paintings, 1940s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 30-32	Winsted, Connecticut, Post Office Mural, 1935-1943
Box 3, Folder 33-34	Painted Post, New York, Mural, 1938-1939
Box 4, Folder 1-3	Scotia, New York, Post Office Mural, 1940-1941, 1980

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*