



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Matsumi Kanemitsu papers

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

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	1
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Matsumi Kanemitsu papers
Identifier:	AAA.kanemats
Date:	[ca. 1970-1990]
Creator:	Kanemitsu, Matsumi
Extent:	3.1 Linear feet
Language:	Much of the correspondence is in Japanese.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1994 and 1998 by Nancy Uyemura, Kanemitsu's former student, friend, and executor.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Matsumi Kanemitsu (1922-1992) was a Japanese American painter based in both New York City, New York and Los Angeles, California. Also known as Mike Kanemitsu. Although born in Utah, Kanemitsu lived in Japan until he was eighteen. In 1940 he returned to the United States, joining the Army in 1941. After the war, he studied with Fernand Leger in Paris; with Kuniyoshi, Sternberg, and others at the Art Student's League in New York; and with sculptor Karl Metzler in Baltimore. A highly recognized second generation Abstract Expressionist in New York, Kanemitsu came to Los Angeles on a Ford Foundation Fellowship in 1961, and settled there permanently.

Scope and Contents

Personal and business correspondence; personal and business financial records, including gallery and museum invoices, consignment papers, loan forms; printed material, such as exhibition announcements, invitations, catalogs, clippings, and articles; curriculum vitae; and photographs.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Abstract expressionism

Artists -- California -- Los Angeles
Asian American art
Asian American artists
Asian American painters
Japanese American art
Japanese American artists

Occupations:

Painters -- California -- Los Angeles