



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

David Kasmire papers

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/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	David Kasmire papers
<b>Date:</b>	1949-1968
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.kasmdavi
<b>Creator:</b>	Kasmire, David
<b>Extent:</b>	0.2 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1989 by David Kasmire.

### 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Painter; San Francisco, Calif. Had a studio in Montgomery Block, also known as "Monkey Block" in San Francisco, built in 1853, and occupied by artists and writers from early 1900s until its demolition in 1959.

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## Scope and Contents

Letters to David Kasmire from Hubert Crehan, Sonia Gechtoff, George McNeil, Wilfred Zogbaum describing the art scenes and the people involved in New York City and San Francisco between 1949 and 1968, including John Bolles, Herman Cherry, Ethel Gechtoff (Etya), Louise Nevelson Clay Edgar Spohn and others; a letter from Bernard Berenson to "Preston," Mar. 23, 1949; 1 photograph of Hubert Crehan and a group photograph of Crehan with Sonia Gechtoff and others; a photo postcard of the "Monkey Block" in San Francisco where artists Crehan, Sonia Gechtoff, Elmer Bischoff, James Weeks and others had studios; and 3 clippings, including an announcement for Sonia Gechtoff and Crehan exhibitions, n.d. and a story on the razing of the historic "Monkey Block" (1958).

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Names:

Berenson, Bernard, 1865-1959

Bolles, John S.  
Cherry, Herman  
Crehan, Hubert  
Gechtoff, Ethel  
Gechtoff, Sonia, 1926-2018  
McNeil, George, 1908-1995  
Nevelson, Louise, 1899-1988  
Spohn, Clay Edgar, 1898-1977  
Zogbaum, Wilfrid, 1915-1965

Occupations:

Painters -- California -- San Francisco  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Functions:

Artists' studios -- California -- San Francisco  
Historic buildings -- California -- San Francisco

Places:

Montgomery Block (San Francisco, Calif.)  
San Francisco (Calif.) -- Buildings, structures, etc