



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Gene Kloss Papers, 1932-1956, in the Archives of American Art

Stephanie Ashley

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Gene Kloss papers
<b>Date:</b>	1932-1956
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.klogene
<b>Creator:</b>	Kloss, Gene, 1903-
<b>Extent:</b>	0.11 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of California and New Mexico painter and etcher, Gene Kloss, provide scattered documentation of Kloss's career through 35 items dating from 1932-1956. Records include letters to Kloss, primarily about exhibitions and purchases of her work; press clippings documenting exhibitions and other activities including lectures delivered by Kloss; a photograph of Kloss and three photographs of her artwork; and ten etchings. The etchings represent a complete set of the artist's prints of the Southwest executed for the Public Works of Art Project from 1933-1934.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1964 by Gene Kloss.

### Available Formats

The collection was digitized in 2021 and is available on the Archives of American Art website.

### Processing Information

Portions of the collection were microfilmed on 35mm microfilm Reel NDA15 at some point after receipt. The collection was processed and a finding aid written by Stephanie Ashley, and the collection was digitized in 2021.

### 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.

### 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

California and New Mexico etcher and painter, Gene Kloss, was known for her depictions of the American Southwest.

Also known as Alice Geneva Glasier, Kloss was born in Oakland, California, and studied at the University of California at Berkeley, the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco, and the College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. In 1925 she traveled to New Mexico to honeymoon with her husband, poet Phillip Kloss, and was deeply drawn to the region. Thereafter, Gene and Phillip divided their time between Berkeley and Taos, New Mexico, where Gene produced etchings and paintings of the landscape and its Pueblo inhabitants.

Kloss was employed as the sole etcher for the 1933-1934 Public Works of Art Project, producing watercolors and oil paintings, and a series of New Mexico scenes that were reproduced and distributed to public schools across the state.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of California and New Mexico painter and etcher, Gene Kloss, provide scattered documentation of Kloss's career through 35 items dating from 1932-1956. Records include letters to Kloss, primarily about exhibitions and purchases of her work; press clippings documenting exhibitions and other activities including lectures delivered by Kloss; a photograph of Kloss and three photographs of her artwork; and ten etchings. The etchings represent a complete set of the artist's prints of the Southwest executed for the Public Works of Art Project from 1933-1934.

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## Arrangement

Due to the small size of the collection, records are arranged as one series.

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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:

Women artists  
Women painters

Names:

Federal Art Project (N.M.)

Occupations:

Etchers -- California  
Etchers -- New Mexico -- Taos  
Painters -- California  
Painters -- New Mexico -- Taos

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Gene Kloss Papers, 1932-1956

**Scope and Contents:** The papers of California and New Mexico painter and etcher, Gene Kloss, provide scattered documentation of Kloss's career through 35 items dating from 1932-1956. Records include letters to Kloss, primarily about exhibitions and purchases of her work; press clippings documenting exhibitions and other activities including lectures delivered by Kloss; a photograph of Kloss and three photographs of her artwork; and ten etchings. The etchings represent a complete set of the artist's prints of the Southwest executed for the Public Works of Art Project from 1933-1934.

Folder 1 [Papers and Photographs, 1932-1956](#)

Oversize 2 [Prints, circa 1934](#)

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