



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Karl Knaths Papers, 1890-1973,
bulk 1922-1971, in the Archives of American Art

Judy Ng

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection
was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

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Archives of American Art
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical/Historical note.....	2
Scope and Contents note.....	3
Arrangement note.....	3
Names and Subjects	4
Container Listing	5
Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-1971.....	5
Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1971.....	6
Series 3: Writings, 1916-1968, 1890.....	9
Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1920s-1973.....	17
Series 5: Sketchbooks, circa 1920s-1970s.....	18
Series 6: Artwork, circa 1920s-1970s.....	29

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Karl Knaths papers
Identifier:	AAA.knatkarp
Date:	1890-1973 (bulk 1922-1971)
Extent:	8.9 Linear feet
Creator:	Knaths, Karl, 1891-1971
Language:	Most of the collection is in English; some records are in German.
Summary:	The papers of cubist painter Karl Knaths measure 8.9 linear feet and date from 1890 to 1973, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1922 to 1971. The collection includes biographical material, personal and professional correspondence, four diaries, 22 notebooks and notes on theoretical color and compositional approaches to painting, published and draft copies of essays on art, miscellaneous printed material, 132 sketchbooks and other artwork.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

In 1962, Karl Knaths lent the Archives of American Art a sketchbook and a selection of papers for microfilming. Upon Knath's death in 1972, these papers, excluding the sketchbook, along with additional materials, were willed to the Archives. His executor, Kenneth Desmarais, donated additional material from Knaths's estate in 1977 and 1980.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds material lent for microfilming (reel D81) including one sketchbook. Lent materials were returned to the lender and are not described in the collection container inventory.

Related Archival Materials

The Archives of American Art holds one oral history interview with Karl Knaths conducted by Dorothy Seckler in 1962; a transcript of a 1968 lecture delivered by Knaths at the Provincetown Art Association in Provincetown, Massachusetts; and a 1955 video recording documenting Knaths's Cape Cod influenced artwork, directed by Jack Calderwood.

Available Formats

The bulk of the collection was digitized in 2012 and is available via the Archives of American Art's website. Blank pages in bound volumes, banking and tax records, and miscellaneous

printed materials have not been scanned. In many cases, only the cover, title page, and individual relevant pages have been scanned from published materials.

Material lent for microfilming is available on 35mm microfilm reel D81 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

Portions of the collection received a preliminary level of processing for microfilming on reels D81, 433-437, 535, 3090, and 2336-2339; these reels are no longer in circulation. All previously filmed and unfiled accessions were merged, fully processed, arranged, and described by Judy Ng and digitized in 2012 with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

Preferred Citation

Karl Knaths papers, 1890-1973, bulk 1922-1971. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

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 Note

Karl Knaths (1891-1971), born Otto G. Knaths, lived and worked in Provincetown, Massachusetts and was known for his cubist style of painting.

Knaths was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in his early twenties. The 1913 Armory Show provided his first major encounter with modernist art styles and the works of Paul Cezanne and Vincent Van Gogh. In 1919, Knaths moved to Provincetown and began to explore cubist perspectives in his own work, which drew much of its inspiration from the fishing culture and landscapes of his Cape Cod environs. Intellectually curious and drawn to art theory, Knaths recorded his thoughts on composition rules, color classifications, and the potential intersections between music, space, and color theory in notebooks, notes, and sketchbooks throughout his career.

The patronage of art collector Duncan Phillips led to Knaths's first one-man show at the Phillips Collection in 1929. The following year, he landed a solo show at New York's Daniel Gallery. Knaths joined the Works Progress Administration in 1934 and painted murals and other works for a year and a half. From 1938 to 1950, he also taught painting and art theory during a six week course held at the Phillips Art School, and was a guest lecturer at Black Mountain College, North Carolina (1944) and the Skowhegan School of

Painting and Sculpture in Maine (1948). From 1945 to 1971, he was represented by the art gallery Paul Rosenberg and Co. Knaths died in 1971 in his home in Provincetown, at the age of 80.

Scope and Contents

The papers of cubist painter Karl Knaths measure 8.9 linear feet and date from 1890 to 1973, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1922 to 1971. The collection includes biographical material, personal and professional correspondence, four diaries, 22 notebooks and notes on theoretical color and compositional approaches to painting, published and draft copies of essays on art, miscellaneous printed material, and 132 sketchbooks and additional artwork.

Biographical material consists of a copy of Knaths's curriculum vitae, a press release, and miscellaneous personal financial records.

Correspondence in the collection documents Knaths's relationships with family, friends, and business associates after his move to Provincetown, Massachusetts in 1919. Notable correspondents include Duncan and Marjorie Phillips, artist Joseph Meierhans, and the gallery Paul Rosenberg and Co.

The papers include three of Knaths's personal diaries (1916-1919, 1948) and a diary written by F.A. Mehler in 1890. Additional writings include lecture notes from classes that Knaths both attended and taught; 22 notebooks that explore his interest in articulating a color and compositional theory of painting; loose notes on various artists, projects, and facets of painting; several of his completed essays on art, including "Decorative Material" and "Pictorial Analysis;" and a draft of his unpublished manuscript "Ornament and Glory." Writings by others include 15 lecture transcripts from courses taught by Hans Hofmann during the 1930s, Knaths's translations of essays by Piet Mondrian, Kazimir Malevitch, and Carl Einstein, and a biographical essay on Karl Knaths by Paul Mocsanyi.

Printed materials in the collection include clippings, exhibition catalogs, and programs related to Knaths's one-man exhibitions and group shows, and the books *Syracuse University Centennial Collection of Art* (1970) and *Karl Knaths: Five Decades of Painting* (1973).

The bulk of the collection consists of 132 sketchbooks and additional artwork. Sketchbooks date from the 1920s to the 1970s and document Knaths's early figurative and landscape studies and later explorations of cubist style and compositional experiments with color, line, and form. Additional artwork includes numerous color charts and diagrams that Knaths kept to inform his painting color palette; outlines of compositional works on both graphed and regular paper; loose pencil sketches and pastels of figures, landscapes, and compositional experiments; and finished paintings and prints.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-1971 (Box 1, 8; 6 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1971 (Box 1; .5 linear feet)
- Series 3: Writings, 1890, 1916-1968 (Boxes 1-3, 8, OV 14, OV 19; 2 linear feet)
- Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1920s-1973 (Box 3, OV 19; 10 folders)
- Series 5: Sketchbooks, circa 1920s-1970s (Boxes 3-6, 9-13; 4.5 linear feet)
- Series 6: Artwork, circa 1920s-1970s (Box 6, 13, OV 15-18, OV 20-22; 1.8 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Study and teaching
- Art -- Technique
- Color in art
- Cubism
- Painting -- Study and teaching
- Painting -- Technique

Types of Materials:

- Diaries
- Manuscripts
- Paintings
- Prints
- Sketchbooks
- Sketches
- Transcripts

Names:

- Einstein, Carl, 1885-1940
- Hofmann, Hans, 1880-1966
- Knaths, Karl, 1891-1971
- Malevich, Kazimir Severinovich, 1878-1935
- Mehler, F. A.
- Meierhans, Joseph, b. 1890
- Mocsanyi, Paul
- Mondrian, Piet, 1872-1944
- Phillips, Duncan, 1886-1966
- Phillips, Marjorie, 1895-1985
- Roseberg, Paul and Company

Occupations:

- Painters -- Massachusetts -- Cape Cod

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-1971

6 Folders (Box 1, 8)

Biographical material consists of a copy of Knaths's curriculum vitae, a press release, and miscellaneous personal financial records.

Materials are arranged by document type.

This series has been partially scanned. Personal financial records have not been scanned.

Box 1, Folder 1	Curriculum Vitae, circa 1950s Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 2	Financial Records, Bank Statements, 1971
Box 1, Folder 3	Financial Records, Estate Planning and Tax Returns, 1969-1970
Box 1, Folder 4	Financial Records, Ledger Book, 1966-1971 Oversized material housed in Box 8, F1
Box 1, Folder 5	Press Release, circa 1950s Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 1	Financial Records, Ledger Book, 1966-1971 Oversized materials from Box 1, F4

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1971

0.5 Linear feet (Box 1)

Correspondence in the collection documents Knaths's relationships with family, friends, and business associates after his move to Provincetown, Massachusetts in 1919.

The series is arranged as 2 subseries.

- 2.1: Business, 1943-1971
- 2.2: Personal, 1923-1970

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

2.1: Business, 1945-1970

Business correspondence documents Knaths's relationships with collectors, galleries, art museums, professional artist associations, and other professional contacts. Notable correspondents include Duncan and Marjorie Phillips and the gallery Paul Rosenberg and Co., which represented Knaths from 1945-1970.

Box 1, Folder 6	A, Miscellaneous, 1954-1966 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 7	American Academy of Arts and Letters, 1955-1967 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8	Art Institute of Chicago, 1951-1955 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 9	B-F, Miscellaneous, 1948-1966 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10	Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors, 1953-1957 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 11	G-K, Miscellaneous, 1955-1966 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 12	L-N, Miscellaneous, 1954-1956 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 13	National Institute of Arts and Letters, 1954-1957 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 14	O-P, Miscellaneous, 1943-1955 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 15	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1945-1949

	Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 16	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1950-1954 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 17	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1955-1959 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 18	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1960-1964 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 19	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1965-1969 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 20	Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1970 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 21	Phillips Memorial Gallery (Phillips, Duncan and Marjorie), 1946-1963 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 22	Q-S, Miscellaneous, 1953-1969 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 23	St. Lawrence University, 1969-1971 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 24	Syracuse University, 1965-1970 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 25	T-V, Miscellaneous, 1947-1956 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 26	W, Miscellaneous, 1956-1961 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 27	Wellfleet Art Gallery, 1966-1968 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 28	X-Z, Miscellaneous, circa 1950s Image(s)

2.2: Personal, 1923-1970

Personal correspondence consists of letters, holiday cards, and postal cards received from Knaths's family and friends, including artist Joseph Meierhans.

Box 1, Folder 29	A-C, Miscellaneous, 1924-1965
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[Image\(s\)](#)

Box 1, Folder 30

D-M, Miscellaneous, 1925-1969

[Image\(s\)](#)

Box 1, Folder 31

Meierhans, Joe, 1923-1929, undated

[Image\(s\)](#)

Box 1, Folder 32

N-Z, Miscellaneous, 1925-1970

[Image\(s\)](#)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Writings, 1916-1968, 1890

2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-3, 8, OV 14, OV 19)

Writings include three personal diaries of Knaths, notes on theoretical color and compositional approaches to painting, and essays on art written by Knaths and others. There is also one diary written by F. A. Mehler in 1890.

The series is arranged as 4 subseries.

- 3.1: Diaries, 1890, 1916-1948
- 3.2: Notebooks and Notes, circa 1920s-1940s
- 3.3: Karl Knatsh, 1938-circa 1950s
- 3.4: Others, circa 1920s-1950s

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

3.1: Diaries, 1916-1948, 1890

Diaries include three of Knaths's personal diaries labeled Allentown, Pennsylvania (1916-1918), European Travel (1919), and Provincetown, Massachusetts (1948). Also included is a diary written by F.A. Mehler in 1890.

Box 1, Folder 33	Diary, Allentown, Pennsylvania, 1916-1918 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 34	Diary, European Travel, 1919 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 35	Diary, Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1948 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 36	Diary, F.A. Mehler, 1890 Image(s)

3.2: Notebooks and Notes, circa 1920s-1940s

Notebooks and notes include lecture notes from classes that Knaths both attended and taught; 22 notebooks that explore his interest in articulating color classifications, compositional theories of painting, and the potential intersections between music, space, and color theory; and loose notes on various artists, projects, and facets of painting.

Box 1, Folder 37	"Book of Analysis", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 38	College Course Notes, circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 39	College Course Notes, Art, 1944

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 40 College Course Notes, Phillips Gallery/Bennington College, 1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 41 College Course Notes, Latin, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 42 Lecture, Class Notes, 1943-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 8, F2
- Box 1, Folder 43 Lecture, Notes on "Trends in Modern Painting", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 44 Notebooks on Facets of Painting, #1-2, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 45 Notebooks on Facets of Painting, #3-4, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 46 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #5, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 47 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #6, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 48 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #7, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 49 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #8, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 50 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #9, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 51 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #10, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 1 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #11, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 2 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #12, circa 1920s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 3 Notebook on Facets of Painting, #13, circa 1920s-1940s

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 4	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #14, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 5	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #15, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 6	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #16, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 7	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #17, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 8	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #18, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 8, F3
Box 2, Folder 9	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #19, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 10	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #20, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 11	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #21, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 12	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #22, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 13	Notes on Art History, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 14	Notes on Art Projects, circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 15	Notes on Artists, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 8, F4
Box 2, Folder 16	Notes on Color Scales, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 17	Notes on Facets of Painting, circa 1920s-1940s

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 18	Notes on Lines and Angles, circa 1920s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 19
Box 2, Folder 19	Notes on Shapes, circa 1920s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 20	Note Fragments, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 21	Note Fragments, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 2	Lecture, Class Notes, 1943-1945 Oversized material scanned with Box 1, F42
Box 8, Folder 3	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #18, circa 1920s-1940s Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F8
Box 8, Folder 4	Notes on Artists, circa 1920s-1940s Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F15
Box OV 19	Notes on Lines and Angles, circa 1920s Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F18

3.3: Karl Knaths, 1938-circa 1950s

Writings by Karl Knaths include a draft of his unpublished manuscript "Ornament and Glory," and several of his completed essays on art, including "Decorative Material" and "Pictorial Analysis."

Box 2, Folder 22	"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 23	"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 14
Box 2, Folder 24	"Artist and His Model", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 25	"Decorative Material", 1938 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 26	"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938

- [Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 8, F5 and OV 19
- Box 2, Folder 27 "Decorative Material" and "Pictorial Analysis" Draft, circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 28 "Pictorial Analysis", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 29 "Pictorial Expression", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 30 "Problem of the Painter", circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 31 "Structure in Painting", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 32 Essay Fragment, [Autobiography], circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 33 Essay Fragment, "Areas", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 34 Essay Fragment, "Blank Space", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 35 Essay Fragment, "Color", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 36 Essay Fragment, "Color Patterns", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 37 Essay Fragment, "Figure Composition", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 38 Essay Fragment, "Form", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 39 Essay Fragment, "Harmony", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 40 Essay Fragment, "Plastic Arts", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 41 Essay Fragment, "Reality", circa 1940s

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 42	Essay Fragment, "Scale Functions/Scheme", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 43	Essay Fragment, "Space Relations", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 44	Essay Fragment, "Spirit of the Time", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 45	Essay Fragment, "Surface", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 46	Essay Fragment, "Theory", circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 47	Essay Fragment on Modern Art, circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 48	Essay Fragments on Art History, circa 1940s Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 5	"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938 Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F26
Box OV 14	"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F23
Box OV 19	"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938 Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F26

3.4: Others, circa 1920s-1950s

Writings by others consists of essays, lectures, and excerpts by 20 writers. It includes 15 lecture transcripts from courses taught by Hans Hofmann during the 1930s, Knaths's translations of essays by Piet Mondrian, Kazimir Malevitch, and Carl Einstein, and a biographical essay on Karl Knaths by Paul Mocsanyi.

Box 2, Folder 49	Lecture Transcript, Symposium on Modern Art, Winter Park, Florida, 1950 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 50	[Art Appeals So Strongly to the Senses], circa 1930s Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 51	Burke, Kenneth, Lecture, "Ideology and Myth", 1947

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 52 Campbell, Joseph, Notes from Lecture, "Myth and Ritual", 1947
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 53 Einstein, Carl, "Cubism," Art of the 20th Century (Die Kunst Des 20. Jahrhunderts), Trans. by Karl Knaths and Myron Stout, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 54 Einstein, Carl, "Cubism," Art of the 20th Century (Die Kunst Des 20. Jahrhunderts), Trans. by Karl Knaths and Myron Stout, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 55 Einstein, Carl, Excerpts from Art of the 20th Century (Die Kunst Des 20. Jahrhunderts), Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 56 Einstein, Carl, Excerpts from Georges Braque, circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 57 Estienne, Charles, "Jacques Villon", 1949
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 58 Fromm, Erich, Lecture, "The Modern Myth", 1947
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 59 Gleizes, Albert, Excerpts from History of Cubism, circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 60 Gris, Juan, Notes on Painting, circa 1930s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 61 Hofmann, Hans, "Plastic Creation," Trans. by Ludwig Sander, circa 1930s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 62 Hofmann, Hans, Lectures #3-11, circa 1930s-1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 63 Hofmann, Hans, Six Lectures, 1938-1939
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 1 Hofmann, Hans, Notes, 1941-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 2 Jarrell, Randall, "A Sad Day at the Supermarket", circa 1940s

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 3 Malevitch, Kazimir, "Suprematism," Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 4 Mocsanyi, Paul, "Karl Knaths", circa 1950s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 5 Mondrian, Piet, "Reply of Piet Mondrian", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 6 Mondrian, Piet, "The Home--The Street--The City", 1949
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 7 Mondrian, Piet, "The New Creation" ("Die Neue Gestaltung"), Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 8 Mondrian, Piet, "The New Creation" ("Die Neue Gestaltung"), Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 9 Mondrian, Piet, Excerpt from "The New Creation" ("Die Neue Gestaltung"), Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 10 Raynal, Maurice, Excerpts from Picasso, circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 11 Roman, Melvin, Presentation, "Anger and the Arts", 1968
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 12 Schrodinger, Erwin, Notes Taken on "What is Life", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 13 Seuphor, Michel, "Piet Mondrian and the Origins of Neo-Plasticism", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 14 Suzuki, D.T., Excerpts from "Introduction to Zen Buddhism" and "Essays in Zen, the Koan Exercise", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 15 Thompson, Ralph F., "'Reality' Appraised", circa 1940s
[Image\(s\)](#)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1920s-1973

10 Folders (Box 3, OV 19)

Printed materials in the collection include clippings, exhibition catalogs, and programs related to Knaths's one-man exhibitions and group shows, and the books *Syracuse University Centennial Collection of Art* (1970) and *Karl Knaths: Five Decades of Painting* (1973).

Materials are arranged by document type.

The bulk of this series has been scanned. In most cases, only the cover, title page, and individual relevant pages have been scanned from published materials.

Box 3, Folder 16	Alumni Bulletin, The View from Wisconsin State University, 1967 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 17	Book, <i>Karl Knaths: Five Decades of Painting</i> by Isabel Patterson Eaton, 1973 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 18	Book, <i>Syracuse University Centennial Collection of Art</i> , 1970 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 19	Clippings, 1928-1969 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 20	Exhibition Catalogs, 1942-1959 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 21	Exhibition Catalogs, 1960-1965 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 22	Exhibition Catalogs, 1966-1972 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 23	Event Program, Portage Centennial Celebration, 1952 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 24	Miscellaneous Printed Material, circa 1920s-1970s

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Sketchbooks, circa 1920s-1970s

4.5 Linear feet (Boxes 3-6, 9-13)

132 Sketchbooks date from the 1920s to the 1970s and document Knaths's early figurative and landscape studies and later explorations of cubist style and compositional experiments with color, line, and form.

Materials are arranged in chronological order.

This series has been scanned in its entirety. Sketchbooks have been scanned in page order from the top cover to the bottom cover.

Box 3, Folder 25	Book #1, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 26	Book #2, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 27	Book #3, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 28	Book #4, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 29	Book #5, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 30	Book #6, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 31	Book #7, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 32	Book #8, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 33	Book #9, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 34	Book #10, circa 1920s-1940s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 35	Book #11, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 36	Book #12, circa 1920s-1970s

	Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 37	Book #13, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 38	Book #14, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 39	Book #15, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 40	Book #16, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 41	Book #17, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 42	Book #18, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 43	Book #19, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 44	Book #20, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 45	Book #21, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 46	Book #22, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 1	Book #23, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 2	Book #24, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 3	Book #25, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 4	Book #26, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 5	Book #27, circa 1920s-1970s

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 6	Book #28, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 7	Book #29, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 8	Book #30, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 9	Book #31, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 10	Book #32, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 11	Book #33, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 12	Book #34, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 13	Book #35, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 14	Book #36, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F1
Box 4, Folder 15	Book #37, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F2
Box 4, Folder 16	Book #38, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 17	Book #39, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 18	Book #40, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 19	Book #41, circa 1920s-1970s

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 20	Book #42, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 21	Book #43, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 22	Book #44, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 23	Book #45, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 24	Book #46, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 25	Book #47, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F3
Box 4, Folder 26	Book #48, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F4
Box 4, Folder 27	Book #49, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F5
Box 4, Folder 28	Book #50, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F6
Box 4, Folder 29	Book #51, 1922 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F7
Box 4, Folder 30	Book #52, 1922-1923 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 31	Book #53, 1923 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 9, F8
Box 4, Folder 32	Book #54, circa 1930s-1932

	Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 33	Book #55, circa 1930s-1932 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 34	Book #56, circa 1930s-1932 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 35	Book #57, 1936-1937 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 10, F1
Box 4, Folder 36	Book #58, 1938 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 10, F2
Box 4, Folder 37	Book #59, 1943 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 38	Book #60, 1948 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 39	Book #61, 1948 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 40	Book #62, 1948 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 41	Book #63, 1948 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 42	Book #64 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 43	Book #65, 1950-1951 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 44	Book #66, 1950-1951 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 45	Book #67, 1950-1951 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 1	Book #68, 1951

	Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 2	Book #69, 1951 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 3	Book #70, 1951 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 4	Book #71, 1951 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 10, F3
Box 5, Folder 5	Book #72, 1952 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 6	Book #73, 1952 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 7	Book #74, 1952 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 8	Book #75, 1953 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 9	Book #76, 1954 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 10	Book #77, 1954 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 11	Book #78, 1954 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 12	Book #79, 1954 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 13	Book #80, 1955 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 14	Book #81, 1955 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 15	Book #82, 1955 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 16	Book #83, 1955-1956

	Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 17	Book #84, 1956 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 18	Book #85, 1956 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 19	Book #86, 1956 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 20	Book #87, 1956, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 21	Book #88, 1957 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 22	Book #89, 1957 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 23	Book #90, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 24	Book #91, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 25	Book #92, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 26	Book #93, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 27	Book #94, 1958 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 28	Book #95, 1958-1959 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 29	Book #96, 1960 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 10, F4
Box 5, Folder 30	Book #97, 1960 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 10, F5

- Box 5, Folder 31 Book #98, 1960-1961
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 10, F6
- Box 5, Folder 32 Book #99, 1960-1961
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 10, F7
- Box 5, Folder 33 Book #100, 1961
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 10, F8
- Box 5, Folder 34 Book #101, 1961
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F1
- Box 5, Folder 35 Book #102, 1961
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F2
- Box 5, Folder 36 Book #103, 1962
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 37 Book #104, 1962
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F3
- Box 5, Folder 38 Book #105, 1962
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F4
- Box 5, Folder 39 Book #106, 1963
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F5
- Box 5, Folder 40 Book #107, 1963
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F6
- Box 5, Folder 41 Book #108, 1963
[Image\(s\)](#)
Oversized material housed in Box 11, F7
- Box 5, Folder 42 Book #109, 1963

	Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 11, F8
Box 5, Folder 43	Book #110, 1964 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F1
Box 5, Folder 44	Book #111, 1964 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F2
Box 5, Folder 45	Book #112, 1964-1965 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F3
Box 5, Folder 46	Book #113, 1965 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F4
Box 5, Folder 47	Book #114, 1966 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 48	Book #115, 1966 Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 49	Book #116, 1966 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 1	Book #117, 1966 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 2	Book #118, 1966 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F5
Box 6, Folder 3	Book #119, 1966 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F6
Box 6, Folder 4	Book #120, 1967 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 5	Book #121, 1967 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 6	Book #122, 1967

	Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F7
Box 6, Folder 7	Book #123, 1967 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 12, F8
Box 6, Folder 8	Book #124, 1967-1968 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 9	Book #125, 1967-1968 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F1
Box 6, Folder 10	Book #126, 1968 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 11	Book #127, 1968 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 12	Book #128, 1968 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F2
Box 6, Folder 13	Book #129, 1968-1969 Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F3
Box 6, Folder 14	Book #130, 1969 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 15	Book #131, 1969-1970 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 16	Book #132, 1969-1970 Image(s)
Box 9, Folder 1-8	Oversized Sketchbooks, #36-37, #47-51, #53, circa 1920s-1970s Oversized material scanned with Box 4, F14-15, F25-29, F31
Box 10, Folder 1-8	Oversized Sketchbooks, #57-58, #71, #96-100, 1936-1961 Oversized material scanned with Box 4, F35-36 and Box 5, F4, F29-33
Box 11, Folder 1-8	Oversized Sketchbooks, #101-102, #104-109, 1961-1963 Oversized material scanned with Box 5, F34-35, F37-42

- Box 12, Folder 1-8 Oversized Sketchbooks, #110-113, #118-119, #122-123, 1964-1967
Oversized material scanned with Box Box 5, F43-46 and Box 6, F2-3, F6-7
- Box 13, Folder 1-3 Oversized Sketchbooks, #125, #128-129, 1967-1969
Oversized material scanned with Box 6, F9, F12-13

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 6: Artwork, circa 1920s-1970s

1.8 Linear feet (Box 6, 13, OV 15-18, OV 20-22)

Artwork includes numerous color charts and diagrams that Knaths kept to inform his painting color palette; outlines of compositional works on both graphed and regular paper; loose pencil sketches and pastels of figures, landscapes, and compositional experiments; and finished paintings and prints.

The series is arranged as 3 subseries.

- 6.1: Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s
- 6.2: Drawings, circa 1920s-1970s
- 6.3: Mixed Media, circa 1920s-1970s

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

6.1: Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s

Color charts consists of numerous palette charts and labeled diagrams Knaths used to inform his color palette and compositional choices.

Box 6, Folder 17	Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F4
Box 6, Folder 18	Color Palette, Unlabeled, circa 1959 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 19	Color Palette, Labeled, circa 1959 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 20	Color Palette, Labeled, circa 1959 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 21	Color Line Charts, Curves, circa 1960 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 22	Color Line Charts, 180 Degrees, circa 1960 Image(s)
Box 13, Folder 4	Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s Oversized material scanned with Box 6, F17

6.2: Drawings, circa 1920s-1970s

Drawings includes loose figure drawing sketches, compositional outlines, and ideas for various interior still life and landscape paintings.

Box 6, Folder 23	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
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	Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 24	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 25	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 26	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 27	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 28	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 29	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 30	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 31	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5
Box 6, Folder 32	Sketches, Miscellaneous, circa 1920s-1950s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 33	Sketches, Outlines, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 6, Folder 34	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Abstracts, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 35	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Animals, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 36	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Figures, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 37	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s

	Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 38	Sketches, Outlines in Color, circa 1960 Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 39	Sketches, Outlines, Composition Ideas, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 40	Sketches, Outlines, Composition Ideas, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 6, Folder 41	Sketches, Outlines, Figures and Lines, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5 and OV 20
Box 6, Folder 42	Sketches, Outlines, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5
Box 6, Folder 43	Sketches, Outlines, Miscellaneous, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 13, Folder 5	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Oversized material scanned with Box 6, F31 and F41-42. Includes general figures, outlined figures and lines, and outlined still lifes
Box OV 20	Sketches, Outlines, circa 1920s-1970s Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F33, F40-41, F43. Includes outlined composition ideas, figures and lines, and miscellaneous sketches.

6.3: Mixed Media, circa 1920s-1970s

Mixed media includes collages, paintings, pastels, prints, watercolors, and an etching plate depicting figures, still lifes, landscapes, and abstract art.

Box 6, Folder 44	Collages, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 45	Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 15-17, OV 21
Box 6, Folder 46	Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s

	Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 47	Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 48	Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 49	Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 50	Pastels, Figures, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 51	Pastels, Landscapes, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 52	Pastels, Primitive, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 53	Pastels, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 54	Pastels, Outlines, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 7, Folder 1	Prints, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s) Oversized material housed in OV 22
Box 7, Folder 2	Etching Plate, "8", circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 3	Watercolors, circa 1920s-1970s Image(s)
Box OV 15	Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45
Box OV 16	Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s

- Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45
- Box OV 17 Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s
Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45
- Box OV 18 Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s
Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F49-51, F53-54. Includes abstracts,
figures, landscapes, still lifes, and general outlines.
- Box OV 21 Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s
Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45
- Box OV 22 Prints, circa 1920s-1970s
Oversized materials scanned with Box 7, F1

[Return to Table of Contents](#)