



# 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.

October 24, 2011

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Karl Knaths papers
<b>Date:</b>	1890-1973 (bulk 1922-1971)
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.knatkarp
<b>Creator:</b>	Knaths, Karl, 1891-1971
<b>Extent:</b>	8.9 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	Most of the collection is in English; some records are in German.
<b>Summary:</b>	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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series:

Missing Title:

- 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)

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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:

- 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

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1950s-1971

#### 6 Folders (Box 1, 8)

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

**Arrangement:** Materials are arranged by document type.

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

**Formats:**

Box 1, Folder 1      [Curriculum Vitae, circa 1950s](#)

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  
Notes:      Oversized material housed in Box 8, F1

Box 1, Folder 5      [Press Release, circa 1950s](#)

Box 8, Folder 1      Financial Records, Ledger Book, 1966-1971  
Notes:      Oversized materials from Box 1, F4

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1971

### 0.5 Linear feet (Box 1)

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

**Arrangement:** The series is arranged as 2 subseries.

**Missing Title:**

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

**Available:** This series has been scanned in its entirety.

**Formats:**

### Subseries 2.1: Business, 1945-1970

**Scope and Contents:** 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](#)

Box 1, Folder 7      [American Academy of Arts and Letters, 1955-1967](#)

Box 1, Folder 8      [Art Institute of Chicago, 1951-1955](#)

Box 1, Folder 9      [B-F, Miscellaneous, 1948-1966](#)

Box 1, Folder 10      [Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors, 1953-1957](#)

Box 1, Folder 11      [G-K, Miscellaneous, 1955-1966](#)

Box 1, Folder 12      [L-N, Miscellaneous, 1954-1956](#)

Box 1, Folder 13      [National Institute of Arts and Letters, 1954-1957](#)

Box 1, Folder 14      [O-P, Miscellaneous, 1943-1955](#)

Box 1, Folder 15      [Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1945-1949](#)

Box 1, Folder 16      [Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1950-1954](#)

Box 1, Folder 17      [Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1955-1959](#)

Box 1, Folder 18      [Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1960-1964](#)

Box 1, Folder 19      [Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1965-1969](#)



Box 1, Folder 20	<a href="#">Paul Rosenberg and Co., 1970</a>
Box 1, Folder 21	<a href="#">Phillips Memorial Gallery (Phillips, Duncan and Marjorie), 1946-1963</a>
Box 1, Folder 22	<a href="#">Q-S, Miscellaneous, 1953-1969</a>
Box 1, Folder 23	<a href="#">St. Lawrence University, 1969-1971</a>
Box 1, Folder 24	<a href="#">Syracuse University, 1965-1970</a>
Box 1, Folder 25	<a href="#">T-V, Miscellaneous, 1947-1956</a>
Box 1, Folder 26	<a href="#">W, Miscellaneous, 1956-1961</a>
Box 1, Folder 27	<a href="#">Wellfleet Art Gallery, 1966-1968</a>
Box 1, Folder 28	<a href="#">X-Z, Miscellaneous, circa 1950s</a>

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## Subseries 2.2: Personal, 1923-1970

Scope and Contents: 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 href="#">A-C, Miscellaneous, 1924-1965</a>
Box 1, Folder 30	<a href="#">D-M, Miscellaneous, 1925-1969</a>
Box 1, Folder 31	<a href="#">Meierhans, Joe, 1923-1929, undated</a>
Box 1, Folder 32	<a href="#">N-Z, Miscellaneous, 1925-1970</a>

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## Series 3: Writings, 1916-1968, 1890

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

**Scope and Contents:** 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.

**Arrangement:** The series is arranged as 4 subseries.

Missing Title:

- 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

**Available Formats:** This series has been scanned in its entirety.

### Subseries 3.1: Diaries, 1916-1948, 1890

**Scope and Contents:** 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](#)

Box 1, Folder 34      [Diary, European Travel, 1919](#)

Box 1, Folder 35      [Diary, Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1948](#)

Box 1, Folder 36      [Diary, F.A. Mehler, 1890](#)

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

**Scope and Contents:** 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](#)

Box 1, Folder 38      [College Course Notes, circa 1940s](#)

Box 1, Folder 39      [College Course Notes, Art, 1944](#)

Box 1, Folder 40      [College Course Notes, Phillips Gallery/Bennington College, 1945](#)

Box 1, Folder 41      [College Course Notes, Latin, circa 1920s-1940s](#)

Box 1, Folder 42      [Lecture, Class Notes, 1943-1945](#)

**Notes:** Oversized material housed in Box 8, F2

Box 1, Folder 43	Lecture, Notes on "Trends in Modern Painting", circa 1940s
Box 1, Folder 44	Notebooks on Facets of Painting, #1-2, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 45	Notebooks on Facets of Painting, #3-4, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 46	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #5, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 47	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #6, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 48	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #7, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 49	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #8, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 50	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #9, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 1, Folder 51	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #10, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 1	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #11, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 2	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #12, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 3	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #13, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 4	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #14, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 5	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #15, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 6	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #16, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 7	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #17, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 8	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #18, circa 1920s-1940s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 8, F3
Box 2, Folder 9	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #19, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 10	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #20, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 11	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #21, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 12	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #22, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 13	Notes on Art History, circa 1920s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 14	Notes on Art Projects, circa 1940s

Box 2, Folder 15	<a href="#">Notes on Artists, circa 1920s-1940s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 8, F4
Box 2, Folder 16	<a href="#">Notes on Color Scales, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 2, Folder 17	<a href="#">Notes on Facets of Painting, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 2, Folder 18	<a href="#">Notes on Lines and Angles, circa 1920s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 19
Box 2, Folder 19	<a href="#">Notes on Shapes, circa 1920s</a>
Box 2, Folder 20	<a href="#">Note Fragments, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 2, Folder 21	<a href="#">Note Fragments, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 8, Folder 2	Lecture, Class Notes, 1943-1945 Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 1, F42
Box 8, Folder 3	Notebook on Facets of Painting, #18, circa 1920s-1940s Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F8
Box 8, Folder 4	Notes on Artists, circa 1920s-1940s Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F15
Box OV 19	Notes on Lines and Angles, circa 1920s Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F18

### Subseries 3.3: Karl Knaths, 1938-circa 1950s

Scope and Contents: 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	<a href="#">"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s</a>
Box 2, Folder 23	<a href="#">"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 14
Box 2, Folder 24	<a href="#">"Artist and His Model", circa 1940s</a>
Box 2, Folder 25	<a href="#">"Decorative Material", 1938</a>
Box 2, Folder 26	<a href="#">"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 8, F5 and OV 19
Box 2, Folder 27	<a href="#">"Decorative Material" and "Pictorial Analysis" Draft, circa 1940s</a>

Box 2, Folder 28	"Pictorial Analysis", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 29	"Pictorial Expression", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 30	"Problem of the Painter", circa 1920s
Box 2, Folder 31	"Structure in Painting", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 32	Essay Fragment, [Autobiography], circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 33	Essay Fragment, "Areas", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 34	Essay Fragment, "Blank Space", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 35	Essay Fragment, "Color", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 36	Essay Fragment, "Color Patterns", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 37	Essay Fragment, "Figure Composition", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 38	Essay Fragment, "Form", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 39	Essay Fragment, "Harmony", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 40	Essay Fragment, "Plastic Arts", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 41	Essay Fragment, "Reality", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 42	Essay Fragment, "Scale Functions/Scheme", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 43	Essay Fragment, "Space Relations", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 44	Essay Fragment, "Spirit of the Time", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 45	Essay Fragment, "Surface", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 46	Essay Fragment, "Theory", circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 47	Essay Fragment on Modern Art, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 48	Essay Fragments on Art History, circa 1940s
Box 8, Folder 5	"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938 Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F26
Box OV 14	"Ornament and Glory" Draft, circa 1950s Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F23

Box OV 19	"Decorative Material" Drafts, circa 1938 Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 2, F26
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### Subseries 3.4: Others, circa 1920s-1950s

Scope and Contents: 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
Box 2, Folder 50	[Art Appeals So Strongly to the Senses], circa 1930s
Box 2, Folder 51	Burke, Kenneth, Lecture, "Ideology and Myth", 1947
Box 2, Folder 52	Campbell, Joseph, Notes from Lecture, "Myth and Ritual", 1947
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
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
Box 2, Folder 55	Einstein, Carl, Excerpts from Art of the 20th Century (Die Kunst Des 20. Jahrhunderts), Trans. by Karl Knaths, circa 1920s
Box 2, Folder 56	Einstein, Carl, Excerpts from Georges Braque, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 57	Estienne, Charles, "Jacques Villon", 1949
Box 2, Folder 58	Fromm, Erich, Lecture, "The Modern Myth", 1947
Box 2, Folder 59	Gleizes, Albert, Excerpts from History of Cubism, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 60	Gris, Juan, Notes on Painting, circa 1930s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 61	Hofmann, Hans, "Plastic Creation," Trans. by Ludwig Sander, circa 1930s
Box 2, Folder 62	Hofmann, Hans, Lectures #3-11, circa 1930s-1940s
Box 2, Folder 63	Hofmann, Hans, Six Lectures, 1938-1939
Box 3, Folder 1	Hofmann, Hans, Notes, 1941-1942
Box 3, Folder 2	Jarrell, Randall, "A Sad Day at the Supermarket", circa 1940s

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

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## Series 4: Printed Material, circa 1920s-1973

### 10 Folders (Box 3, OV 19)

**Scope and Contents:** 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).

**Arrangement:** Materials are arranged by document type.

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

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## Series 5: Sketchbooks, circa 1920s-1970s

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

**Scope and Contents:** 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.

**Arrangement:** Materials are arranged in chronological order.

**Available Formats:** 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	<a href="#">Book #1, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 26	<a href="#">Book #2, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 27	<a href="#">Book #3, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 28	<a href="#">Book #4, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 29	<a href="#">Book #5, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 30	<a href="#">Book #6, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 31	<a href="#">Book #7, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 32	<a href="#">Book #8, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 33	<a href="#">Book #9, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 34	<a href="#">Book #10, circa 1920s-1940s</a>
Box 3, Folder 35	<a href="#">Book #11, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 36	<a href="#">Book #12, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 37	<a href="#">Book #13, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 38	<a href="#">Book #14, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 39	<a href="#">Book #15, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 40	<a href="#">Book #16, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 41	<a href="#">Book #17, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 3, Folder 42	<a href="#">Book #18, circa 1920s-1970s</a>

Box 3, Folder 43	Book #19, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 44	Book #20, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 45	Book #21, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 3, Folder 46	Book #22, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 1	Book #23, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 2	Book #24, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 3	Book #25, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 4	Book #26, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 5	Book #27, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 6	Book #28, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 7	Book #29, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 8	Book #30, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 9	Book #31, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 10	Book #32, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 11	Book #33, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 12	Book #34, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 13	Book #35, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 14	Book #36, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F1
Box 4, Folder 15	Book #37, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F2
Box 4, Folder 16	Book #38, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 17	Book #39, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 18	Book #40, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 4, Folder 19	Book #41, circa 1920s-1970s

Box 4, Folder 20	<a href="#">Book #42, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 4, Folder 21	<a href="#">Book #43, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 4, Folder 22	<a href="#">Book #44, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 4, Folder 23	<a href="#">Book #45, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 4, Folder 24	<a href="#">Book #46, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 4, Folder 25	<a href="#">Book #47, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F3
Box 4, Folder 26	<a href="#">Book #48, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F4
Box 4, Folder 27	<a href="#">Book #49, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F5
Box 4, Folder 28	<a href="#">Book #50, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F6
Box 4, Folder 29	<a href="#">Book #51, 1922</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F7
Box 4, Folder 30	<a href="#">Book #52, 1922-1923</a>
Box 4, Folder 31	<a href="#">Book #53, 1923</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 9, F8
Box 4, Folder 32	<a href="#">Book #54, circa 1930s-1932</a>
Box 4, Folder 33	<a href="#">Book #55, circa 1930s-1932</a>
Box 4, Folder 34	<a href="#">Book #56, circa 1930s-1932</a>
Box 4, Folder 35	<a href="#">Book #57, 1936-1937</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F1
Box 4, Folder 36	<a href="#">Book #58, 1938</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F2
Box 4, Folder 37	<a href="#">Book #59, 1943</a>
Box 4, Folder 38	<a href="#">Book #60, 1948</a>
Box 4, Folder 39	<a href="#">Book #61, 1948</a>

Box 4, Folder 40	Book #62, 1948
Box 4, Folder 41	Book #63, 1948
Box 4, Folder 42	Book #64
Box 4, Folder 43	Book #65, 1950-1951
Box 4, Folder 44	Book #66, 1950-1951
Box 4, Folder 45	Book #67, 1950-1951
Box 5, Folder 1	Book #68, 1951
Box 5, Folder 2	Book #69, 1951
Box 5, Folder 3	Book #70, 1951
Box 5, Folder 4	Book #71, 1951 Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F3
Box 5, Folder 5	Book #72, 1952
Box 5, Folder 6	Book #73, 1952
Box 5, Folder 7	Book #74, 1952
Box 5, Folder 8	Book #75, 1953
Box 5, Folder 9	Book #76, 1954
Box 5, Folder 10	Book #77, 1954
Box 5, Folder 11	Book #78, 1954
Box 5, Folder 12	Book #79, 1954
Box 5, Folder 13	Book #80, 1955
Box 5, Folder 14	Book #81, 1955
Box 5, Folder 15	Book #82, 1955
Box 5, Folder 16	Book #83, 1955-1956
Box 5, Folder 17	Book #84, 1956

Box 5, Folder 18	<a href="#">Book #85, 1956</a>
Box 5, Folder 19	<a href="#">Book #86, 1956</a>
Box 5, Folder 20	<a href="#">Book #87, 1956, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 21	<a href="#">Book #88, 1957</a>
Box 5, Folder 22	<a href="#">Book #89, 1957</a>
Box 5, Folder 23	<a href="#">Book #90, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 24	<a href="#">Book #91, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 25	<a href="#">Book #92, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 26	<a href="#">Book #93, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 27	<a href="#">Book #94, 1958</a>
Box 5, Folder 28	<a href="#">Book #95, 1958-1959</a>
Box 5, Folder 29	<a href="#">Book #96, 1960</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F4
Box 5, Folder 30	<a href="#">Book #97, 1960</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F5
Box 5, Folder 31	<a href="#">Book #98, 1960-1961</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F6
Box 5, Folder 32	<a href="#">Book #99, 1960-1961</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F7
Box 5, Folder 33	<a href="#">Book #100, 1961</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 10, F8
Box 5, Folder 34	<a href="#">Book #101, 1961</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F1
Box 5, Folder 35	<a href="#">Book #102, 1961</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F2
Box 5, Folder 36	<a href="#">Book #103, 1962</a>
Box 5, Folder 37	<a href="#">Book #104, 1962</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F3

Box 5, Folder 38	<a href="#">Book #105, 1962</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F4
Box 5, Folder 39	<a href="#">Book #106, 1963</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F5
Box 5, Folder 40	<a href="#">Book #107, 1963</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F6
Box 5, Folder 41	<a href="#">Book #108, 1963</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F7
Box 5, Folder 42	<a href="#">Book #109, 1963</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 11, F8
Box 5, Folder 43	<a href="#">Book #110, 1964</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F1
Box 5, Folder 44	<a href="#">Book #111, 1964</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F2
Box 5, Folder 45	<a href="#">Book #112, 1964-1965</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F3
Box 5, Folder 46	<a href="#">Book #113, 1965</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F4
Box 5, Folder 47	<a href="#">Book #114, 1966</a>
Box 5, Folder 48	<a href="#">Book #115, 1966</a>
Box 5, Folder 49	<a href="#">Book #116, 1966</a>
Box 6, Folder 1	<a href="#">Book #117, 1966</a>
Box 6, Folder 2	<a href="#">Book #118, 1966</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F5
Box 6, Folder 3	<a href="#">Book #119, 1966</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F6
Box 6, Folder 4	<a href="#">Book #120, 1967</a>
Box 6, Folder 5	<a href="#">Book #121, 1967</a>
Box 6, Folder 6	<a href="#">Book #122, 1967</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F7

Box 6, Folder 7	<a href="#">Book #123, 1967</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 12, F8
Box 6, Folder 8	<a href="#">Book #124, 1967-1968</a>
Box 6, Folder 9	<a href="#">Book #125, 1967-1968</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F1
Box 6, Folder 10	<a href="#">Book #126, 1968</a>
Box 6, Folder 11	<a href="#">Book #127, 1968</a>
Box 6, Folder 12	<a href="#">Book #128, 1968</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F2
Box 6, Folder 13	<a href="#">Book #129, 1968-1969</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F3
Box 6, Folder 14	<a href="#">Book #130, 1969</a>
Box 6, Folder 15	<a href="#">Book #131, 1969-1970</a>
Box 6, Folder 16	<a href="#">Book #132, 1969-1970</a>
Box 9, Folder 1-8	Oversized Sketchbooks, #36-37, #47-51, #53, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: 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 Notes: 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 Notes: 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 Notes: 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 Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 6, F9, F12-13

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## Series 6: Artwork, circa 1920s-1970s

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

**Scope and Contents:** 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 series is arranged as 3 subseries.

**Missing Title:**

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

**Available Formats:** This series has been scanned in its entirety.

### Subseries 6.1: Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s

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

Box 6, Folder 17	<a href="#">Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F4
Box 6, Folder 18	<a href="#">Color Palette, Unlabeled, circa 1959</a>
Box 6, Folder 19	<a href="#">Color Palette, Labeled, circa 1959</a>
Box 6, Folder 20	<a href="#">Color Palette, Labeled, circa 1959</a>
Box 6, Folder 21	<a href="#">Color Line Charts, Curves, circa 1960</a>
Box 6, Folder 22	<a href="#">Color Line Charts, 180 Degrees, circa 1960</a>
Box 13, Folder 4	Color Charts, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material scanned with Box 6, F17

### Subseries 6.2: Drawings, circa 1920s-1970s

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

Box 6, Folder 23	<a href="#">Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s</a>
Box 6, Folder 24	<a href="#">Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s</a>
Box 6, Folder 25	<a href="#">Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s</a>



Box 6, Folder 26	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 27	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 28	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 29	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 30	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 31	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5
Box 6, Folder 32	Sketches, Miscellaneous, circa 1920s-1950s
Box 6, Folder 33	Sketches, Outlines, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 6, Folder 34	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Abstracts, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 6, Folder 35	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Animals, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 6, Folder 36	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Figures, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 6, Folder 37	Sketches, Outlines Graphed, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 6, Folder 38	Sketches, Outlines in Color, circa 1960
Box 6, Folder 39	Sketches, Outlines, Composition Ideas, circa 1920s-1970s
Box 6, Folder 40	Sketches, Outlines, Composition Ideas, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 6, Folder 41	Sketches, Outlines, Figures and Lines, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5 and OV 20
Box 6, Folder 42	Sketches, Outlines, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in Box 13, F5
Box 6, Folder 43	Sketches, Outlines, Miscellaneous, circa 1920s-1970s Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 20
Box 13, Folder 5	Sketches, Figures, circa 1920s-1950s Notes: 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

Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F33, F40-41, F43. Includes outlined composition ideas, figures and lines, and miscellaneous sketches.

### Subseries 6.3: Mixed Media, circa 1920s-1970s

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

Box 6, Folder 44	<a href="#">Collages, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 6, Folder 45	<a href="#">Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 15-17, OV 21
Box 6, Folder 46	<a href="#">Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 6, Folder 47	<a href="#">Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 6, Folder 48	<a href="#">Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 6, Folder 49	<a href="#">Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 50	<a href="#">Pastels, Figures, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 51	<a href="#">Pastels, Landscapes, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 52	<a href="#">Pastels, Primitive, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 6, Folder 53	<a href="#">Pastels, Still Lifes, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 6, Folder 54	<a href="#">Pastels, Outlines, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 18
Box 7, Folder 1	<a href="#">Prints, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized material housed in OV 22
Box 7, Folder 2	<a href="#">Etching Plate, "8", circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box 7, Folder 3	<a href="#">Watercolors, circa 1920s-1970s</a>
Box OV 15	<a href="#">Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s</a> Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45
Box OV 16	<a href="#">Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s</a>

Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45

Box OV 17

Paintings, circa 1920s-1970s

Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45

Box OV 18

Pastels, Abstract, circa 1920s-1970s

Notes: 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

Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 6, F45

Box OV 22

Prints, circa 1920s-1970s

Notes: Oversized materials scanned with Box 7, F1

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