



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Florence Koehler Papers, 1890-1978, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Florence Koehler papers
Date:	1890-1978
Identifier:	AAA.koehflor
Creator:	Koehler, Florence Cary, 1861-1944
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of jeweler and painter Florence Koehler measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1890 to 1978. Found are artworks including sketches and paint color trials, two letters, a notebook, and printed material. Also found are personal business records regarding the dispersal of Koehler's estate, her will, and the records of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Sharpe who inherited Koehler's collection and subsequently donated many pieces to various institutions and museums.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Mary Elizabeth Sharpe, a friend of Koehler and the principal beneficiary of her estate, donated the papers to the Archives of American Art in 1979.

Related Materials

The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts holds additional material in the Florence Cary Koehler Papers, 1880-1951.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Florence Koehler papers, 1890-1978. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

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.

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Biographical / Historical

Florence Koehler (1861-1944) was a jeweler, painter, and designer in Chicago, Illinois and later London, England and Paris, France. She created fine jewelry in 18 carat gold with cabochon stones.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of jeweler and painter Florence Koehler measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1890 to 1978. Found are artworks including sketches and paint color trials, two letters, a notebook, and printed material. Also found are personal business records regarding the dispersal of Koehler's estate, her will, and the records of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Sharpe who inherited Koehler's collection and subsequently donated many pieces to various institutions and museums.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women jewelers
- Women painters

Occupations:

- Jewelers -- England -- London
- Jewelers -- France -- Paris
- Painters -- England -- London
- Painters -- France -- Paris

Container Listing

Series 1: Florence Koehler Papers, 1890-1978

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Series includes artworks consisting of Koehler's painted color tests on canvas and sketches of flowers, jewelry designs, and landscapes; two letters for Koehler from Henry K. Hardon and Leonore H.; correspondence of Mary Elizabeth Sharpe with institutions and museums regarding the donation of Koehler's works of art; and a notebook with Koehler's handwritten notes on painting and jewelry making techniques. Also found are personal business records containing a copy of Koehler's will, directions for the donation of her possessions, and two insurance policies for Mary Sharpe which note her works by Koehler; and printed materials including clippings and exhibition announcements and catalogs.

Box 1, Folder 1 Artwork, Color Trials and Painted Sketches, circa 1900-1922

Box 1, Folder 2 Artwork, Sketches, circa 1890-1910

Box 1, Folder 3 Correspondence, Florence Koehler, circa 1920-1940

Box 1, Folder 4 Correspondence, Mary Elizabeth Sharpe, 1948-1978

Box 1, Folder 5 Notebook, 1890-circa 1900

Box 1, Folder 6 Personal Business Records, 1940-1948

Box 1, Folder 7 Printed Material, 1926-1978

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