



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Rose Kuper Papers, 1930-1993, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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

2023/07/07

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-7950  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3
Series 1: Rose Kuper Papers, 1930-1993.....	3

---

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Rose Kuper papers
<b>Date:</b>	1930-1993
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.kuperose
<b>Creator:</b>	Kuper, Rose, 1888-1987
<b>Extent:</b>	0.8 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of painter Rose Kuper measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1993. The papers focus on Kuper's later career from 1940 to the 1970s. Found are biographical materials, scattered correspondence, five notebooks with sketches and writings, photographs of Kuper and works of art, printed material, and pencil sketches.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 2000 by Terry Kirker, daughter of Rose Kuper.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

### Preferred Citation

Rose Kuper papers, 1930-1993. 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.

### 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

Rose Kuper (1888-1987) was an abstract painter in New York City, New York and Whittier, California. Born in Russia, Kuper attended Hunter College in New York and studied with Hans Hofmann and Domenico Paulon. She married Theodore Fred Kuper and raised a daughter while teaching at New York City Public Schools. In 1959, she moved to Los Angeles and continued her painting career. She was a member of the National Association of Women Artists.

---

## Scope and Contents

The papers of painter Rose Kuper measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1993. The papers focus on Kuper's later career from 1940 to the 1970s. Found are biographical materials, scattered correspondence, five notebooks with sketches and writings, photographs of Kuper and works of art, printed material, and pencil sketches.

---

## 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 painters

Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks

Occupations:

Painters -- California -- Los Angeles  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Rose Kuper Papers, 1930-1993

#### *0.8 Linear feet (Box 1-2, OVs 3-4)*

**Scope and Contents:** Biographical materials include a biographical sketch and a resume, a calendar, notes on art, and collages of photographs outlining Kuper's career. Scattered correspondence includes two postcards from Rose Kuper to her husband Fred Kuper while she was in Europe in 1930. Other letters are photocopies and are from Hans Hofmann and Domenico Paulon. Five notebooks contain colored pencil and graphite sketches, notes on art, and personal observations. Photographs depict Kuper with her artwork, exhibitions, and works of art. Also found is a photograph of sculptor Attilio Pucherili. Printed materials consist of clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, and press releases concerning Kupers career and her friends, including Abraham Walkowitz. Three pencil sketches by Kuper include unidentified figures and a Christmas card featuring a drawing of Kuper, her husband, and her daughter in their living room.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, circa 1950-1993
Oversize 3, Folder 1	Biographical Material, Oversized, circa 1950-1976
Oversize 4, Folder 1	Biographical Material, Oversized, circa 1950
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1930-1960
Box 1, Folder 3-6	Notebooks, circa 1940s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 7	Photographs, of Rose Kuper, 1941-1970
Oversize 3, Folder 2	Photograph, of Attilio Pucherili, circa 1930
Box 1, Folder 8	Photograph, of Works of Art, 1930-1971
Box 1, Folder 9-10	Printed Material, 1934-1960
Box 2, Folder 1-3	Printed Material, 1934-1960
Box 2, Folder 4	Sketches, circa 1940

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*