



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Stephan Lion Papers, 1933-1996, in the Archives of American Art

Ricky Gomez

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

2021 March 17

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Stephan Lion papers
Date:	1933-1996
Identifier:	AAA.lionstep
Creator:	Lion, Stephan C.
Extent:	0.8 Linear feet
Language:	Multiple languages .
Summary:	The papers of Stephan Lion measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1933 to 1996. The papers document his career as an art consultant and exhibition designer through correspondence with artists and art institutions, as well as sketches, exhibition catalogs, contracts, an award, and other professional material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Stephan Lion, 1995-1996.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Ricky Gomez in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Stephan Lion papers, 1933-1996. 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. Researchers interested in accessing audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Stephan C. Lion (1916-2009) was an art consultant, curator, and exhibition designer in New York, N.Y. He was the owner of Stephan Lion, Inc. and Lion Arts, Inc.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Stephan Lion measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1933 to 1996. The papers document his career as an art consultant and exhibition designer through correspondence with artists and art institutions, as well as sketches, exhibition catalogs, contracts, an award, and other professional material.

Correspondence is primarily with artists including Will Barnet, Alexander Calder, Sandro Chia, Salvatore Dali, Theo Hios, R.B. Kitaj, Rene Magritte, Marisol, Andre Masson, Piet Mondrian, Georgia O'Keeffe, Richard Pousette-Dart, Walter Pach, Abraham Rattner, and Hilla Rebay. Also included are some financial material such as invoices and contracts related to his career as an art consultant. Some of the correspondence is in both French and German.

Professional material includes an award in recognition of his work on the commission for the Statue of Liberty centennial, exhibition catalogs, sketches, exhibition contracts, and "A Love for Art" VHS on Lion's life and his works.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as two series.

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1933-1995 (0.6 linear feet; Boxes 1-2)
 - Series 2: Professional Activity Files, 1940-1996 (0.2 linear feet; Box 2)
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Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Video recordings

Occupations:

Art consultants -- New York (State) -- New York
Curators -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, 1933-1995

0.6 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Correspondence is primarily with artists including Will Barnet, Alexander Calder, Sandro Chia, Salvadore Dali, Theo Hios, R.B. Kitaj, Rene Magritte, Marisol, Andre Masson, Piet Mondrian, Georgia O'Keeffe, Richard Pousette-Dart, Walter Pach, Abraham Rattner, and Hilla Rebay. Also included are some financial material such as invoices and contracts related to his career as an art consultant. Some of the correspondence is in both French and German.

Box 1, Folder 1	Correspondence, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1933, 1939
Box 1, Folder 3-5	Correspondence, 1940-1949
Box 1, Folder 6-7	Correspondence, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence, 1960-1967
Box 1, Folder 9	Correspondence, 1968
Box 1, Folder 10	Correspondence, 1969-1973
Box 1, Folder 11-14	Correspondence, 1974-1977
Box 1, Folder 15-16	Correspondence, 1978-1979
Box 1, Folder 17	Correspondence, 1980-1989
Box 2, Folder 1-3	Correspondence, 1980-1989
Box 2, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1990-1995
Box 2, Folder 5	Postcards, 1940-1983

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Series 2: Professional Activity Files, 1940-1996

0.2 Linear feet (Box 2)

Scope and Contents: Professional material includes an award in recognition of his work on the commission for the Statue of Liberty centennial, exhibition catalogs, sketches, exhibition contracts, and "A Love for Art" VHS on Lion's life and his works.

Box 2, Folder 6 "A Love for Art", 1996 June
1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Box 2, Folder 7 Award, undated

Box 2, Folder 8 Contracts, 1945-1946

Box 2, Folder 9 Exhibition Catalogs, 1940-1983

Box 2, Folder 10 Metropolitan Opera Fine Arts Project, 1977, 1981

Box 2, Folder 11 Sketches, undated

Box 2, Folder 12 Miscellaneous, 1978-1992

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