



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Ryah Ludins Portfolio, circa 1920-1950, in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art  
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Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Ryah Ludins portfolio
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.ludiryah
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1920-1950
<b>Creator:</b>	Ludins, Ryah, 1896-1957
<b>Extent:</b>	0.1 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Ryah Ludins portfolio measures 0.1 linear feet and dates from circa 1920-1950. The portfolio contains photographs of murals by Ryah Ludins, which were mostly commissioned for government art projects in the 1930s.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 2009 by Ryah Ludins via Janis Conner and Joel Rosenkranz, estate executors.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Megan Burdi in 2018.

### Preferred Citation

Ryah Ludins portfolio, circa 1920-1950. 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ryan Ludins (1896-1957) was a muralist, painter, printmaker, and art educator based in New York, N.Y. Ludins completed mural projects for the Works Progress Administration Treasury Section of Painting and Sculpture and the Mexican government. She taught art at Teachers College, Columbia University, Ohio University, and North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro. She died in New York, N.Y. on August 30, 1957.

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## Scope and Contents

The Ryah Ludins portfolio measures 0.1 linear feet and dates from circa 1920-1950. The portfolio contains photographs of murals by Ryah Ludins, which were mostly commissioned for government art projects in the

1930s. Included are *New York Harbor*, *Methods of Transporting Mail*; a World's Fair wood relief mural entitled *Recreational Activities*; *Valley of the Seven Hills* wood relief mural; the *Central Park* fresco; and the fresco *Modern Industry*, commissioned by the Mexican government. Many of the photographs are accompanied by identifications or notes.

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## Arrangement

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

- Series 1: Ryah Ludins portfolio, circa 1920-1950 (Oversize 1; 1 item)
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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:

Mural painting and decoration--Photographs  
Muralists -- New York (State) -- New York  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York  
Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York  
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

United States. Works Progress Administration

Occupations:

Art teachers

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Ryah Ludins Portfolio, circa 1920-1950

#### 1 Item (Oversize 1)

Scope and Contents: The collection is comprised of one unbound portfolio containing photographs of murals by Ryah Ludins. The murals were mostly commissioned for government art projects in the 1930s. Included are *New York Harbor*, wood intarsia, location unknown; *Methods of Transporting Mail*, sketches commissioned by the Works Progress Administration Treasury Section of Painting and Sculpture; a World's Fair wood relief mural for the P.W.A. Building entitled *Recreational Activities*, commissioned by the Section; *Valley of the Seven Hills* wood relief mural for a post office in Cortland, New York, commissioned by the Section; the *Central Park* fresco for the men's recreation room in the Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital, New York, commissioned by the Works Progress Administration; and the fresco *Modern Industry* at the Museum of Michoacan, Morelia, Mexico, commissioned by the Mexican government. Many of the photographs are accompanied by identifications or notes.

Oversize 1                      Ryah Ludins Portfolio, circa 1920-1950

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