A Finding Aid to the Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the Association of American Painters and Sculptors, 1899-circa 2013, bulk 1912-1916, in the Archives of American Art

Rihoko Ueno

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the Association of American Painters and Sculptors
Identifier: AAA.macrelme
Date: 1899-circa 2013 (bulk 1912-1916)
Extent: 1.8 Linear feet
Creator: MacRae, Elmer Livingston, 1875-1953
Language: English
Collection is in English.

Summary: The Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the Association of American Painters and Sculptors, Inc., (AAPS) measure 1.8 linear feet and date from 1899 to circa 2013, with the bulk of the material dating from 1912-1916. Elmer Livingston MacRae served as Treasurer of the AAPS when the association organized the International Exhibition of Modern Art, also known as the Armory Show of 1913. The bulk of this collection concerns MacRae's involvement with the AAPS and the Armory Show and includes administrative files, correspondence, exhibition files, financial records, printed materials, and artifacts.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Elmer Livingston MacRae papers were donated to the Archives of American Art in 2016 by the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Walt Kuhn, Walt Kuhn family papers and Armory Show records as well as the Joseph Hirshhorn papers regarding the Elmer MacRae papers.

Available Formats

The bulk of the collection was digitized in 2017 and is available on the Archives of American Art's website. Materials which have not been scanned include blank pages, blank versos of photographs, and duplicates. In some cases, newspapers and other publications have had their covers, title pages, and relevant pages scanned.
Processing Information
This collection was arranged at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden prior to receipt at the Archives of American Art. The collection was loaned for microfilming onto reels 4131-4132 and later donated. The collection was fully processed and prepared for digitization by Rihoko Ueno in 2017 with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art and The Walton Family Foundation.

Preferred Citation
Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the American Association of Painters and Sculptors, 1899-circa 2013, bulk 1912-1916. 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.

Conditions Governing Use
The Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the American Association of Painters and Sculptors are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical / Historical
Elmer MacRae (1875-1953) was a New York and Connecticut-based painter and served as treasurer of the Association of American Painters and Sculptors when the association organized the 1913 Armory Show.

Elmer Livingston MacRae was born in New York City in 1875. In the late 1890s, MacRae summered in an artist’s community in Cos Cob, Connecticut, where he met his wife Emma Constant Holley. He moved full time to Cos Cob in 1899. MacRae became active in the Pastellists group. He was affiliated with the Macbeth and Madison Galleries in New York, where he was on friendly terms with fellow painters Jerome Myers and Walt Kuhn. In 1911, MacRae became a member of the Association of American Painters and Sculptors (AAPS), Inc. From 1912 to 1916, MacRae served as Treasurer of the AAPS, the organization which organized the seminal 1913 Armory Show exhibition of modern American and European art. Formally titled the International Exhibition of Modern Art, the exhibition introduced many Americans to modern art for the first time. The Armory Show began at New York City’s 69th Street Armory, then continued on to the Art Institute of Chicago, and Boston’s Copley Society of Art. The latter venue did not include the American art due to space constraints.

Scope and Contents
The Elmer Livingston MacRae papers related to the Association of American Painters and Sculptors, Inc. (AAPS) measure 1.8 linear feet and date from 1899 to circa 2013, with the bulk of the material dating from 1912-1916. Elmer Livingston MacRae served as Treasurer of the AAPS when the association organized the International Exhibition of Modern Art, also known as the Armory Show of 1913. The bulk
of this collection concerns MacRae's involvement with the AAPS and the Armory Show and includes administrative files, correspondence, exhibition files, financial records, printed materials, and artifacts.

Biographical material includes an old collection inventory from the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, two annotated appointment books, and a small handbook with notes.

Correspondence consists of letters addressed to Elmer MacRae from AAPS members such as Arthur B. Davies, Walt Kuhn, and Walter Pach, as well as other various artists, dealers, lenders, and buyers. Most letters concern AAPS business and organizing the Armory Show.

AAPS administration records include the organization's constitution, letterhead, meeting minutes, a report, and a membership list.

The Armory Show exhibition tour files consist of materials related to openings in Chicago and Boston. Materials include lists that track sales of tickets and pamphlets, insurance lists, a contract, an art inventory, and other items.

Financial records consist of AAPS and exhibition expenses in the form of sales lists of artwork, payroll information, shipping and transportation invoices, bills, rescinded dues, cashiers' journals, ledgers, a receipt book, and a checkbook.

Printed material includes copies of Armory Show exhibition catalogs, AAPS pamphlets, newspapers, magazines, clippings, postcards, and a poster.

Artifacts consist of AAPS memorabilia from the exhibition. There are button pins, calling cards, event invitations, mailing cards, signs, tickets, and other miscellany.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 7 series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1899-1913, circa 1988 (0.1 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1911-1915, 1958 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 3: Administration Records, circa 1911-circa 1916 (0.1 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 4: Armory Show Tour Files, 1913 (0.1 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 5: Financial Records, 1912-1916 (0.5 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 6: Printed Material, 1911-1959 (0.6 linear feet; Box 2, OV 4-5)
- Series 7: Artifacts, 1913, circa 2013 (0.2 linear feet; Box 3)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Art, Modern -- 20th century -- Exhibitions
- Art, Modern -- 20th century -- societies, etc
- Painters -- Connecticut
- Painters -- New York (State)
Names:

Armory Show (1913: New York, N.Y.)
Association of American Painters and Sculptors (New York, N.Y.)
Davies, Arthur B. (Arthur Bowen), 1862-1928
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
Kuhn, Walt, 1877-1949
Pach, Walter, 1883-1958
Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, 1899-1913, circa 1988

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

This series includes an old collection inventory from the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden that has a close to item level content list, two annotated appointment books describing MacRae's activities with the Pastellists and the Associations of American Painters and Sculptors, and a students club handbook that has a few pages of notes and New York map insert.

The collection inventory is at the beginning of the series. The rest of the material is in chronological order.

The bulk of this series was digitized, except for blank pages.

Box 1, Folder 1  Collection Inventory, circa 1988
  Image(s): Collection Inventory: circa 1988

Box 1, Folder 2  Students' Club Handbook with Map Insert, 1899-1900
  Image(s): Students' Club Handbook with Map Insert: 1899-1900

Box 1, Folder 3  Annotated Appointment Book, 1911
  Image(s): Annotated Appointment Book: 1911

Box 1, Folder 4  Annotated Appointment Calendar, 1913
  Image(s): Annotated Appointment Calendar: 1913
Series 2: Correspondence, 1958, 1911-1915

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

This series consists of Association of American Painters and Sculptors (AAPS) correspondence addressed to Elmer MacRae in his capacity as the organization treasurer from other AAPS members such as Arthur B. Davies, Walt Kuhn, and Walter Pach; various artists such as Marcel Duchamp, Robert Henri, and Wilhelm Lehmbruck; dealers and lenders, usually referring to galleries; and buyers, including private buyers and museums. Most of the incoming correspondence is about organizing and preparing for the International Exhibition of Modern Art or Armory Show (1913).

The material in this series is grouped by category of correspondent such as AAPS members, artists, dealers and lenders, and buyers. The correspondence is arranged alphabetically within those groupings. Correspondents with three or more letters have their own folder, whereas correspondents with only one or two letters are in general alphabetical files.

This series has been digitized in its entirety.

Box 1

Members

Box 1, Folder 5 Davies, Arthur B. (President), 1912-1915
Image(s): Davies, Arthur B. (President): 1912-1915

Box 1, Folder 6 Kuhn, Walt (Secretary), 1912-1914
Image(s): Kuhn, Walt (Secretary): 1912-1914

Box 1, Folder 7 Pach, Walter (European Representative), 1913-1958
Image(s): Pach, Walter (European Representative): 1913-1958

Box 1

Artists

Box 1, Folder 8 B, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): B, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 9 C-D, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): C-D, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 10 G-H, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): G-H, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 11 K-L, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): K-L, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 12 M-R, Miscellaneous, 1912
Image(s): M-R, Miscellaneous: 1912

Box 1, Folder 13 S, Miscellaneous, 1913-1915
Box 1, Folder 14
T-Y, Miscellaneous, 1913-1914
Image(s): T-Y, Miscellaneous: 1913-1914

Box 1
Dealers and Lenders

Box 1, Folder 15
A, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): A, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 16
Bernheim Jeune & Cie., 1912-1913
Image(s): Bernheim Jeune & Cie.: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 17
D-F, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): D-F, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 18
Galerie E. Druet, 1912-1913
Image(s): Galerie E. Druet: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 19
Galerie Kahnweiler, 1913
Image(s): Galerie Kahnweiler: 1913

Box 1, Folder 20
Go-H, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): Go-H, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 21
K-M, Miscellaneous, 1912-1913
Image(s): K-M, Miscellaneous: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 22
S-U, Miscellaneous, 1911-1913
Image(s): S-U, Miscellaneous: 1911-1913

Box 1
Buyers

Box 1, Folder 23
A-B, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): A-B, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 24
Eddy, Arthur Jerome, 1913
Image(s): Eddy, Arthur Jerome: 1913

Box 1, Folder 25
H-M, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): H-M, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 26
P, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): P, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 27
Quinn, John, 1913-1914
Image(s): Quinn, John: 1913-1914

Box 1, Folder 28  R-S, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): R-S, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 29  Torrey, Frederick C., 1913
Image(s): Torrey, Frederick C.: 1913

Box 1, Folder 30  V, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): V, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 31  Watson, Mrs. James S., 1913
Image(s): Watson, Mrs. James S.: 1913

Box 1, Folder 32  W, Miscellaneous, 1913
Image(s): W, Miscellaneous: 1913

Box 1, Folder 33  Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1913
Image(s)
Series 3: Administration Records, circa 1911-circa 1916

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

The Association of American Painters and Sculptors administration records include excerpts from the organization's constitution, letterhead, a report and statement about the Armory Show, executive and board meeting minutes, and a membership list.

The material in this series is arranged alphabetically by document type.

This series has been fully digitized.

Box 1, Folder 34 Constitution and Letterhead, circa 1911-circa 1916
   Image(s): Constitution and Letterhead: circa 1911-circa 1916

Box 1, Folder 35 Meeting Minutes, 1913
   Image(s): Meeting Minutes: 1913

Box 1, Folder 36 Membership List, circa 1911-circa 1916
   Image(s): Membership List: circa 1911-circa 1916

Box 1, Folder 37 Report and Statement, circa 1912
   Image(s): Report and Statement: circa 1912

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Series 4: Armory Show Tour Files, 1913

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

This series consists of materials related to the International Exhibition of Modern Art of 1913, also known as the Armory Show, as it traveled to Chicago and Boston after initially debuting in New York City. There is a range of materials from the exhibition's tour including a contract and settlement with the Art Institute of Chicago, an art inventory, insurance lists, a subcommittee report, and lists tracking sales of tickets, postcards, and pamphlets.

The material in this series is separated by city - Chicago and Boston, then arranged alphabetically by document type within those two groupings.

This series has been fully digitized.

Box 1

Chicago

Box 1, Folder 38    Art Inventory and Insurance Lists, circa 1913
Image(s): Art Inventory and Insurance Lists: circa 1913

Box 1, Folder 39    Correspondence, 1913
Image(s): Correspondence: 1913

Box 1, Folder 40    Exhibition Contract and Settlement, 1913
Image(s): Exhibition Contract and Settlement: 1913

Box 1, Folder 41    Subcommittee Report on Exhibition, 1913
Image(s): Subcommittee Report on Exhibition: 1913

Box 1, Folder 42    Boston Lists Tracking Sales of Tickets, Postcards, and Pamphlets, 1913
Image(s): Boston Lists Tracking Sales of Tickets, Postcards, and Pamphlets: 1913
Series 5: Financial Records, 1912-1916

0.5 Linear feet (Box 1)

Financial records related to the Association of American Painters and Sculptors (AAPS) operating expenses and the Armory Show include sales lists of artwork, receipts, invoices, payroll, shipping and transportation invoices, rescinded dues, four cashier's journals, two ledgers, a receipt book, a checkbook, and bills for office supplies, printing, publicity, and photography, among other things. A lot of the materials, such as the "Lexington File" bills, are directly related to the exhibition, but a lot of the general AAPS financial and business records are also scattered throughout the series.

This series is arranged alphabetically by document type, also the contents of several folders - such as different kinds of bills and invoices - are often alphabetical by vendor as a reflection of the original order upon receipt at the archives.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for blank pages of bound volumes such as ledgers, cashiers' journals, checkbooks, and so forth.

Box 1, Folder 43  Armory File Operating Expenses, 1912-1913
   Image(s): Armory File Operating Expenses: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 44  Artwork Sales Lists, circa 1913
   Image(s): Artwork Sales Lists: circa 1913

Box 1, Folder 45  Artwork Sales Receipts, 1913
   Image(s): Artwork Sales Receipts: 1913

Box 1, Folder 46  Cashiers' Books, 1913
   Image(s): Cashiers' Books: 1913

Box 1, Folder 47  Cashiers' Receipts for Registered Mail, 1913-1914
   Image(s): Cashiers' Receipts for Registered Mail: 1913-1914

Box 1, Folder 48  Checkbook, 1913
   Image(s): Checkbook: 1913

Box 1, Folder 49  Customs Forms, 1914-1915
   Image(s): Customs Forms: 1914-1915

Box 1, Folder 50  DeLuxe Catalog, 1913
   Image(s): DeLuxe Catalog: 1913

Box 1, Folder 51  Insurance, 1913-1914
   Image(s): Insurance: 1913-1914

Box 1, Folder 52  Ledger - Artists and Lenders, circa 1913
   Image(s): Ledger - Artists and Lenders: circa 1913

Box 1, Folder 53  Ledger - Buyers, circa 1913
Image(s): Ledger - Buyers: circa 1913

Box 1

Lexington Files

Box 1, Folder 54

Bills, A, 1913-1916

Image(s): Bills, A: 1913-1916

Box 1, Folder 55

Bills, C-I, 1912-1913

Image(s): Bills, C-I: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 56

Bills, M-N, 1913

Image(s): Bills, M-N: 1913

Box 1, Folder 57

Bills, O-P, 1912-1913

Image(s): Bills, O-P: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 58

Bills, R-W, 1912-1913

Image(s): Bills, R-W: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 59

Payroll and Payment Lists, 1913

Image(s): Payroll and Payment Lists: 1913

Box 1, Folder 60

Miscellaneous Receipts, 1913

Image(s): Miscellaneous Receipts: 1913

Box 1, Folder 61

Office Expenses, 1912-1913

Image(s): Office Expenses: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 62

Payroll, 1913

Image(s): Payroll: 1913

Box 1, Folder 63

Photography, 1913

Image(s): Photography: 1913

Box 1, Folder 64

Printing, 1912-1913

Image(s): Printing: 1912-1913

Box 1, Folder 65

Publicity Regarding Arts and Decoration Special Issue, 1913

Image(s): Publicity Regarding Arts and Decoration Special Issue: 1913

Box 1, Folder 66

Receipt Book, 1913

Image(s): Receipt Book: 1913

Box 1, Folder 67

Rescinded Dues, 1913-1914
Image(s): Rescinded Dues: 1913-1914

Box 1, Folder 68
Shipping and Transport, 1913-1916
Image(s): Shipping and Transport: 1913-1916

Box 1, Folder 69
Miscellaneous Receipts and Invoices, 1912-1913
Image(s): Miscellaneous Receipts and Invoices: 1912-1913
Series 6: Printed Material, 1911-1959

This series includes multiple copies of catalogs for the Armory Show in New York, Boston, and Chicago, in addition to a few catalogs for retrospective exhibitions about the Armory Show that happened in later years. There are also pamphlets published by the Association of American Painters and Sculptors (AAPS) which contain essays that were created in conjunction with the exhibition. Other materials are newspapers, magazines, clippings, postcards, and one poster. The bulk of the printed material is on the subject of the AAPS or the exhibition.

The exhibition catalogs are grouped together at the beginning of the series along with other magazines and publications about the exhibit. The rest of the material is arranged alphabetically by document type.

The bulk of this collection has been digitized, except for the pamphlets and duplicates. The International Exhibition of Modern Art pamphlets were already scanned as part of the Walter Kuhn, Kuhn family, and Armory Show records. In some cases, newspapers, magazines, and other publications have had their covers, title pages, and relevant pages scanned.

Box 2, Folder 1  
*International Exhibition of Modern Art - New York Annotated "Price List" Catalog, 1913*  
Image(s): International Exhibition of Modern Art - New York Annotated "Price List" Catalog: 1913

Box 2, Folder 2  
*International Exhibition of Modern Art - New York, 1913*

Box 2, Folder 3  
*International Exhibition of Modern Art Supplement to Catalogue, 1913*  
Image(s): International Exhibition of Modern Art Supplement to Catalogue: 1913

Box 2, Folder 4  
*International Exhibition of Modern Art - Copley Society of Boston, 1913*  
Image(s): International Exhibition of Modern Art - Copley Society of Boston: 1913

Box 2, Folder 5  
*International Exhibition of Modern Art - Art Institute of Chicago, 1913*  
Image(s): International Exhibition of Modern Art - Art Institute of Chicago: 1913

Box 2, Folder 6  
*Pictures for Peace: A Retrospective Exhibition Organized from the Armory Show, 1944*  
Image(s): Pictures for Peace: A Retrospective Exhibition Organized from the Armory Show: 1944

Box 2, Folder 7  
*The 1913 Armory Show in Retrospect, 1958*  
Image(s): The 1913 Armory Show in Retrospect: 1958

Box 2, Folder 8  
*American Art News, 1911-1913*  
Image(s): American Art News: 1911-1913

Oversized material housed in OV 4.

Box 2, Folder 9  
*Arts and Decoration Special Issue, 1913*
Box 2, Folder 10  
*The Story of the Armory Show*, 1938  
Image(s): *The Story of the Armory Show*, 1938

Box 2, Folder 11  
Clippings, 1912  
Image(s): Clippings: 1912

Box 2, Folder 12  
Clippings, 1913 January  
Image(s): Clippings: 1913 January

Box 2, Folder 13  
Clippings, 1913 February, 1959  
Image(s): Clippings: 1913 February

Box 2, Folder 14  
Newspapers, 1913  
Image(s): Newspapers: 1913  
Oversized material housed in OV 5.

Box 2, Folder 15  
Pamphlets, 1913  
Includes copies of exhibition pamphlets *For and Against* and *Cezanne*.

Box 2, Folder 16  
Pamphlets, 1913  
Includes copies of pamphlets *A Sculptor's Architecture* and *NOA-NOA*.

Box 2, Folder 17  
Postcards, 1913  
Image(s): Postcards: 1913

Box 2, Folder 18  
Poster, 1913  
Image(s): Poster: 1913  
Oversized poster housed in OV 5.

Box OV 4  
Oversized *American Art News* Issues from Box 2, Folder 8, 1911-1913

Box OV 5  
Oversized Newspapers from Box 2, Folder 14, 1913

Box OV 5  
Oversized Poster from Box 2, Folder 18, 1913
Series 7: Artifacts, 1913, circa 2013

0.2 Linear feet (Box 3)

This series consists of Association of American Artists and Sculptors artifacts and memorabilia from the Armory Show. There are button pins, calling cards, event invitations, mailing cards, signs, tickets, and other miscellany. There is one folder of labels from an exhibition that might have been celebrating the centennial of the Armory Show.

The materials in this series have been arranged alphabetically.

The bulk of this series has been digitized, except for duplicates of items like button pins, tickets, and invitations.

Box 3, Folder 1  Button Pins, 1913
Image(s): Button Pins: 1913

Box 3, Folder 2  Calling Cards, 1913
Image(s): Calling Cards: 1913

Box 3, Folder 3  Copy of "Press Clippings" Drawing, circa 1913
Image(s): Copy of "Press Clippings" Drawing: circa 1913

Box 3, Folder 4  Event Invitations and Mailing Cards, 1913
Image(s): Event Invitations and Mailing Cards: 1913

Box 3, Folder 5  Labels from Retrospective Exhibition about Armory Show, circa 2013
Image(s): Labels from Retrospective Exhibition about Armory Show: circa 2013

Box 3, Folder 6  Season Ticket, 1913
Image(s): Season Ticket: 1913

Box 3, Folder 7  Signs, 1913
Image(s): Signs: 1913