



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Lenita Manry Papers, circa 1920-1968, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Lenita Manry papers
Date:	circa 1920-1968
Identifier:	AAA.manrleni
Creator:	Manry, Lenita, 1902-1969
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of painter and arts administrator Lenita Manry measure 0.2 linear feet and date from circa 1920 to 1968. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, notes, portraits of Manry, and printed material. Of note are records from Manry's time at the Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts which include lectures and writings by Hofmann, Manry's class notes and drawings, and printed material from the school.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Philip Davis, lawyer for the estate of Lenita Manry, donated the papers to the Archives of American Art in 1971.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reel 151 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The papers were microfilmed on reel 151 after receipt. 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

Lenita Manry papers, circa 1920-1968. 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

Lenita Manry (1902-1968) was a painter in New York City, New York and an arts administrator in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Originally from Texas, Manry moved to New York City and began a career as a model before focusing on her art. She was a student of Hans Hofmann and later became assistant director of the Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of painter and arts administrator Lenita Manry measure 0.2 linear feet and date from circa 1920 to 1968. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, notes, portraits of Manry, and printed material. Of note are records from Manry's time at the Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts which include lectures and writings by Hofmann, Manry's class notes and drawings, and printed material from the school.

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

Names:

Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts (Provincetown, Mass.)
Hofmann, Hans, 1880-1966

Occupations:

Artists' models -- New York (State) -- New York
Arts administrators -- Massachusetts -- Provincetown
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Lenita Manry Papers, circa 1920-1968

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Manry's address book contains contact information for many people in the New York City art world in the 1940s along with loose material tucked into pages which may include notes. Biographical materials include a resume and material on the Manry family such as a typescript of a Civil War diary entry of David Thadeus Manry. Correspondents include Clement Greenberg, Hans Hofmann, and Banks Manry. Also found are drafts of outgoing letters which were often written on Manry's exhibition announcements or scraps of newspaper. Of note are records relating to the Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts which include writings and lectures by Hofmann; an admission letter and contract between Hofmann and Manry; Manry's classroom notes with drawings; brochures for the school; and a prospectus for a trip to Europe. Notes include a small article by Manry on her time as a model in New York City. Photographs depict Manry, most of which are likely modeling photos in evening wear but also include a snapshot of Manry drawing. Printed materials consist of scattered exhibition announcements and clippings.

Box 1, Folder 1-2	Address Book, circa 1940-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 3	Biographical Material, circa 1930-1964
Box 1, Folder 4-5	Correspondence, circa 1930-1968
Box 1, Folder 6	Hans Hofmann School of Fine Arts, 1931-1945
Box 1, Folder 7	Notes, circa 1950-1968
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs, circa 1920-1930
Box 1, Folder 9	Printed Material, 1958-1964

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