



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

William Meyerowitz and Theresa F. Bernstein papers

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	William Meyerowitz and Theresa F. Bernstein papers
Date:	1915-1978
Identifier:	AAA.meyewill
Creator:	Meyerowitz, William, 1887-1981 Bernstein, Theresa
Extent:	1.2 Linear feet ((on 4 microfilm reels))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1966-1978 by Mr. and Mrs. William Meyerowitz. Microfilmed 1994 with funding provided by the Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, the Goldie-Anna Charitable Trust, the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, and the Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels D285-D285a, N69-137, and 4866 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Reproduction Note

Letter from Oliver Wendell Holmes is a photocopy.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Painters and printmakers; New York, N.Y. William Meyerowitz was born in Russia in either 1889 or 1898. Moving to New York in 1908, he studied at the National Academy of Design from 1912-1916. He married Theresa Bernstein in 1918, and travelled in Europe from 1922-1923. During his exhibition at the Corcoran in 1930, he met Oliver Wendell Holmes, who became a patron and a subject for later work. Theresa Bernstein was born in Philadelphia and studied at the Philadelphia School of Design, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and continued her studies at the Art Students League in New York. She died on Feb. 13, 2002, and was generally believed to be 111, though she could have been as old as 116.

Scope and Contents

Biographical accounts, letters, notes, writings, art work, scrapbooks, printed material, and photographs document the careers of William Meyerowitz and his wife Theresa Bernstein, both painters and printmakers.

Scope and Contents

REELS D285-D285a: Letters, 1918-1967, from patrons and colleagues, including John Taylor Arms, Edwin Blashfield, Maxim Karolik, Duncan Phillips, and John Weichsel; exhibition announcements and catalogs, 1920-1967; 35 photographs of art works; a scrapbook, 1923-1944, containing exhibition announcements and catalogs, a clipping, and a photograph of an art work; 16 drawings; 3 prints; a list of Bernstein's work; 2 poems; a 4-page typescript "Reflections on the Art Status" by Bernstein; a typescript concerning painting in America by Oscar Bluemner; miscellaneous manuscripts, undated and 1964; 2 receipts for gifts of art work, 1927 and 1957; and a copy of the by-laws of the Cape Ann Arts Council, 1955.

Scope and Contents

REEL N69-137: Three exhibition catalogs, 1969, for works of Meyerowitz and Bernstein.

Scope and Contents

REEL 4866: Biographical accounts; 2 award certificates for Bernstein; letters, 1921-1978, from patrons and colleagues, including Oliver Wendell Holmes, Homer Saint-Gaudens, and Lynd Ward; 3 lists of Bernstein's works; 7 poems; a manuscript "On Portraiture"; a typescript by Bernstein about Meyerowitz' work; 22 drawings; 1 print; a scrapbook of clippings, 1915-1918; a scrapbook, undated and 1931, containing a clipping, a photograph of an art work, and exhibition catalogs; clippings, 1929-1978; a reprint "On the Need of Art" by Meyerowitz, 1944; exhibition announcements and catalogs, 1921-1977; reproductions of art works; a card advertising a summer art course taught by Meyerowitz and Bernstein; 10 photographs of the artists, 1930-1962; and 19 photographs of art works.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Etching -- New York (State) -- New York
- Jewish artists
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- New York (State) -- New York
- Women artists
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Drawings

Names:

- Arms, John Taylor, 1887-1953

Blashfield, Edwin Howland, 1848-1936
Bluemner, Oscar, 1867-1938
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935
Karolik, Maxim
Phillips, Duncan, 1886-1966
Saint-Gaudens, Homer, b. 1880
Ward, Lynd, 1905-1985
Weichsel, John, 1870-1946

Occupations:

Etchers -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York