



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Carl and Olga Milles papers

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Carl and Olga Milles papers
Date:	1933-1951
Identifier:	AAA.millecar
Creator:	Milles, Carl, 1875-1955 Milles, Olga Granner, 1874-1967
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet ((on a partial microfilm reel))
Language:	Granner family letters are in German. Letters from Rutenskold and Carl and Olga Milles are in Swedish.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The donor, Margueritte E. Kimball, was charged with clearing out and photographing the Milles' house and studio at Cranbrook in the early 1950s.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4314 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

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

Carl Milles was a sculptor. His wife, Olga, was also an artist. Milles was born in Lagga, Sweden, the son of Major Emil ("Mille") Andersson. He derived his name from the inversion of his father's nickname "Milles (Mille's) Carl". He was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker and studied for 3 years at the Technical School in Stockholm, during which time he befriended sculptor John Borjeson. Between 1897 and 1900, Milles studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. While in Paris, he met artist Olga Granner, whom he married in 1905. In 1902, Milles gained recognition in Sweden with his design for the Sten Sture monument. Milles also studied at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan and became a citizen of the United States in 1945.

Scope and Contents

Letters received by Olga Milles, primarily from her family, the Granners, in Graz, Steiermark, Austria (1933-1951). Other correspondents include Kurt Messner (from prisoner of war camp), his father Adolf Messner (1944-1946), Carl Milles (1944-1951), his sister Ruth Milles (1940), and Signe Rutenskold

(1944-1946). Three letters were written to Carl by Olga (1939). Other materials consist of a one-page essay on "Youth" by Frank Crane and 3 photographs, of Benito Mussolini (1936), relatives (1950), and a work of art.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Milles, Ruth Anna Maria, 1873-1941
Mussolini, Benito, 1883-1945

Occupations:

Educators
Sculptors