



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Sibyl and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy papers

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Sibyl and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy papers
Date:	1918-1971
Identifier:	AAA.mohosiby
Creator:	Moholy-Nagy, Sibyl, 1905- Moholy-Nagy, László, 1895-1946
Extent:	10 Reels (ca. 1500 items (on 10 microfilm reels))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1971 by Hattula Hug, daughter of Sibyl and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy. [Microfilm reels 1005-1006 erroneously labeled a gift.]

Location of Originals

Originals returned to Hattula Hug after microfilming.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 944-949, 951-952 & 1005-1006 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Sibyl: architectural historian, critic, educator. Birthdate also cited as 1903. Died 1971. Laszlo: sculptor, designer, painter & photographer; Chicago, Illinois. Sibyl was born Dorothea Maria Pauline Alice Sybille Pietzsche in Dresden, Germany. An actress in Berlin during her twenties, she used the stage name Sibyl Peech. Eventually she shifted to a career in the scenario office of the Tobis [Moving] Picture Syndicate where she met Moholy-Nagy in 1929. They married in 1932. Came to U.S. 1934. Laszlo taught at Walter Gropius's first Bauhaus in Weimar and Dessau, 1920's, and was one of the founders of the Institute of Design, Chicago, 1939.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence; diaries; writings; photographs; and printed material.

Scope and Contents

REELS 944-949: Correspondence; diaries, 1918-1945 and 1947-1959; articles, lecture manuscripts, book reviews, book notes, various writings; family, childhood, and professional photos, including portrait shots from silent movies in Berlin in 1924-31; course outlines; Architectural League papers, 1970-71; AIA medal; correspondence files; South American travel diary, 1959; and miscellaneous papers.

Scope and Contents

REELS 951-952: Correspondence; photographs of Laszlo, his Hungarian family, and of his work; clippings and press notices of his 1969-1970 retrospective.

Scope and Contents

REELS 1005-1006: Undated writings, notes, and printed material relating to Sibyl Moholy-Nagy's unpublished book, "Pragma."

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Architecture, Modern
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century
- Photography
- Sculpture, Modern -- Illinois -- Chicago
- Women architectural critics

Occupations:

- Architectural historians -- Illinois -- Chicago
- Painters
- Photographers
- Sculptors