



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid of the Martha Mood Papers, 1972-1985, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Martha Mood Papers, 1972-1985.....	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Martha Mood papers
Date:	1972-1985
Identifier:	AAA.moodmart
Creator:	Mood, Martha, 1908-1972
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of sculptor, tapissier, and ceramicist Martha Mood (1908-1972) measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1972 to 1989. Found are biographical materials on Mood and Lester Henderson, photocopies of letters sent to Henderson, photographs, and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1982 by Lester K. Henderson, Martha Mood's agent. A second portion of papers was loaned for microfilming in 1983 by W. Roger Mood, Mood's cousin by marriage. The gift and the loan were microfilmed as part of the Archives of American Art's Texas project.

Separated Materials

Material loaned for microfilming on Reel 3316 was returned to the donor after filming and is not described in the collection container inventory including: an invitation and catalog, 1972, for an exhibition of Mood's stitcheries, ceramics, sculpture and photography at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston; 4 newspaper clippings; a letter to Roger and Mary Louise Mood from Martha and Beau Mood, 1965; and an undated photograph of Mood.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reels 3449 at Archives of American Art offices. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Material lent for microfilming is available on 35mm microfilm reels 3316 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

The papers received a preliminary level of processing after donation and were microfilmed on reel 3349. 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

Martha Mood papers, 1972-1985. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Martha Mood (1908-1972) was a sculptor, tapissier, and ceramicist, in San Antonio, Texas. Mood created large-scale tapestries and operated a business selling embroidered home furnishings.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of sculptor, tapissier, and ceramicist Martha Mood (1908-1972) measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1972 to 1989. Found are biographical materials on Mood and Lester Henderson, photocopies of letters sent to Henderson, photographs, and printed material.

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 ceramicists
- Women sculptors
- Women textile designers

Names:

- Henderson, Lester Kierstead

Occupations:

- Ceramicists -- San Antonio -- Texas
- Sculptors -- Texas -- San Antonio
- Tapissiers -- San Antonio -- Texas

Container Listing

Series 1: Martha Mood Papers, 1972-1985

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials concern Martha Mood and her agent, Lester K. Henderson, and include resumes on both as well as order forms and biographical sketches of Mood. Correspondence consists of photocopies of letters sent to Lester Henderson upon the publication of *The Sublime Heritage of Martha Mood, Vol. 1*. Photographs depict Mood, Henderson, and two ceramic works by Mood. Printed materials include two calendars featuring Mood's works, clippings, and exhibition announcements.

Box 1, Folder 1 Biographical Material, 1980-1983

Box 1, Folder 2 Correspondence, 1983

Box 1, Folder 3 Photographs, circa 1980

Box 1, Folder 4 Printed Material, 1972-1985

[Return to Table of Contents](#)