



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Charles Allen Munn collection relating to Charles
Willson Peale, John Trumbull and Benjamin West

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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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Charles Allen Munn collection relating to Charles Willson Peale, John Trumbull and Benjamin West, 1788-1917.....	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Charles Allen Munn collection relating to Charles Willson Peale, John Trumbull and Benjamin West
Date:	1788-1917
Identifier:	AAA.munnchar
Creator:	Munn, Charles Allen, 1859-1924
Extent:	1 Microfilm reel (70 items on 1 microfilm reel)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1968 by Fordham University Library.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to Fordham University Library after microfilming.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art holds the Charles Willson Peale diaries and exhibition announcement, 1765-1826; the John Trumbull collection, 1790-[ca. 1800]; Papers from John Trumbull's paint box, 1794-[ca. 1830]; Theodore Sizer research material on John Trumbull, 1790-1952; and the Benjamin West collection, 1771-circa 1879. Also found at the Archives of American Art are the microfilmed Mary Jane Peale and Peale family selected papers, circa 1815-1897; microfilmed selected Peale family papers, 1803-1854; microfilmed selected papers from the Peale-Sellers collection, circa 1767-1904; microfilmed Augusta Barker papers, 1875-1887; microfilmed John Trumbull papers, 1787-1843; the microfilmed Canning collection of papers relating to John Trumbull, 1799; the microfilmed John Trumbull collection at the Gilcrease Institute, 1820-1831; microfilmed Benjamin West selected papers from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1755-1819.

The American Philosophical Society holds the Peale-Sellers Family Collection, 1686-1963 and the Peale family papers, 1705-1898. The Library of Congress holds the John Trumbull papers, 1786-1841; Princeton University Manuscripts Division holds the John Trumbull Collection, 1768-1842; Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library holds the John Trumbull papers, 1800-1842; Yale University Manuscripts and Archives Repository holds the John Trumbull papers, 1750-1961. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania holds assorted Benjamin West collections; Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library holds the Benjamin West papers, 1762-1829.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel N68-20 available for use 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

Charles Allen Munn (1859-1924) was an editor, publisher, and art patron in New York, New York.

Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827) was a painter, inventor, and naturalist known for his portraits of leading figures in the American Revolution, and for founding the Peale Museum (later the Philadelphia Museum), one of the first major museums in the United States.

John Trumbull (1756-1843) was a painter known for his paintings depicting the leaders and events of the American Revolution.

Benjamin West (1738-1820) was an American painter known for his historical and religious paintings. He was historical painter to the court for George III and Surveyor of the King's Pictures, as well as the second President of the Royal Academy. Many American artists traveled to London to study under him, including Charles Willson Peale and John Trumbull.

Scope and Contents

The microfilmed Charles Allen Munn collection relating to Charles Willson Peale, John Trumbull and Benjamin West contain a diary of Charles Willson Peale (1788-1789); letters, an account book (1816), and a letter book (1809-1810) of John Trumbull; and a brief manuscript autobiography of Benjamin West.

The Charles Willson Peale papers include a diary kept in Philadelphia and Annapolis (May 30, 1788-May 5, 1789). Peale writes about working on his drawing machine "for taking perspective views;" people sitting for portraits; techniques in painting; repairing pictures; travel conditions between Philadelphia and Annapolis; the operation of his Philadelphia Museum; recipes for preserving birds and animals; business and travel expenses; experiments in making bifocals; social activities; and acquaintances.

John Trumbull papers include correspondence, accounts, and a corrected proof of an original manuscript of a description of Trumbull's pictures. The Benjamin West papers consist of an undated autobiography.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painting

Names:

Peale, Charles Willson, 1741-1827
Trumbull, John, 1756-1843
West, Benjamin, 1738-1820

Occupations:

Art patrons -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- England
Painters -- United States

Container Listing

Series 1: Charles Allen Munn collection relating to Charles Willson Peale, John Trumbull and Benjamin West, 1788-1917

1 Microfilm reel (70 items (on 1 microfilm reel))

Reel N68-20, Frame 3-5	Charles Willson Peale, Certificate of membership in American Philosophical Society, July 21, 1786
Reel N68-20, Frame 7-59	Diary of Charles Willson Peale, 1788-1789
Reel N68-20, Frame 61-64	John Trumbull, 2 unsigned letters
Reel N68-20, Frame 66-82	Charles Willson Peale, ALS, Oct. 23, 1814. Rembrandt Peale, ALS, Dec. 20, 1823., October 23, 1814, December 20, 1823
Reel N68-20, Frame 84-93	John Trumbull, Account with A. C. DePoggi, 1791-1794
Reel N68-20, Frame 95-103	John Trumbull, Correspondence with Houdon
Reel N68-20, Frame 105-152	Letterbook of John Trumbull, 1809-1810
Reel N68-20, Frame 154-160	John Trumbull, Account book containing inventory of prints, 1816
Reel N68-20, Frame 162-165	John Trumbull, Correspondence with Charles Wilkes & Asher B. Durand, 1819-1822
Reel N68-20, Frame 167-212	Corrected proof of original Mss of a description of Trumbull's pictures, particularly historical. New York, 1927
Reel N68-20, Frame 214-272	Controversy concerning portrait of Washington by Gilbert Stuart, between Alexander Smith Cochran, Thomas B. Clarke, Charles Henry Hart, & Charles A. Munn, circa 1907-1917 Notes: 40 p.
Reel N68-20, Frame 274-298	Benjamin West, Autographed Mss. Autobiography, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)