



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Emily Nathan papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Emily Nathan papers
Identifier:	AAA.nathemil2
Date:	circa 1943-1985
Extent:	6 Linear feet
Creator:	Nathan, Emily De Creeft, José, 1884-1982 Lerner, Abram Goldberg, Rube, 1883-1970
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1973-1988 by Emily Nathan and in 2000 by the Emily Nathan estate, via Edgar S. Nathan, III, executor. The letter to Nathan from Daniel Catton Rich was donated by Rich, 1977.

Available Formats

Letter from Daniel Catton Rich: 35mm microfilm reel 3483 available 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. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Emily Nathan (1907-1999) was a journalist and public relations consultant specializing in arts and cultural heritage institutions.

Scope and Contents

The papers of public relations consultant and journalist Emily Nathan measure 5.0 linear feet and date from circa 1943-1985. Included are files on clients, among them Towle Manufacturing and its gallery; the Smithsonian Institution, including the Archives of American Art, Radio Smithsonian and the National Portrait Gallery.

Scope and Contents

Interviews conducted by Nathan for Radio Smithsonian include New York, N.Y. cartoonist and inventor Rube Goldberg (1883-1970), 1970; art historian and writer Richard B. K. McLanathan, 1970; Director of the Archives of American Art William E. Woolfenden, 1970, Abram Lerner, Director of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, and art collector Joseph Hirshhorn, 1969. Also found is an interview of William Woolfenden May 6, 1983 upon his retirement as Director of the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Among the correspondence are letters to Georgia O'Keeffe regarding a pending oral history with the sculptors Dorothy Dehner and David Smith and a letter from museum administrator and lecturer Daniel Catton Rich expressing his pleasure at having met Jannis and Zoe Spyropoulos in Athens, Greece and describes the painting by Jannis that he purchased for the Worcester Art Museum. The majority of the photographs are of personalities long associated with the Archives of American Art. There are two photographs of Jasper Johns, and one each of Mark Rothko and Tony Smith, all taken by Hans Namuth, 1960.

Scope and Contents

Also found is a folder of material assembled by Nathan regarding Jose de Creeft's story, as told to Nathan, of his pet rooster, intended by Nathan to be submitted for publication under the title "Roosty Was My Friend." Included are an introduction by Nathan, providing biographical information on de Creeft; sample text for the story (2 pages) and an outline for the remainder (3 pages), 24 drawings by de Creeft illustrating the story; and a photograph of de Creeft with a wire sculpture of Roosty, 1957, taken by Budd studio.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Archives -- Public relations
Art and industry
Art, American
Arts administrators -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
Caricatures and cartoons
Inventors -- Interviews
Museums -- Public relations
Roosters -- Anecdotes
Roosters -- Pictorial works

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Names:

Archives of American Art
De Creeft, José, 1884-1982
Hirshhorn, Joseph H.
Johns, Jasper, 1930-
McLanathan, Richard B. K.
Namuth, Hans
Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970
Smith, Tony, 1912-1980
Smithsonian Institution -- Public relations.
Spyropoulous, Jannis, 1912-
Towle Mfg. Company -- Public relations
Woolfenden, William E. (William Edward), 1918-1995

Occupations:

Cartoonists -- Interviews
Public relations consultants