



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Elias Newman Papers, 1922-1981, in the Archives of American Art

Jean Fitzgerald and Erin Kinhart

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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

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Elias Newman papers
<b>Date:</b>	1922-1981
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.newmelia
<b>Creator:</b>	Newman, Elias, 1903-
<b>Extent:</b>	1.1 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of New York painter, writer, and educator Elias Newman measure 1.1 linear feet and date from 1922 to 1981. Newman's participation in exhibitions and various art related organizations, notably Artists Equity Association, is documented through biographical material, correspondence, notes, writings, organizational records, printed material, and photographs.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The collection was donated in 1977 and 1981 by Elias Newman.

### Alternative Forms Available

The collection is available on 35 mm microfilm reels 4860-4861 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

### Processing Information

The collection was fully processed by Jean Fitzgerald in 1993. In 1994 the collection was microfilmed with funding provided by the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation. A finding aid was prepared by Erin Kinhart in 2011.

### Preferred Citation

Elias Newman papers, 1922-1981. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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## Biographical Note

Elias Newman (1903-1999) was a painter, writer, lecturer, and teacher in New York, N.Y. Born in Stashow, Poland in 1903, Newman arrived in the United States in 1913, and became a naturalized citizen in 1928. He studied at the National Academy of Design from 1919-1920, and at the Educational Alliance Art School from 1920-1925. He also studied at the Academie Chaumiere in Paris. After 1925, Newman participated in many exhibitions, acted as art director of the Palestine Pavilion at the New York World's Fair in 1939, organized the Palestine Artists and Sculptors Association, and was director of the National Society of Painters in Casein in 1963 and 1967-1971. From 1970-1975, Newman served as president of the Artists Equity Association, the organization which played the most significant role in his career.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of New York painter, writer, and educator Elias Newman measure 1.1 linear feet and date from 1922 to 1981. Newman's participation in exhibitions and various art related organizations, notably Artists Equity Association, is documented through biographical material, correspondence, notes, writings, organizational records, printed material, and photographs.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series:

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1935-1975 (Box 1; 1 folder)
  - Series 2: Correspondence, 1927-1980 (Box 1; 8 folders)
  - Series 3: Writings, circa 1939-1976 (Box 1; 4 folders)
  - Series 4: Artists Equity Association Records, circa 1950-1979 (Box 1; 0.3 linear feet)
  - Series 5: Printed Material, 1922-1981 (Box 1, OV 2; 0.4 linear feet)
  - Series 6: Photographs, 1923-1975 (Box 1; 9 folders)
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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Educators -- New York (State) -- New York  
Jewish art  
Jewish artists  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York  
Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Notes  
Photographs

Names:

Artists Equity Association

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1935-1975

*(Box 1; 1 folder)*

Scope and Contents: Biographical material includes a membership card for the Palestine Artists and Sculptors Association, 1935, a biographical account, 1975, a resume, and list of one-man shows, 1956.

Box 1, Folder 1      Biographical Material, 1935-1975

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1927-1980

*(Box 1; 8 folders)*

Scope and Contents: Correspondence reflects Newman's participation in exhibitions and various organizations, and includes letters concerning his requests for government grants.

Arrangement: Correspondence is arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, undated, 1927-1949
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, 1950-1957
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1958
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, 1959
Box 1, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1960
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence, 1961
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence, 1962-1970
Box 1, Folder 9	Correspondence, 1971-1980

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## Series 3: Writings, circa 1939-1976

(Box 1; 4 folders)

Scope and Contents: The writings series consists notes; typescripts of reviews from 1949-1962; 9 typescripts for articles including *America-Israel: New Worlds in the Making*, *An Executive Committee or a National Organization?*, *Jews in Art*, *Professionalism in the Fine Arts*; a typescript and printed copy of Newman's book *Art in Palestine*, 1939; a eulogy for Nathaniel Dirk; a copy of a speech delivered at the Educational Alliance Art School, 1974; and an essay *Pictures Speak Louder than Words* by Henry Montor, 1939.

Box 1, Folder 10	Notes, 1962-1970
Box 1, Folder 11	Writings by Elias Newman, undated
Box 1, Folder 12	Writings by Elias Newman, 1948-1976
Box 1, Folder 13	Writings by Others, 1939

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## Series 4: Artists Equity Association Records, circa 1950-1979

*(Box 1; 0.3 linear feet)*

Scope and Contents: Material relating to the Artists Equity Association contains a constitution; correspondence with members and congressmen, primarily concerning the tax reform bill; budget projections for 1956-1959; notes concerning agenda and procedures; 4 typescripts of speeches for occasions honoring Lloyd Goodrich, Chaim Gross, Roy Neuberger, and congressman Ogden R. Reid; clippings; AEA exhibition announcements; a membership list; a calendar of events; and photographs of AEA events attended by Hy Cohen, Nathaniel Dirk, Ernest Fiene, Helen Gerardia, Leah Gold, Maxwell Gordon, Leon Kroll, Sidney Laufman, Ralph Mayer, Daniel Millsaps, Philip Reisman, Stuyvesant Van Veen, Hudson Walker, and Sol Wilson.

Box 1, Folder 14	Constitution, undated
Box 1, Folder 15	Correspondence, undated, 1953-1956
Box 1, Folder 16	Correspondence, 1957
Box 1, Folder 17	Correspondence, 1958-1959
Box 1, Folder 18	Correspondence, 1961-1969
Box 1, Folder 19	Correspondence, 1970
Box 1, Folder 20-25	Correspondence, 1971 (6 folders)
Box 1, Folder 26	Correspondence, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 27	Correspondence, 1974-1979
Box 1, Folder 28	Financial Material, 1956-1959
Box 1, Folder 29	Notes, 1957-1971
Box 1, Folder 30	Writings, 1962-1976
Box 1, Folder 31	Clippings, 1971-1978
Box 1, Folder 32	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1952-1964
Box 1, Folder 33	Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1950-1962
Box 1, Folder 34	Photographs of events, 1970-1975

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## Series 5: Printed Material, 1922-1981

*(Box 1, OV 2; 0.4 linear feet)*

Scope and Contents: Printed material includes clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, three prospectuses, and brochures advertising Newman's classes and abilities as a lecturer. Also found are three exhibition posters, including two from shows in Israel.

Box 1, Folder 35	Clippings, undated
Box 1, Folder 36	Clippings, 1922-1929
Box 1, Folder 37	Clippings, 1930-1935
Box 1, Folder 38	Clippings, 1936-1939
Box 1, Folder 39	Clippings, 1940-1949
Box 1, Folder 40	Clippings, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 41	Clippings, 1960-1969
Box 1, Folder 42	Clippings, 1970-1980
Box 1, Folder 43-44	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 45	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1927-1929
Box 1, Folder 46	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1930-1932
Box 1, Folder 47	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1934-1938
Box 1, Folder 48	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1940-1947
Box 1, Folder 49	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1948-1949
Box 1, Folder 50	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1950-1954
Box 1, Folder 51	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1955-1959
Box 1, Folder 52	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1960-1963
Box 1, Folder 53	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1964-1969
Box 1, Folder 54	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1970-1975
Box 1, Folder 55	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1980-1981

Box 1, Folder 56	Prospectives, 1960-1969
Box 1, Folder 57	Book, Art in Palestine by Elias Newman [typescript], 1939
Box 1, Folder 58	Book, Art in Palestine by Elias Newman, 1939
Box 1, Folder 59	Brochures about Newman, undated, 1960
Box 1, Folder 60	Miscellaneous Brochures, 1940-1959
Box 1, Folder 61	Reproductions of works of art, undated
Oversize 2, Folder	Posters, 1930, 1962, 1970

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## Series 6: Photographs, 1923-1975

*(Box 1; 9 folders)*

Scope and Contents: Found here are 41 photographs of Newman, including one with classmates Peter Blume and Moses Soyer, 1923, one of Newman at the 1939 World's Fair, and one with poet Hy Korin; 17 photographs of events, showing Newman's colleagues Samuel Adler, Henry Botkin, Emma Ehrenreich, Ernest Fiene, Maxwell Gordon, Chaim Gross, Lena Gurr, Joseph Hirsch, Edward Hopper, Howard Kuh, Naomi Lorne, Bernard Simon, and Anthony Toney; and 15 photographs of works by Newman.

Box 1, Folder 62	Photographs of Elias Newman, 1923-1939
Box 1, Folder 63	Photographs of Elias Newman, 1940-1949
Box 1, Folder 64	Photographs of Elias Newman, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 65	Photographs of Elias Newman, 1960-1961
Box 1, Folder 66	Newman teaching art classes, 1942, 1950
Box 1, Folder 67	Miscellaneous events, 1948-1975
Box 1, Folder 68	Works of art, undated
Box 1, Folder 69	Works of art, 1961
Box 1, Folder 70	Works by others, 1938

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