



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Ben Norris memoir

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Ben Norris memoir
Date:	1993-1994
Identifier:	AAA.norrben
Creator:	Norris, Ben, 1910-2006
Extent:	1 Volume ((369 p.))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2008 by Margaret Castrey, Norris' widow.

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

Ben Norris (1910-2006) was a watercolorist and educator in Hawaii and New York. Norris studied privately with Frederic Taubes and Stanton Macdonald-Wright, and was educated at Harvard University and the Sorbonne in Paris. Norris also taught art history at the Univeristy of Hawaii.

Scope and Contents

An unpublished memoir written by Norris documenting his life. The manuscript begins with Norris' birth in 1910, including his childhood memories of California. He also describes in detail his education at Ponoma College, Harvard University and Sorbonne in Paris, as well as his teaching position at the University of Hawaii. Themes of formative experiences, education, sexual orientation, family, and church life are dominant in his writing. He concludes with a summary of the early 1990s, after he moved to New York City. Some pages are annotated in pen by Norris.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Harvard University -- Students
University of Hawaii -- Faculty

Occupations:

Educators -- Hawaii

Educators -- New York (State)

Watercolorists -- Hawaii

Watercolorists -- New York (State)