



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Giacomo Patri papers

Archives of American Art
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Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Giacomo Patri papers
Identifier:	AAA.patrgiac
Date:	1905-1983
Creator:	Patri, Giacomo, b. 1898
Extent:	4.6 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1982-1984 by Tamara Rey Patri, widow of Patri.

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

Illustrator, painter, instructor; San Francisco, Calif. b. 1898, Italy; d. 1978; Emigrated to The United States from Italy in 1916. Studied at The California School of Fine Arts. In 1940 he published a "Novel in Block Prints" entitled WHITE COLLAR, a story of workers during the Depression. In 1948 he founded the Patri School for Art Fundamentals which was aimed at teaching adults with no art background.

Scope and Contents

Biographical material, letters, personal business records, photographs, artworks, calendars and a journal, printed material, scrapbooks, writings, and subject files.

Scope and Contents

Biographical materials include membership cards and other documents. Letters, 1926-1983, are from Rockwell Kent, Burton Wasserman, Ted Goertzel and others. Business records include bank books, tax records, insurance policies and a ledger. Photographs, 1907-1968, are of Patri, his family, school and artworks. The illustrated journal dates from 1915 and the calendars with diary-style entries date 1951-1957. Artworks consist of 16 sketchbooks, 17 prints, many loose sketches, tracings, and scratch boards for a book on Polish-American blue collar worker and notes for classes, some illustrated.

Scope and Contents

Printed material includes WHITE COLLAR, a book of linocuts by Patri printed in 1940 and 1975, a small book THIS IS MY OWN by Rockwell Kent as well as loose chapters from the book, an edition of STORM OVER BRIDGES illustrated by Patri, and clippings. Also included are 2 scrapbooks of printed illustrations; writings, including short stories by Patri, interviews and an unpublished manuscript about Marino Marini; and subject files containing correspondence, printed material, writings, sketches and photographs on Paul Robeson, Dr. Leo Eloesser and the Spanish Civil War, The Patri School for Art Fundamentals, and other topics.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Artists' illustrated books
- Artists' illustrated books
- Illustrated books -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sketchbooks

Names:

- Eloesser, Leo
- Kent, Rockwell, 1882-1971
- Patri School for Art Fundamentals
- Robeson, Paul, 1898-1976

Occupations:

- Art teachers -- California -- San Francisco
- Illustrators -- California -- San Francisco

Functions:

- Art Schools -- California -- San Francisco