



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Mary Jane Peale and Peale family selected papers

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Mary Jane Peale and Peale family selected papers
Date:	circa 1815-1897
Identifier:	AAA.pealmarj
Creator:	Peale, Mary Jane, 1827-1902
Extent:	3 Microfilm reels (1 linear foot on 3 microfilm reels)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Microfilm reels 3900-3901 purchased from American Philosophical Society. Material on reel 3904 microfilmed 1987 by Archives of American Art as part of AAA's Philadelphia Documentation Project. The collection was assembled primarily by Mary Jane Peale, who copied or had copied many family documents. Only original materials were microfilmed.

Location of Originals

Originals in the American Philosophical Society.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art holds the Rembrandt and Harriet Peale collection, circa 1820-1932 and the Rubens Peale diaries, 1855-1865. Also found at the Archives of American Art are the microfilmed Charles Willson Peale diaries and exhibition announcement, 1765-1826; microfilmed printed material relating to Rembrandt Peale, 1830-1862; microfilmed Titian Ramsay Peale Collection, 1771-1876; microfilmed selected Peale family papers, 1803-1854; microfilmed selected papers from the Peale-Sellers collection, circa 1767-1904; and microfilmed Augusta Barker papers, 1875-1887.

The American Philosophical Society holds the Peale-Sellers Family Collection, 1686-1963 and the Peale family papers, 1705-1898.

Other Finding Aids

Finding aid prepared by American Philosophical Society on microfilm reel 3904.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3900-3901 and 3904 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Reel 3904 also available at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Mary Jane Peale (1827-1902) was a painter in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The granddaughter of Charles Willson Peale and daughter of Rubens Peale, she attended the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and also received painting instruction from her uncle, Rembrandt Peale. She is credited with teaching her father to paint after his retirement.

Scope and Contents

The microfilmed Mary Jane Peale and Peale family selected papers contain Mary Jane Peale's diaries and letters, as well as papers she collected relating to Rubens Peale, Eliza Burd Patterson Peale, and the Peale family. Microfilmed on Reels 3900-3901 are 10 volumes of Mary Jane Peale's diaries which contain domestic and social news, as well as discussions of Mary Jane's paintings. The bulk of the material microfilmed on Reel 3904 relates to Mary Jane Peale, including correspondence; a list of paintings by Peale, as well as a list of paintings owned by Peale; a volume on oil painting; and Peale's will. The materials relating to the family include letters between Rubens Peale and his wife, Eliza Burd Patterson Peale; letters from Rubens Peale to Franklin Peale; letters from Mrs. Peale to friends and family; and an inventory of pictures in the parlor.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women artists
Women painters

Names:

Peale, Charles Willson, 1741-1827
Peale, Eliza Burd Patterson
Peale, Franklin, 1795-1870
Peale, Rubens, 1784-1865

Occupations:

Painters -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia