



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Eve Peri Papers,
circa 1900-1996, bulk 1939-1966,
in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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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

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Eve Peri papers
Identifier:	AAA.perieve
Date:	circa 1900-1996, bulk 1939-1966
Extent:	0.6 Linear feet
Creator:	Peri, Eve, 1897-1966
Language:	English
Summary:	The papers of painter and embroidery artist Eve Peri measure 0.6 linear feet and date from circa 1900 to 1996 with the bulk of materials dating from 1939 to 1966. The papers are scattered and include biographical materials, travel documents, correspondence, financial records, printed material, designs for embroidered clothing, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Eve Peri papers were donated by Elizabeth Bullock and Judith Stein, executor and curator of the estate in 2001.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Eve Peri papers, circa 1900-1996, bulk 1939-1966. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center.

Biographical / Historical

Eve Peri (1897-1966) was a collagist, embroiderer, and painter active in New York City, New York.

Eve Peri was born in Bangor, Maine in 1897. From her mother and aunts, Peri learned traditional quilting and embroidery techniques. A largely self-trained artist, she used her skills to design clothing, tapestry,

and collages and also painted. She collaborated with her husband Alfonso Umana Mendez, a designer for Fred Leighton, designing women's embroidered clothing. After divorcing in 1939, she traveled around Europe and began to exhibit her works.

Peri moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania late in life and opened a gallery in New Hope to show her works. She died in 1966.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter and embroidery artist Eve Peri measure 0.6 linear feet and date from circa 1900 to 1996 with the bulk of materials dating from 1939 to 1966. The papers are scattered and include biographical materials, travel documents, correspondence, financial records, printed material, designs for embroidered clothing, and photographs.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as one series.

- Series 1: Eve Peri papers, circa 1900-1996 (0.6 linear feet; Box 1, OV2-3)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Collagists -- New York (State) -- New York
Embroidery
Fiberwork
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Occupations:

Fiber artists -- New York (State) -- New York
Women artists -- United States

Container Listing

Series 1: Eve Peri Papers, (bulk circa 1900-1996, bulk 1939-1966)

0.6 Linear feet (Box 1, OV 2-3)

The Eve Peri papers are scattered and consist of biographical material, correspondence, personal business records, printed material, artwork, and photographs.

Included are address books; a certificate; a clipping on John F. True, likely Peri's grandfather; estate records; calling cards and travel papers; copies of birth and divorce records; receipts, many from a trip to Rome in 1964; printed materials regarding Peri's art and general art; fragments of a mixed media scrapbook; and printed and original designs for clothing and embroidery.

Correspondence includes letters from friends and institutions. Signed letters are from the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, Flair Magazine, J.M. Joubert, and John Rothchild. Other letters are illegible, unsigned or with first names only. Letters from 1964 congratulate Peri on an exhibit of her works in Rome, Italy. Also found is an unsent letter from Peri to Wanda Nordstrom. Many of the clippings include designs of women's embroidered clothing designed by Peri. Photographs are of Peri, in her studio and working on her works of art; of friends and family; homes and buildings; travel; and of works of art.

Box 1, Folder 1	Address Book and Addresses, circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 2	Certificate, American Institute of Design, 1951
Box 1, Folder 3	Clipping, on John F. True, circa 1900
Box 1, Folder 4	Estate Records, circa 1996
Box 1, Folder 5	Identification and Calling Cards, circa 1950-1962
Box 1, Folder 6	Travel Papers and Passports, 1939-1960s
Box 1, Folder 7	Vital Records and Obituaries, circa 1960s
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence, circa 1900-circa 1966
Box 1, Folder 9	Correspondence, Others, 1903
Box 1, Folder 10	Financial Records, 1960s
Box 1, Folder 11	Travel Receipts, 1961-1963
Box 1, Folder 12	Bulletins and Press Releases, 1948-1949
Box 1, Folder 13	Clippings, 1947-1960s

Box 1, Folder 14	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1948-1996
Box 1, Folder 15	Magazines, 1950-1953
Box 1, Folder 16	Scrapbook Fragments, circa 1940-1960
Box 1, Folder 17	Designs for Clothing and Embroidery, Printed, circa 1940
Box 1, Folder 18	Designs for Embroidery, Original, circa 1940
Box 1, Folder 19	Photographs, Eve Peri, circa 1920s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 20	Photographs, Friends and Family, circa 1940s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 21	Photographs, Homes, circa 1910-circa 1950
Box 1, Folder 22	Photographs, Travel, circa 1920-circa 1940
Box 1, Folder 23	Photographs, Works of Art and Exhibitions, 1942-1963
Oversize 2	Oversized Photographs, circa 1940s-1960s
Oversize 3	Oversized Printed Material, circa 1920s-1960s

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