



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Edmund Quincy papers, 1891-1955, bulk 1935-1955, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Edmund Quincy papers
Date:	1891-1955 (bulk 1935-1955)
Identifier:	AAA.quinedmu
Creator:	Quincy, Edmund, 1903-1997
Extent:	0.7 Linear feet
Language:	The vast majority of the collection is in English; some records are in French.
Summary:	The papers of painter Edmund Quincy measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1891-1955, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1935-1955. In addition to biographical materials, letters, price lists, printed items, and a scrapbook documenting his painting career, Quincy's papers also include family photographs and a scrapbook concerning the political career of his father, Josiah Quincy, Mayor of Boston. Material concerning Quincy's father in some cases predates Quincy's birth. Also included are a diploma and drawings by Quincy.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were donated to the Archives of American Art in 2011 and 2014 by Hirschl & Adler.

Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimal level and a finding aid prepared by Harriet E. Shapiro in 2013. Minimal processing included arrangement to the series, subseries, and folder levels. Generally, items within folders were simply verified with folder titles, but not arranged further. Folders within boxes were not numbered. The collection was housed in archival containers and folders, but not all staples and clips were removed. Additional materials were accessioned and processed in 2014, the finding aid updated accordingly.

Preferred Citation

Edmund Quincy papers, 1891-1955, bulk, 1935-1955. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

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Biographical / Historical

Edmund Quincy (1903-1997) was a painter who lived and worked in New England and abroad. Born in Biarritz, France, and educated in the United States, Quincy was the descendant of three Boston mayors and related to President John Quincy Adams. He had solo exhibitions in Paris, London, New York, and other American cities. Quincy's work is in the permanent collections of the Grenoble Museum (France), Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and University of Arizona.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter Edmund Quincy measure 0.7 linear feet and date from 1891-1955, with the bulk of materials dated 1935 to 1955. In addition to biographical materials, letters, price lists, printed items, and a scrapbook documenting his painting career, Quincy's papers also include family photographs and a scrapbook concerning the political career of his father, Josiah Quincy, Mayor of Boston. Also included are a diploma and drawings.

Biographical materials include travel documents, student IDs and scattered personal items relating to Quincy and his father. Letters concern exhibitions and the sale of artwork. Quincy's writings are about the process of painting and research on Mexican painters Jose Clemente Orozco and Diego Rivera. Printed material includes items related to exhibitions, newspaper clippings, and publicity materials. The scrapbooks of clippings relating to Mayor Josiah Quincy provides insight into Boston politics during the period 1891-1913. Photographs are of Quincy, family and friends. Artwork consists of sketches and student work. The 2014 addition to the papers includes a diploma and assorted drawings.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in 8 series. Materials are generally arranged by record type and chronologically thereafter.

- Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 1911-1936 (Box 1; 1 folder)
 - Series 2: Letters, circa 1942-1946 (Box 1; 1 folder)
 - Series 3: Writings, circa 1935 (Box 1; 1 folder)
 - Series 4: Personal Business Records, circa 1935-1943 (Box 1; 1 folder)
 - Series 5: Printed Material, 1930-1955 (Box 1; 0.1 linear feet)
 - Series 6: Scrapbooks, 1891-1947 (Boxes 1-2; 0.2 linear feet)
 - Series 7: Photographs, circa 1892-circa 1940s (Box 1; 0.3 linear feet)
 - Series 8: Addition to the Edmund Quincy papers, circa 1930s-circa 1950s (Box 2; 0.1 linear feet)
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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:

Mayors -- Massachusetts -- Boston
Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Scrapbooks

Names:

Orozco, José Clemente, 1883-1949
Quincy, Josiah, 1859-1919
Rivera, Diego, 1886-1957

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 1911-1936

1 Folder (Box 1)

Language: English.
Scope and Contents: Items of note in this series include a draft resume hand written by Quincy, an analysis of Quincy's handwriting, passports and student cards from his studies abroad, and two Josiah Quincy campaign cards, circa 1919.

Box 1, Folder 1 Biographical Materials, 1911-1936

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Series 2: Letters, circa 1942-1946

1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Letters are from galleries including a letter from the Contemporary Arts Center (NY), which advises Quincy that his work has an "old-world-two-or-three decades-back sort of atmosphere."

Box 1, Folder 2 Letters, circa 1942-1946

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Series 3: Writings, circa 1935

1 Folder (Box 1)

Box 1, Folder 3

Scope and Contents: This series includes a twenty page handwritten draft of an essay on Mexican painter Jose Clemente Orozco. Also found are notes on the painting process that mention glazing and scumbling techniques, referring to specific colors and various effects.

Box 1, Folder 3 Writings, circa 1935

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Series 4: Personal Business Records, circa 1935-1943

1 Folder (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: There are two handwritten price lists concerning sales in the New York area and three exhibition price lists from shows at Contemporary Arts (New York), The Art Association of Newport (Rhode Island) and in Sarasota County, Florida.

Box 1, Folder 4 Price Lists, circa 1935-1943

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Series 5: Printed Material, 1930-1955

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Exhibition materials concern shows in the United States and France. Press releases appear to be from shows at the Contemporary Arts Gallery.

Box 1, Folder 5 Exhibition Materials, 1935-1955

Box 1, Folder 6 Phoenix News Publicity Bureau Press Releases, circa 1942

Box 1, Folder 7 Clippings, 1930-1945

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Series 6: Scrapbooks, 1891-1947

0.2 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Edmund Quincy's scrapbook contains biographical summaries and exhibition reviews from major newspapers such as *Chicago Sunday Tribune*, *The New York Times* and *London Morning Post*. There is a black and white photograph of the Quincy painting acquired by the University of Arizona in 1942. A letter from The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston reports interest in Quincy's work in the 1947 "Symphony Show." Other items relate to additional exhibitions of his artwork.

The "Hon. Josiah Quincy of Boston" scrapbook is annotated and filled with newspaper and magazine articles describing Mayor Quincy's contributions to the city.

Box 1, Folder 8 "Hon Josiah Quincy of Boston", 1891-1913

Box 2, Folder 1 Edmund Quincy Scrapbook, 1942-1947

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Series 7: Photographs, circa 1892-circa 1940s

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: There are black and white photographs of paintings by Quincy and two photographs of exhibition installations. Photographs of people appear to be of Quincy as a young child, Quincy with his father, and as a man in his 20s and 30s. There also are photographs of his mother, Josephine Biamonte Bordighera, other family members, and friends.

Box 1, Folder 9	Artwork, 1927-1945
Box 1, Folder 10	Family, circa 1892-circa 1940s
Box 1, Folder 11	Family and Friends, 1904-circa 1940s

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Series 8: Addition to the Edmund Quincy papers, circa 1930s-circa 1950s

0.1 Linear feet (Box 2)

Language: English.

Scope and This series consists of a diploma from the Societe Royale Saint Hubert and artwork by Quincy.

Contents: Artwork includes a few drawings in color; also found are studies of patterns and figure drawings, probably student work since grades appear on some items.

Box 2, Folder 2	Diploma, 1936
Box 2, Folder 3	Artwork - Figure Drawings, circa 1930s-circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 4	Artwork - Patterns, Still Lifes, Landscapes, circa 1930s-circa 1950s
Box 2, Folder 5	Artwork - Drawings, circa 1930s-circa 1950s

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