



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

RISD Museum of Art records

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	RISD Museum of Art records
<b>Date:</b>	[ca. 1877-1960]
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.rhodisla
<b>Creator:</b>	Rhode Island School of Design. Museum of Art
<b>Extent:</b>	17 Microfilm reels
<b>Language:</b>	Within the Directors' and Presidents' correspondence, there are three letters in German from Josef Albers, 1939-1940, seventeen letters in French from Desparmet Fitzgerald, a French art dealer, offering paintings for sale, 1932, and two letters in French from André Girodie, another French art dealer offering works for sale, 1922. In the Heinrich Schwarz correspondence, there are ca. 37 letters in German and ca. 17 letters in French chiefly from dealers and colleagues of Schwarz.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1985 by the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art.

### Location of Originals

Originals in the RISD Museum of Art, Providence, R.I.

### Other Finding Aids

Index to microfilm reels 3629-3645 compiled by John Carpenter of the RISD museum available in all Archives of American Art offices.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3629-3645 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

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

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, writings and notes, business records, scrapbooks and printed material.

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## Scope and Contents

"The Rhode Island School of Design: A Half Century Record (1879-1928)," by Elsie S. Bronson, A.M., 1928, providing historical information on the founding, organization, and activities of the school and museum; excerpts from RISD yearbooks pertaining to the museum, 1877-1944, including exhibitions (complete listing after 1901), loans, gifts, lectures, and prizes awarded from year to year; "Lists of articles belonging to RISD, 1898," a notebook containing handwritten lists of donations and donors and receipts of purchases of works of art and supplies needed for teaching;

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## Scope and Contents

Six volumes of minutes of the Museum committee, 1894-1950, also included within the volumes are museum "rules adopted before 1901," correspondence regarding the acquisition of a Chinese fresco, 1949, and a six-page undated list of "European Acquisitions" of drawings and prints including prices paid, names of dealers, and countries represented. Presidents' and Directors' correspondence with dealers, artists, curators, donors, educators, and others. Included in the Isaac Comstock Bates correspondence file are his will, a three-page memorial tribute to him, and a list of articles willed to the school by him. Also included are correspondence and writings of Heinrich Schwartz, Curator of Prints and Drawings;

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## Scope and Contents

exhibition files, 1885-1950, containing catalogues, price lists, checklists, insurance valuations, clippings, a few letters, an incomplete list of exhibitions (1885-1951), and a list of artists and titles of paintings in annual fall exhibitions; a scrapbook of Isaac Comstock Bates, 1877-1889, containing letters from artists and dealers; and 27 scrapbooks, 1877-1889, containing clippings, notices, and catalogues relating to the school and museum.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Functions:

Art museums, University and college -- Rhode Island -- Providence