A Finding Aid to the Enrique Riverón Papers, 1918-1990s, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art  
Title: Enrique Riverón papers  
Identifier: AAA.riveenri  
Date: 1918-1990s  
Extent: 3.3 Linear feet  
Creator: Riverón, Enrique  
Language: The records are in English and Spanish.  
Summary: The papers of Enrique Riverón measure 3.3 linear feet and date from 1918-1990s. The collection contains correspondence, writings, diary entries, scrapbooks, printed material, and photographs documenting Riverón's career as an illustrator, cartoonist, painter and sculptor in the United States and Cuba and, to a lesser extent, Riverón's teaching career at Wichita University in Kansas.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The Enrique Riverón papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by Patricia Riverón Lee, daughter of Riverón, in 1996.

Related Material
The Archives of American Art also has a collection of Enrique Riverón letters to Mario Carreño, 1981-1990, in which Riverón writes of their mutual friends, his memories of Cuba, health issues, politics, pricing paintings, collages, and his longings for Paris and New York.

Processing Information
The collection was processed by Rosa M. Fernandez in 1997. The finding aid was written by Stephanie Ashley in 2002.

Preferred Citation
Enrique Riverón papers, 1918-1990s. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access
The collection is open for research. Use requires an appointment.
Ownership and Literary Rights

The Enrique Riverón papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical Note

Painter, sculptor, cartoonist, and illustrator Enrique Riverón was born in 1902 in Cienfuegos, Cuba and belonged to the first generation of Cuban modernists, experimenting with Cubism and pursuing abstraction from very early on in his career. During his early twenties Riverón traveled to France, Italy, Belgium, and Spain to study under scholarships and attend the Academia de San Fernando in Madrid. In 1926 Riverón's first major one-man exhibition took place at the Association Paris Amerique Latine where the catalog introduction was written by noted Mexican writer Alfonso Reyes.

In 1927 Riverón returned to Havana and had a one-man show of his European work at the Asociación de Pintores y Escultores, as well as several other shows in Havana and New York. He moved to the United States in 1930 and became a United States citizen in 1943.

In addition to being known for his naturalistic drawings of street life in Paris and Cuba, Riverón began working with collage in the 1930s and was, for a number of years, a cartoonist for newspapers in Havana and other publications such as The New Yorker and Cine Mundial which was published in New York and widely circulated in Latin America. He also worked in Hollywood for a time as an illustrator for Walt Disney Pictures.

From 1940 on, Riverón focused on painting and sculpture. He moved to Miami from Wichita, Kansas, in 1964. Enrique Riverón died in 1998.

Scope and Content Note

The Enrique Riverón papers measure 3.3 linear feet, date from 1918-1990s and document Riverón's career as an illustrator, cartoonist, painter and sculptor in the United States and Cuba and, to a lesser extent, his teaching career at Wichita University in Kansas. The collection includes correspondence, the majority of which concerns Riverón's exhibitions; writings, primarily Riverón's recollections of his trips to Paris and Madrid and his memories of people he met in Latin America, Europe, and the United States; printed material documenting exhibitions and Riverón's work for magazines such as Cine-Mundial and Bally-Hoo; and photographs.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into eight series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1929-1960 (Box 1; 2 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1918-1991 (box 1, 0.6 ft.)
- Series 3: Writings, 1923-1980s, undated (box 1, 0.2 ft.)
- Series 4: Scrapbooks, 1920s-1990s, undated (boxes 1, 3, and 4, 0.7 ft.)
- Series 5: Artwork, 1958-1983, undated (boxes 1 and 5, 0.4 ft.)
- Series 6: Printed Material, circa 1930-1992 (boxes 2 and 5, 0.7 ft.)
• Series 7: Photographs, 1918-1992, undated (boxes 2, 5 and 6, 0.6 ft.)
• Series 8: Miscellany, 1927-1989, undated (box 6, 7 folders)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Artists -- Cuba
Artists -- Florida -- Miami
Caricatures and cartoons
Cuban American art
Cuban American artists
Expatriate artists -- Florida -- Miami
Illustrators
Magazine illustration
Sculptors -- Florida -- Miami

Types of Materials:
Photographs
Scrapbooks

Names:
Baker, Josephine, 1906-1975
Bermúdez, Cundo, 1914-
Cantinflas, 1911-1993
Carreño, Mario
Carreño, Mario -- Photographs
Cugat, Xavier, 1900- -- Photographs
De Diego, Julio, 1900-
García Lorca, Federico, 1898-1936
Gattorno, Antonio
Gómez Sicre, José
Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967
Kiki, 1901-1953
Lozano Castro, Alfredo
Milland, Ray -- Photographs
Neruda, Pablo, 1904-1973 -- Photographs
Orozco, José Clemente, 1883-1949 -- Photographs
Peláez, Amelia, 1897-1968 -- Photographs
Picasso, Pablo, 1881-1973
Pidgeon, Walter, 1897-
Prohias, Antonio
Rebajes, Pauline
Reed, Alma M. -- Photographs
Russell, Rosalind -- Photographs
Salinas, Baruj
Sicre, Juan José -- Photographs
Siqueiros, David Alfaro -- Photographs
Tamayo, Rufino, 1899- -- Photographs
Waguermert, Luis Gomez -- Photographs
Wichita State University -- Faculty
Yunkers, Adja, 1900-

Occupations:
Cartoonists
Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1929-1960

2 Folders (Box 1)

Box 1, Folder 1  Membership Cards, 1936-1944
Box 1, Folder 2  Diary Pages, circa 1929-1960
Series 2: Correspondence, 1918-1991, undated

0.6 Linear feet (Box 1)

Correspondence found in this series is with artists and others including Mario Carreño, Julio de Diego, Antonio Gattorno, Alfredo Lozano, Antonio Prohias, Pauline and Frank Rebajes, Baruj Salina, José Gómez Sicre, Adja Yunkers, and others. Much of the correspondence concerns Riverón's exhibitions. Folders may contain letters, postcards, and related material to and/or from Riverón.

The series is arranged alphabetically by individual or subject with one folder at the end of the series from a group of individuals concerning a publication.

Box 1, Folder 3         Antonio, José, 1934
Box 1, Folder 4         Arroyo, Ramon, 1935, 1962-1984
Box 1, Folder 5         Badá, José Manuel, 1966-1967
Box 1, Folder 6         Bens, José M., Colegio de Arquitectos de Cuba en el Exilio, 1969
Box 1, Folder 7-11      Carreño, Mario, 1941-1990
Box 1, Folder 12        Casado, Antonio F., 1945
Box 1, Folder 13-14     Casado, Juan José M., 1950-1982
Box 1, Folder 15        Casagrán, Jesús M., 1948-1949
Box 1, Folder 16        Cecilia, Román and Jermaine, 1953-1991
Box 1, Folder 17        Chávez, Camilio G., Lte. Colonel Jefe del Cuerpo de Aviación, 1947
Box 1, Folder 18        Dale, 1987
Box 1, Folder 19        Davidson, John, 1948-1949
Box 1, Folder 20        Davila, Alberto, 1961, 1965
Box 1, Folder 21        De Diego, Julio, 1935-1977
Box 1, Folder 22        Delhart, Adria (Riverón's first wife), 1926
Box 1, Folder 23-27     Exhibitions (letters concerning), 1927-1990
Box 1, Folder 28        Fernandez, Antonio, 1937
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Name/Event</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Galeria Sudamericana</td>
<td>1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Garcia, Leandro</td>
<td>1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Garmendia, Andrés</td>
<td>1962-1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gattorno, Antonio and Isabel</td>
<td>1947-1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Girona, Julio</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Goodall, Donald to Richard Shack</td>
<td>1981 (about Riverón; see also Shack, Richard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Hidalgo (illustrated letter)</td>
<td>1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Hughes, Langston</td>
<td>1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>John Heller Gallery</td>
<td>1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Losado, Jorge</td>
<td>1978-1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-42</td>
<td>Lozano, Alfredo</td>
<td>1967-1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Maribona, Armando</td>
<td>1951, 1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Marinello, Juan</td>
<td>1928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Massaguer, Conrado W.</td>
<td>1935, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Matiz, Leo</td>
<td>1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Meilach, Dona Z.</td>
<td>1967-1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td><em>Miami Herald</em> and <em>Vida</em></td>
<td>1973, 1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Morandeyra, Mary</td>
<td>1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td><em>La Nacion</em> Newspaper</td>
<td>1933-1934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 1, Folder 51  O'Brien de Lacy de Burickas, Nelly, undated
Box 1, Folder 52  Padilla, Manuel Castro, Union Mexican de Autores, 1935
Box 1, Folder 53-54  Prohias, Antonio, 1975-1984
Box 1, Folder 55  Pujol, R. A., 1952
Box 1, Folder 56  Ramirez, Eduardo Aviles, 1980
Box 1, Folder 57-59  Rebajes, Francisco, 1943-1985
Box 1, Folder 60-61  Rebajes, Frank and Pauline, 1952, 1960-1983, undated
Box 1, Folder 62  Reed, Alma, 1935-1965
Box 1, Folder 63  Reyes, Alfonso, 1926
Box 1, Folder 64  Riverón, Enrique (handwritten note and postcards), 1918-1925, 1948, undated
Box 1, Folder 65  Roselló, 1966-1967
Box 1, Folder 66  Salazar, Toño, 1932
Box 1, Folder 67  Sandri, Alberto C., 1930
Box 1, Folder 68  Salinas, Baruj, 1976-1983
Box 1, Folder 69  Salinas, Baruj, Cousin of, 1982
Box 1, Folder 70-71  Sanchez, Guillermo, 1977
Box 1, Folder 72  Shack, Richard, 1981 (see also Donald Goodall)
Box 1, Folder 73-74  Sicre, José Gómez, 1959-1985
Box 1, Folder 75  Sicre, Juan José, 1967-1972
Box 1, Folder 76  Simoni, John P., 1965
Box 1, Folder 77  Townsend, Leo, Modern Screen Magazine, 1936, 1938
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 78</th>
<th>Unidentified Individuals, 1952, 1959, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 79</td>
<td>Various Individuals, 1918-1985, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 80</td>
<td>Vilá, H. Portell (includes illustrated letters), 1969-1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 81</td>
<td>Velix, F. R., 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 82</td>
<td>Wanguemert, Luis Gomez, 1941-1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 85-86</td>
<td>Yunkers, Adya, 1960-1967, 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 87</td>
<td>Letters signed by Riverón, José Ramon Garcia, Pedrosa and Guillermo Martinez Marquez concerning start of a magazine, 1978, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Series 3: Writings, 1923-1980s, undated

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Writings by Riverón found here primarily constitute his recollections of his trips to Paris and Madrid, and of the people he met in Latin America, Europe and the United States including Josephine Baker, Langston Hughes, Federico García Lorca, Kiki de Montparnasse, Mario Moreno [Cantinflas], Pablo Picasso, and Walter Pidgeon. The series also includes poetry, notes on art and film projects, childhood recollections and scattered diary entries, including an entry about Riverón’s father’s visit from Cuba in 1947.

The series is arranged alphabetically by the subject Riverón writes about or the title of a piece of writing. One of the folders contains poems written by Ramon Rebajes for Riverón which is interfiled alphabetically by Rebajes last name.

Box 1, Folder 88 Art, 1960s-1980s
Box 1, Folder 89 Baker, Josephine, 1969
Box 1, Folder 90 Benavente, Jacinto, 1969
Box 1, Folder 91 Cantinflas, Mario Moreno, 1969
Box 1, Folder 92 Childhood, circa 1980
Box 1, Folder 93 de Montparnasse, Kiki, 1969
Box 1, Folder 94 Don Senén Y Jacobito, by Riverón, 1923
Box 1, Folder 95 Garcia, Victor Manuel, 1982
Box 1, Folder 96 Gomez de la Serna, Ramon, 1969
Box 1, Folder 97 Hughes, Langston, 1969
Box 1, Folder 98 John Smith in Mexico, Essay by Riverón, 1948
Box 1, Folder 99 Lorca, Federico Garcia, 1969
Box 1, Folder 100 The Mind’s Potential, Essay by Riverón, 1969
Box 1, Folder 101 Miscellaneous Writings, 1950, undated
Box 1, Folder 102 El Nuevo Herald, Handwritten Essay, undated
Box 1, Folder 103 Paris Trip, circa 1985
Box 1, Folder 104  Picasso, Pablo, 1969
Box 1, Folder 105  Pidgeon, Walter, 1969
Box 1, Folder 106-107  Poems, 1930s, 1972-1975
Box 1, Folder 108  Poem to Julio De Diego, 1975
Box 1, Folder 109  Rebajes, Ramon, Poems Written for Riverón, circa 1930s
Box 1, Folder 110  Recuerdos de Un Viage a Isla Anglesa, [1947]
Box 1, Folder 111  Rubenstein, Helen, 1969
Box 1, Folder 112  "Seven White Birds" Idea for Film, 1976
Box 1, Folder 113  Sketch of Rome, 1926
Box 1, Folder 114  Social Gatherings in Madrid, 1931, undated
Box 1, Folder 115  Sunset on the Beach, 1970

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Series 4: Scrapbooks, 1920s-1990s, undated

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 1, 3, 4)

Scrapbooks found in this series contain clippings, printed cartoons and illustrations, photographs, and reviews of exhibitions from the United States and Latin American newspapers.

Box 1, Folder 116   Scrapbook, 1924-1926

Box 1, Folder 117   Scrapbook of Cartoon Illustrations for *Cine-Mundial* and Other Magazines, 1930s-1940s

Box 1, Folder 118   Scrapbook of Caricatures for *Cine-Mundial* and *Bally Hoo*, 1930s-1940s

Box 1, Folder 119   Scrapbooks of Cartoons and Caricatures, 1940s

Box 1, Folder 120   Scrapbook of Caricatures on Photo Paper, undated

Box 3, Folder 1    Scrapbook, 1930s-1960s

Box 3, Folder 2    Scrapbook, 1950s-1990s

Box 4, Folder 1    Scrapbooks, 1920s-1930s

Box 4, Folder 2    Scrapbook, 1922-1941

Box 4, Folder 3    Scrapbook, 1930s-1950s

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0.4 Linear feet (Boxes 1, 5)

Box 1, Folder 121  Original Color Drawing of Riverón by Unknown Artist, 1958

Box 1, Folder 122  Birthday Card by Riverón, 1978 or 1983

Box 5, Folder 1  *Africanismo Calido*, Handmade Book with Original Illustrations by Riverón, undated

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Series 6: Printed Material, circa 1930-1992

0.7 Linear feet (Boxes 2, 5)

Printed Material found here includes exhibition announcements and catalogs, clippings, and magazines such as *Cine Mundial* and *Bally-Hoo* featuring Riverón's caricatures.

Box 2, Folder 1-6  Clippings, circa 1930s-1983, undated  
(6 folders)

Box 2, Folder 7  Periodicals with Articles Mentioning Riverón, 1966-1967, 1980

Box 2, Folder 8  Clippings about Riverón Including *The Miami Reporter*, 1987, 1992, undated

Box 2, Folder 9  Articles by Riverón, 1936, undated

Box 2, Folder 10  Clippings Concerning Poetry Contest in which Riverón Participated, 1983

Box 2, Folder 11-13  Magazines Containing Riverón's Work or Reviews of his Work, 1932-1981

Box 2, Folder 14-16  Exhibition Invitations and Catalogs to Solo Exhibitions, 1936-1987

Box 2, Folder 17-22  Exhibition Invitations and Catalogs for Group Shows with Riverón, 1931-1990s

Box 2, Folder 23  Exhibitions Invitations and Catalogs for Other Artists, 1945-1961, undated

Box 2, Folder 24  Periodical, *Modern Hispanic Magazine*, 1935


Box 2, Folder 26  Illustration of Hollywood Celebrities, 1938

Box 2, Folder 27  School of the Wichita Art Association Calendars, 1949-1955

Box 2, Folder 28  Cartoons/Illustrations for *Cine Mundial*, 1932-1938, undated

Box 2, Folder 29  Cartoons/Illustrations for *Cine Mundial* and Others, 1931-1934, 1957, undated

Box 2, Folder 30  Magazine Articles About Riverón's Caricatures, 1947-1965

Box 2, Folder 31  Restaurant Menus Illustrated by Riverón, 1937, 1944, 1957, undated

Box 2, Folder 32  Magazines with Riverón Caricatures and Illustrations, 1943-1947

Box 2, Folder 33  Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1934
Box 5, Folder 2  Caricatures of Movie Actors Printed in *Modern Screen* Magazine, 1938

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Series 7: Photographs, 1918-1992, undated

0.6 Linear feet (Boxes 2, 5, 6)

This series contains photographs of Riverón, his wife Noella, his first wife Adria Delhortt Riverón, and others including Cundo Bermudez, Mario Carreño, Xavier Cugat, Ray Milland, Mario Moreno [Cantinflas], Pablo Neruda, Jose Clemente Orozco, Amelia Pelá, Alma Reed, Rosalind Russell, Juan José Sicre, David Alfaro Siqueiros, Rufino Tamayo, and Peláez Waguemert.

Photographs are arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Box 2, Folder 34-40  Photographs of Artwork, 1931-circa 1980
Box 2, Folder 41  Photographs of A. Lozano's Artwork (3) and Invitation to Lozano Exhibition, 1971-1972, 1992
Box 2, Folder 42  Photographs of Riverón, undated
Box 2, Folder 43  Photographs of Riverón, Family, and Friends, circa 1918-1930s (6 folders)
Box 5, Folder 3  Photographs of Riverón, undated
Box 5, Folder 4  Photographs of Hollywood Set "Life Is A Stage," 1935
Box 5, Folder 5  Photographs of Riverón and Scenes of Cuba, 1952, 1964, undated
Box 6, Folder 1-8  Photographs of Riverón, Family, and Friends, 1930s-1980s
Box 6, Folder 9-10  Photographs of Riverón, Family, and Friends, Unidentified and, undated

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Series 8: Miscellany, 1927-1989, undated

7 Folders (Box 6)

Box 6, Folder 11  Check Stubs from Contract Work for Caricatures, 1927-1928
Box 6, Folder 12  Riverón's File on Ramon Arroyo, Clippings of Caricatures, 1983
Box 6, Folder 13  Riverón's File on Mario Carreño, 1969, 1980-1989
Box 6, Folder 14  Riverón's File on Juan José M. Casado, 1977, 1987, undated
Box 6, Folder 15  Riverón's File on A. Gattorno, 1975, 1979-1980
Box 6, Folder 16  Riverón's File on Antonio Prohias, 1978, undated
Box 6, Folder 17  Announcement of Juan José Sicre's Death, undated

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