



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Albert Rosenthal papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Albert Rosenthal papers
Date:	1860-1940
Identifier:	AAA.rosealbp
Creator:	Rosenthal, Albert, 1863-1939
Extent:	2.4 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Albert Duveen, 1959. Duveen collected American artists' and art related papers with the intention of forming an American artists reference facility. He purchased at least some of Rosenthal's papers and much correspondence from the Albert Rosenthal Estate, and subsequently gave them to AAA upon its formation.

Other Finding Aids

Finding aid available at Archives of American Art offices.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels D34-D37 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Albert Rosenthal (1863-1939) was a portrait painter, printmaker, writer, and collector in Philadelphia, Pa. Rosenthal was a student of his father, engraver Max Rosenthal, and later published a book about him. He is also known for his portraits of Supreme Court Justices, and his collection of American drawings, which he donated to the Free Library of Philadelphia in 1927.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, printed material, and photographs relating to Rosenthal's work, primarily as a portrait painter and collector of American art and artists' papers. Some material pertains to Rosenthal's father, the engraver Max Rosenthal.

Scope and Contents

Included are: biographical notes and articles by and about Rosenthal and his father, Max; writings by Albert about his father; and reproductions of Albert's work.

Scope and Contents

Rosenthal's research material on early American art consists of articles on artists, notes about portrait painters, typescript copies of letters of or about early American artists, among them Rembrandt Peale, G.P.A. Healy, and John Rampage, several original letters, including 5 from John Quincy Adams Ward to various people, and one from Ben Silliman to Asher B. Durand, and an engraved copy of a letter from Ben Franklin to Mr. Strahan, July 5, 1775.

Scope and Contents

Other material includes files on Rosenthal's portraits of French officers who served in the American Revolution; Gilbert Stuart's (George) Washington portraits, 1922-1923; the Rodin Museum in Philadelphia (includes correspondence with Jules Mastbaum, the founder of the museum, and others, 1925-1932); Jean Antoine Houdon's busts of Washington and Lafayette, 1925-1932; Harry T. Peters' book "America on Stone", 1931; and on "Rosenthal," Albert's home that was originally the Huffinagle mansion in Buck's County, Pa.

Scope and Contents

There is voluminous business and other correspondence, 1860-1940, relating to Max, Louis, and Albert Rosenthal's work and to Albert's portraits of Supreme Court Justices. Among the diverse group of correspondents are: Samuel Putnam Avery, William Hunt Diederich, Charles Henry Hart, Sakakichi Hartmann, Oliver Wendell Holmes, A. Mitchell Palmer, Alfred Stieglitz, William Howard Taft, and J. Alden Weir.

Scope and Contents

Photographs are of Rosenthal's work and of unidentified portraits possibly by Rosenthal; reproductions of European paintings, miniatures, sculptures; and miscellaneous portraits by various artists.

Scope and Contents

Unmicrofilmed material (0.4 feet) consists of miscellaneous photographs and reproductions.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art, American

Judges -- United States -- Portraits
Portrait painting -- United States
Portrait painting, American

Names:

Avery, Samuel Putnam, 1822-1904
Diederich, William Hunt, 1884-1953
Durand, Asher Brown, 1796-1886
Franklin, Benjamin, 1706-1790
Hart, Charles Henry, 1847-1918
Hartmann, Sadakichi, 1867-1944
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935
Houdon, Jean Antoine, 1741-1828
Palmer, Alexander Mitchell, 1872-1936
Peters, Harry Twyford, 1881-1948.
Rodin Museum (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Rosenthal, Max, 1833-1918
Silliman, Benjamin, 1779-1864
Stieglitz, Alfred, 1864-1946
Stuart, Gilbert, 1755-1828
Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930
Ward, John Quincy Adams, 1830-1910
Washington, George, 1732-1799 -- Portraits
Weir, Julian Alden, 1852-1919

Occupations:

Etchers
Painters