



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

John Sennhauser papers

Archives of American Art
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Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | John Sennhauser papers |
| Identifier: | AAA.sennjohn |
| Date: | 1931-1990 |
| Extent: | 335 Items (Reel N70-33) 1.5 Linear feet (Unmicrofilmed) |
| Creator: | Sennhauser, John, 1907-1978 |
| Language: | Achinese . |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reel N70-33 was lent for microfilming 1970 by John Sennhauser. In 2002 an additional 1.2 feet was donated by the John Sennhauser Trust.

Location of Originals

Reel N70-33: Originals returned to John Sennhauser after microfilming.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel N70-33 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. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Painter and designer; New York, N.Y. Born 1907 in Rorschah, Switzerland. Died 1978. Sennhauser was an abstract artist who began to explore non-objectivity as a mode of expression in the late 1930s. He joined the American Abstract Artists in 1945 and pursued that direction in his work until the late 1950s when he returned to representation. Trained at the Royal Academy in Venice, he immigrated to the United States from Switzerland in 1928 at age twenty-one. In New York he took up romantic urban street subjects, but while a student at the Cooper Union Art School his interests shifted to geometric forms. In 1943 he joined the staff of the Museum of Non-objective Painting as lecturer and preparator and his own inclinations towards abstraction were thereby reinforced.

Scope and Contents

REEL N70-33: Correspondence with the Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors, the Guggenheim Foundation (John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation), letters, among them 2 concerning the death of Otto Botto; catalogs, photographs; and a scrapbook.

Scope and Contents

UNMICROFILMED: Biographical material; letters from galleries, museums, and others; sketchbooks and sketches; financial records; photographs of Sennhauser and photos, negatives and slides of works of art; an inventory of art works (3 x 5 card file); financial records; clippings, exhibition catalogs and announcements and other printed material.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painting, Abstract

Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks

Names:

Botto, Otto, 1903-1967

Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

Occupations:

Painters -- California

Painters -- New York (State) -- New York