



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Emily Guthrie Smith Papers, 1941-1979, in the Archives of American Art

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Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2023/01/25

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Emily Guthrie Smith papers
Date:	1941-1979
Identifier:	AAA.smitemil
Creator:	Smith, Emily Guthrie, 1909-
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of painter and educator Emily Guthrie Smith measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1941 to 1979. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, photographs of Smith with her art, and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

A portion of the collection was donated in January 1979 by Smith and microfilmed on reel 1514. Additional material was loaned for microfilming on reels 1597 and 1701-1702 in January 1979 and returned to the donor. With the exception of the photograph album, sketches, and sketchbooks, this material was subsequently donated in October 1979.

Separated Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds microfilm of material lent for microfilming on reels 1701-1702, 1597. Reel 1597 contains sketches and sketchbooks of figure studies, still lifes, and portraits; a photograph album containing snapshots of paintings and drawings; and photographs of Smith and others. Reels 1701-1702 contain two scrapbooks containing clippings, exhibition catalogs and announcements and notes about paintings sold; exhibition catalogs; letters from patrons, friends, and colleagues; autographed books; and an inventory of art work in Smith's personal collection and files on the artists represented. This material was returned to Smith after microfilming and is not described in the collection container inventory.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reel 1514, 1597, and 1701-1702 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

Portions of the collection were microfilmed upon receipt onto reel 1514. The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Emily Guthrie Smith papers, 1941-1979. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

Fort Worth, Texas painter Emily Guthrie Smith (1909-1986) was known for her portraits and still lifes.

In 1931 Smith studied under Robert Brackman at the Art Students League in New York City, and later with Mitchell Jamieson and Frederic Taubes. She pursued a career in painting portraits, landscapes, and still lifes in Fort Worth while also teaching workshops and classes in Texas, Nevada, and New Mexico.

Smith's work is represented in museums in Texas and elsewhere, as well as in private collections, and she was a member of multiple art associations.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of painter and educator Emily Guthrie Smith measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1941 to 1979. Found are biographical materials, correspondence, photographs of Smith with her art, and printed material.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Scrapbooks
- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks

Occupations:

Educators -- Texas -- Fort Worth

Painters -- Texas -- Fort Worth

Container Listing

Series 1: Emily Guthrie Smith Papers, 1941-1979

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical materials include a biographical sketch, a resume, and hand-written price lists from a 1978 exhibition. Also found are two papers on Smith written by students Janne Goldbeck and Bill Boudra. Correspondence relates to Smith's career and is with institutions such as the Texas Fine Arts Association. Notable correspondents include Electra Waggoner Biggs and many of the letters are congratulatory notes to Smith concerning exhibitions. Photographs depict Emily Guthrie Smith with her art, including the Western Hills Hotel mural, and with others. Printed materials include exhibition announcements and catalogs.

Box 1, Folder 1 Biographical Material, circa 1960-1978

Box 1, Folder 2 Correspondence, 1941-1978

Box 1, Folder 3 Photographs, 1951-1960s

Box 1, Folder 4-5 Printed Material, 1960-1979

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