



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Barbara Swan letters to Rosalind and Edwin Miller

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Barbara Swan letters to Rosalind and Edwin Miller
Identifier:	AAA.swanbarb
Date:	1961-1991
Extent:	0.8 Linear feet ((microfilmed on 1 reel))
Creator:	Swan, Barbara, 1922-
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1992 by Rosalind Miller.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4882 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

Swan, a painter, draftsman, and lithographer from Boston, Mass., was friends of Rosalind Miller, a professor of psychiatric social work at Columbia University, and Edwin Miller, a Walt Whitman scholar and biographer of Herman Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne. The Millers are collectors of American textiles.

Scope and Contents

Swan, writing to her friends Rosalind and Edwin Miller, discusses her husband Alan Fink's positions as an art dealer and owner of the Alpha Gallery in Boston, mentioning artists Milton Avery, Gregory Gillespie, Don Gustin, Ellsworth Kelly, Boris Mirski, and Andy Stevovich. She writes also about her son Aaron's art career and daughter Joanna's career as assistant to Alan, her health problems dealing with lupus, family vacations and activities with Swan's mother and aunt, Peter and Edith Milton, and Bernard and Ninon

Chaet, her numerous trips to New York and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston for various art openings; and her friendship with poet Anne Sexton.

Scope and Contents

Other topics include her painting career, including illustrating Sexton's versions of Grimm's fairytales, portraits of various friends and commissions, exhibitions, painting style, and inspirations for her bottle and quarry reflection paintings.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women artists

Names:

Alpha Gallery (Boston, Mass.)
Chaet, Bernard
Fink, Aaron, 1955-
Fink, Alan, 1925-
Fink, Joanna Elizabeth, 1958-
Gustin, Dan
Miller, Edwin Haviland
Miller, Rosalind S., 1923-
Milton, Peter, 1930-
Sexton, Anne
Stevovich, Andrew, 1948-