



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Barbara Swan papers

Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Barbara Swan papers
Date:	1927-1992
Identifier:	AAA.swanbarp
Creator:	Swan, Barbara, 1922-
Extent:	820 Items ((partially microfilmed on 2 reels)) 3 Linear feet (Addition)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reels 826-827 was lent for microfilming in June of 1974 by Barbara Swan. She donated the photographs of Ellsworth Kelly in December 1974, and letters, writings, exhibition catalogs and miscellaneous printed material in 1992. Additional papers are expected.

Location of Originals

Reels 826-827: Originals returned to Swan after microfilming.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 826-827 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, illustrator, draftsman, and lithographer; Boston, Mass. Studied at School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston under Karl Zerbe. Ellsworth Kelly was also a student there. Swan collaborated as an illustrator with poets Anne Sexton and Maxine Kumin.

Scope and Contents

REELS 826-827: 697 letters, including letters to her parents and her future husband Alan Fink, and letters from Bernard Chaet, Maxine Kumin, Tillie Olsen, Anne Sexton, Andrew Stevovich, Elbert Weinberg, and the Cober Gallery; a 15-page diary; a scrapbook containing photographs, clippings, catalogs and miscellany; and many loose clippings and catalogs.

Scope and Contents

UNMICROFILMED: Photographs of Swan, Ellsworth Kelly, and other students of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston School; letters relating to Swan's career and from friends and relatives, including Bernard and Ninon Chaet and Edwin and Rosalind Miller; Christmas cards by Swan and other artists; drafts and a transcription of a talk by Swan on Harold Tovish; exhibition announcements and catalogs; clippings; and printed material on Anne Sexton.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women illustrators
- Women painters

Names:

- Chaet, Bernard
- Chaet, Ninon
- Fink, Alan, 1925-
- Kelly, Ellsworth, 1923-
- Kumin, Maxine, 1925-
- Miller, Edwin Haviland
- Miller, Rosalind S., 1923-
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. School
- Olsen, Tillie
- Sexton, Anne
- Tovish, Harold, 1921-2008
- Weinberg, Elbert, 1928-

Occupations:

- Draftsmen (artists) -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Illustrators
- Lithographers -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Poets