



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Ninfa Valvo Papers
Regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum,
1930-1973, in the Archives of American Art

Rihoko Ueno

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Ninfa Valvo papers regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum
Identifier:	AAA.valvninf
Date:	1930-1973
Extent:	2 Linear feet
Creator:	Valvo, Ninfa, 1900-1993
Language:	English
Summary:	The papers of curator Ninfa Valvo regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum measure 2 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1973. The papers mostly consist of material related to the de Young Museum in the form of administration records, photographs of exhibition installations and artwork, and museum programs and calendars.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum were donated by Ninfa Valvo in 1975.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Rihoko Ueno in 2020.

Preferred Citation

Ninfa Valvo papers regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, circa 1930 to 1973.
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

Ninfa Valvo (1900-1993) was the curator of painting and sculpture at the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum in San Francisco, California, from 1931 to 1965. The de Young Museum is one of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

Scope and Contents

The papers of curator Ninfa Valvo regarding the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum measure 2 linear feet and date from 1930 to 1973. The papers mostly consist of material related to the de Young Museum in the form of administration records, photographs of exhibition installations and artwork, and museum programs and calendars.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 3 series.

- Series 1: Administration Records, 1934-circa 1965 (0.2 linear feet; Box 1)
 - Series 2: Printed Material, 1930-1973 (1 linear feet; Boxes 1-2)
 - Series 3: Photographs, circa 1931-circa 1965 (0.8 linear feet; Box 2)
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Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

M.H. De Young Memorial Museum

Occupations:

Art museum curators -- California -- San Francisco

Container Listing

Series 1: Administration Records, 1934-circa 1965

This series consists of a range of administrative records of the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum including by-laws, information on past museum directors, art inventories, summaries of the museum history, information on Russian paintings, announcements of appointments to the museum staff and board, and other miscellaneous material.

Box 1, Folder 1	By-Laws for Board of Trustees, 1959
Box 1, Folder 2	Director Walter Heil, 1939, circa 1955-1965
Box 1, Folder 3	Director Walter Heil Photographs, circa 1953-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 4	Eleanor Roosevelt Letter, 1945
Box 1, Folder 5	Gifts and Loans of Paintings, 1943-1961
Box 1, Folder 6	Inventory of Art in Museum Permanent Collection and Other Collections, circa 1965
Box 1, Folder 7	Inventory of Art in Museum Permanent Collection and Other Collections, circa 1965
Box 1, Folder 8	Inventory of Paintings, circa 1940-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 9	Museum History Summaries, circa 1921-circa 1960
Box 1, Folder 10	Russian Paintings and Sculptures Inventory and Records, circa 1941-1953
Box 1, Folder 11	Russian Paintings Exhibition, 1959
Box 1, Folder 12	Russian Paintings File - <i>Soviet Art</i> Exhibition Catalog, 1934-1935
Box 1, Folder 13	Staff and Board of Trustees Appointments, 1958-1965

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Series 2: Printed Material, 1930-1973

This series consists of press releases, monthly programs, event calendars, and miscellaneous material. The M. H. de Young Memorial Museum and the California Palace of the Legion of Honor are both part of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (FAMSF), so this series includes printed material from other museums although most of the material is from the de Young Museum.

Box 1, Folder 14	M. H. de Young Museum Clippings about Oakes Collection, 1930-1957
Box 1, Folder 15	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1940-1944
Box 1, Folder 16	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1945-1949
Box 1, Folder 17	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1950-1954
Box 1, Folder 18	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1955-1959
Box 1, Folder 19	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1960-1964
Box 1, Folder 20	M. H. de Young Museum Monthly Programs, 1965-1970
Box 1, Folder 21	M. H. de Young Museum Press Releases about Kress Collection, 1955-1961
Box 1, Folder 22	M. H. de Young Museum Press Releases about Oakes Collection, 1953-1963
Box 1, Folder 23	M. H. de Young Museum Press Releases about Permanent Collection, 1948-1964
Box 1, Folder 24	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1951-1952
Box 1, Folder 25	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1953-1954
Box 1, Folder 26	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1955-1956
Box 1, Folder 27	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1957-1958
Box 1, Folder 28	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1959-1960
Box 1, Folder 29	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1961-1962
Box 1, Folder 30	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1963-1964
Box 1, Folder 31	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1965-1966

Box 1, Folder 32	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1967-1968
Box 1, Folder 33	California Palace of the Legion of Honor Monthly Programs, 1969-1970
Box 1, Folder 34	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1951-1955
Box 1, Folder 35	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1956-1959
Box 1, Folder 36	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1960
Box 1, Folder 37	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1961
Box 1, Folder 38	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1962
Box 1, Folder 39	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Programs, 1963
Box 1, Folder 40	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1964
Box 1, Folder 41	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1965
Box 1, Folder 42	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1966-1967
Box 2, Folder 1	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1968
Box 2, Folder 2	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1969
Box 2, Folder 3	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1970
Box 2, Folder 4	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1971
Box 2, Folder 5	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1972
Box 2, Folder 6	San Francisco Museum of Art Monthly Event Calendars, 1973
Box 2, Folder 7	San Francisco Quarterly Calendars, 1971-1972
Box 2, Folder 8	San Francisco Quarterly Calendars, 1973
Box 2, Folder 9	Printed Material on Exhibition at Other Museums, 1958-1965

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Series 3: Photographs, circa 1931-circa 1965

This series includes photographs of exhibition installations and artwork at the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum. The photographs of exhibition installations represent a set of exhibitions curated by Elizabeth Moses, the de Young curator of decorative arts. The photographs of artwork include photographs of paintings from various countries and different collections at de Young. There are some photographs of art titled "fakes," reflecting the original folder titles, which presumably are photographs of art forgery.

Installations of Exhibitions Curated by Elizabeth Moses

Box 2, Folder 10	<i>Design in 'Forty Nine', 1949</i>
Box 2, Folder 11	<i>Italy at Work, 1951</i>
Box 2, Folder 12	<i>Pacifica, 1952</i>
Box 2, Folder 13	<i>The Art of Tony Duquette, 1952</i>
Box 2, Folder 14	<i>Handweavers of California, 1953</i>
Box 2, Folder 15	<i>Clay for Today, 1954</i>
Box 2, Folder 16	<i>California Designed, 1955</i>
Box 2, Folder 17	<i>Contemporary Handweavers of California, 1955</i>
Box 2, Folder 18	<i>Designer-Craftsmen of the West, 1957</i>
Box 2, Folder 19	American Paintings, circa 1932-circa 1953
Box 2, Folder 20	Dutch Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 21	Dutch Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 22	English Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 23	Flemish Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 24	Flemish Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 25	Flemish Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 26	Flemish Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965

Box 2, Folder 27	French Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 28	German Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 29	Italian Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 30	Russian Paintings, A-G, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 31	Russian Paintings, K-P, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 32	Russian Paintings, R-Z, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 33	Spanish Paintings, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 34	"St. John the Baptist" Painting by El Greco, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 35	Sculptures, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 36	Sculptures, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 37	Sculptures, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 38	Sculptures, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 39	Tapestries, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 40	Heart Tapestries, circa 1954
Box 2, Folder 41	Kress Collection Art, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 42	Kress Collection Art, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 43	Kress Collection Art, circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 44	"Fakes", circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 45	"Fakes", circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 46	"Fakes", circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 47	"Fakes", circa 1931-circa 1965
Box 2, Folder 48	"Fakes", circa 1931-circa 1965

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