



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Natalie Van Vleck Papers, 1919-1992, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Natalie Van Vleck papers
Date:	1919-1992 (bulk 1919-1925)
Identifier:	AAA.vanvlec
Creator:	Van Vleck, Natalie, 1901-1974
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of New York City and Connecticut painter and printmaker Natalie Van Vleck measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1919 to 1992, with the bulk of the material dating from 1919-1925. Three sketchbooks, loose sketches, and a notebook focus on Van Vleck's time studying at the Art Students League and trip to Europe in the 1920s. 1992 records consist of an exhibition catalog and clippings concerning an exhibition at Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1992 by the Flanders Nature Center and Van Vleck Farm Sanctuary, founded by Natalie Van Vleck in 1963, and to which she left the contents of her studio as well as her land, home, and two farmhouses as an endowment.

Processing Information

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

Natalie Van Vleck papers, 1919-1992. 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

Natalie Van Vleck (1901-1981) was a painter and printmaker active in New York City, New York and Woodbury, Connecticut. Van Vleck studied at the Art Students League with George B. Bridgman, Robert Henri and Max Weber. An environmentalist, Van Vleck stopped painting in 1934 to focus on farming, and later founded the Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust.

Scope and Contents

The papers of New York City and Connecticut painter and printmaker Natalie Van Vleck measure 0.4 linear feet and date from 1919 to 1992, with the bulk of the material dating from 1919-1925. Three sketchbooks, loose sketches, and a notebook focus on Van Vleck's time studying at the Art Students League and trip to Europe in the 1920s. 1992 records consist of an exhibition catalog and clippings concerning an exhibition at Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust.

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:

- Women artists
- Women painters
- Women printmakers

Types of Materials:

- Sketchbooks

Names:

- Art Students League (New York, N.Y.)
- Henri, Robert, 1865-1929

Occupations:

- Painters -- Connecticut -- Woodbury
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
- Printmakers -- Connecticut -- Woodbury
- Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York

Container Listing

Series 1: Natalie Van Vleck Papers, 1919-1992

Scope and Contents: A notebook kept during Van Vleck's time at the Art Students League contains notes from a course taught by Robert Henri and a photograph of him teaching. Also found are color palette diagrams and a transcribed letter from Henri to his students. An exhibition catalog and a clipping concerning the exhibition are from a show held at the Flanders Nature Center in 1992. Three dismantled sketchbooks contain pencil and painted sketches and were made when Van Vleck was in Europe in the 1920s. Sketches depict abstract designs, animals, landscapes, figures, and portraits. Included are explanatory notes for the sketches and sketchbooks provided by Elizabeth H. Jones, a cataloger and curator of Van Vleck's work.

Box 1, Folder 1	Notebook, 1919
Box 1, Folder 2	Printed Material, 1992
Box 1, Folder 3-4	Sketchbook 1, 1921-1924
Box 1, Folder 5	Sketchbook 2, circa 1920
Box 1, Folder 6-7	Sketchbook 3, 1920-1925
Box 1, Folder 8	Sketches, circa 1920

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