



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Roslyn A. Walker Material Relating to Allan R. Crite, 1938-1972, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Roslyn A. Walker material relating to Allan R. Crite
Date:	1938-1972
Identifier:	AAA.walkros
Creator:	Walker, Roslyn A.
Extent:	6 Items
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection contains letters and printed material relating to African American artist Allan R. Crite. Included are an illustrated letter from Crite to Roslyn Walker, February 27, 1972; an illustrated New Year's greeting, 1972; three pamphlets by Crite, "Towards a Rediscovery of the Cultural Heritage of the United States" (1968), "The Nativity of Jesus Christ La Natividad de Jesucristo," illustrated and hand-colored (1969), and "Is it Nothing to You?" (1948) illustrated and signed by Crite 1980. There is also a copy of an article by Crite, "Why I Illustrate the Spirituals," World Horizons magazine, May 1938.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2016 by Roslyn A. Walker.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Roslyn A. Walker material relating to Allan R. Crite, 1938-1972. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

Roslyn A. Walker was director of the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution from 1997-2002. Walker collected material relating to painter and printmaker Allan Rohan Crite (1910- 2007). Crite was an African American painter and printmaker in Boston, Massachusetts. He is best known for his religious illustrations, but also chronicled African American life in Boston in the 1930s-1940s. During the Depression, Crite developed a series of "neighborhood paintings" inspired by Boston's African American community.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains letters and printed material relating to African American artist Allan R. Crite. Included are an illustrated letter from Crite to Roslyn Walker, February 27, 1972; an illustrated New Year's greeting, 1972; three pamphlets by Crite, "Towards a Rediscovery of the Cultural Heritage of the United States" (1968), "The Nativity of Jesus Christ La Natividad de Jesucristo," illustrated and hand-colored (1969), and "Is it Nothing to You?" (1948) illustrated and signed by Crite 1980. There is also a copy of an article by Crite, "Why I Illustrate the Spirituals," World Horizons magazine, May 1938.

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:

African American artists

Names:

Crite, Allan Rohan, 1910-2007

Occupations:

Museum directors -- Washington (D.C.)

Painters -- Massachusetts

Printmakers -- Massachusetts

Container Listing

Series 1: Letter and Printed Material, 1938-1972

1 Folder (Folder 1)

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Folder 1 Letter and Printed Material relating to Allan R. Crite, 1938

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