



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Lynd Ward and May McNeer papers

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Lynd Ward and May McNeer papers
Date:	1929-1981
Identifier:	AAA.wardlynp
Creator:	Ward, Lynd, 1905-1985 McNeer, May Yonge, 1902-
Extent:	19 Microfilm reels
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1985 by Georgetown University.

Location of Originals

Originals in Georgetown University, Special Collections Division.

Other Finding Aids

A 116 page inventory prepared by Georgetown University listing the files and describing the items within each file is available at all Archives of American Art offices and on microfilm reel 3505. The "Family series," was not microfilmed.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3505-3523 available at Archives of American Art offices, Georgetown University Special Collections, and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Lynd Ward: Printmaker, illustrator, writer. Died 1985. May McNeer: Children's book author. Died 1994. Born Chicago, Lynd Kendall Ward majored in Fine Arts at the Teachers College, Columbia University, where he illustrated school publications until his graduation in 1926. In the same year he married May McNeer of Tampa, Florida. They collaborated on many books written by McNeer and illustrated by Ward. Between 1926 and 1927, Ward studied at the National Academy for Graphic Arts in Leipzig, Germany, working with Alois Kolb, George Mathey, and Hans A. Mueller. Ward was a prolific graphic artist, illustrating over one hundred books including GODS' MAN and other woodcut novels produced between 1929 and 1937.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence and subject files relate to the activities of Ward, including his membership in the Society of American Graphic Artists, and his collaborative work with his wife, May McNeer Ward.

Scope and Contents

Correspondents include Fritz Eichenberg, Wanda Gág, Harry Gottlieb, Jacob Kainen, Rockwell Kent, Louis Lozowick, Elizabeth McCausland, Diego Rivera, Prentiss Taylor, and Carl Zigrosser, as well as bookdealers, collectors, children, writers, galleries and museums, publishing and printing companies, advertising and public relations firms, religious organizations, and art, civic, and political associations and societies. Letters are often accompanied by enclosures such as writings and printed material.

Scope and Contents

Subject files contain awards, drafts and typescripts of Ward's writings, lectures, and speeches, notes, outlines and galley proofs for McNeer's and Ward's books, scripts for radio broadcasts, book contracts and royalty statements, lists of Ward's graphic works, illustrations and Christmas cards by Ward, exhibition announcements and catalogs, clippings, reviews, newsletters, bulletins, press releases, and miscellaneous printed material.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Children's literature
- Illustration of books
- Prints -- 20th century

Names:

- Eichenberg, Fritz, 1901-1990
- Gag, Wanda, 1893-1946
- Gottlieb, Harry, 1895-
- Kainen, Jacob
- Kent, Rockwell, 1882-1971
- Lozowick, Louis, 1892-1973
- McCausland, Elizabeth, 1899-1965
- Rivera, Diego, 1886-1957
- Society of American Graphic Artists
- Taylor, Prentiss, 1907-1991
- Zigrosser, Carl, 1891-

Occupations:

- Book illustrators
- Printmakers