



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Helen Joy Weinberg papers, 1908-1987, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Helen Joy Weinberg papers
Date:	1908-1987
Identifier:	AAA.weinhele
Creator:	Weinberg, Helen Joy, 1900-1994
Extent:	3.1 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Helen Joy Weinberg papers measure 3.1 linear feet and date from 1908 to 1987. The collection sheds light on Weinberg's career through personal and professional papers, writings, printed material, and sketchbooks.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in several installments from 1971 to 1987 by Helen Joy Weinberg.

Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reels 837-839 and 4864-4865 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

Portions of the collection were microfilmed in 1994 on microfilm reels 837-839 and 4864-4865 with grants from the Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, the Goldie-Anna Charitable Trust, the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, and the Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation. The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Christopher DeMairo in 2023.

Preferred Citation

Helen Joy Weinberg papers, 1908-1987. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Helen Joy Weinberg (1900-1994) was a painter and printmaker from, and active in, Chicago, Illinois.

Weinberg was the daughter of Arthur Henry Kimball (originally named Kaiser) who was a designer, garment manufacturer, and painter. After moving to Chicago with her family in 1909, Weinberg studied printmaking with Max Kahn at the Art Institute of Chicago, and with Misch Kohn at the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology. She also studied painting with Gerald Landt at the Summer School of Painting in Saugatuck, Michigan.

In addition to painting and printmaking, Weinberg also made ceramic and plastic jewelry, lectured in art, and taught art classes in her studio, and at Temple Emanuel and Temple Shalom in Chicago. She was also employed in advertising and public relations work and was a free-lance writer who published several poems.

Weinberg had multiple solo shows in Chicago, New York, and elsewhere, and participated in many group shows throughout the United States and in Israel. Her work is represented in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Brooklyn Museum, Israel Museum, Syracuse University, and elsewhere. She and was an active member of Artists Equity, Chicago Society of Artists, American Jewish Arts Club, and the Print Council of America.

Scope and Contents

The Helen Joy Weinberg papers measure 3.1 linear feet and date from 1908 to 1987. The collection sheds light on Weinberg's career through personal and professional files, writings, printed material, and 29 sketchbooks.

Personal and professional files include biographical sketches and resumes, inventories of artwork, photos of Weinberg and her paintings, art organization records, and one file pertaining to Weinberg's father, Arthur Kimball, that includes printed materials, a few sketches, and photos of Kimball and his artwork. Also included in this series is correspondence that documents Weinberg's poetry, publication of her artwork, art awards, exhibitions, and more; and personal business records such as calls for art submissions, contracts, financial records, and scant correspondence.

Writings consist of 12 notebooks of Weinberg's notes on Jewish art, Israeli art, modern art, Byzantine art, art movements, her own artwork, and miscellaneous topics. Also included are loose writings on Jewish art, Weinberg's ideas for inventions, lecture notes, and a biographical sketch written by Weinberg about her father. Printed materials consist of brochures and calendars listing Weinberg's exhibitions and talks, clippings and other printed materials that document Weinberg's career, exhibition catalogs, announcements and invitations, and ephemera from Distelheim Galleries.

Weinberg's sketchbooks are numbered and dated, and filled mostly with sketches in marker, pen, pencil, and oil pastel, though some sketchbooks also include watercolors.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as four series.

- Series 1: Personal and Professional Papers, 1908-1987 (Box 1; .5 linear feet)
- Series 2: Writings, circa 1940s-1970 (Box 1; .4 linear feet)
- Series 3: Printed Materials, 1921-1983 (Box 1-2; .5 linear feet)
- Series 4: Sketchbooks, 1940s-1981 (Boxes 2-3, OV 4; 1.7 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Jewish artists
- Women artists
- Women painters
- Women printmakers

Types of Materials:

- Sketchbooks

Names:

- Kimball, Arthur Henry, 1870-1944
- Pross, Paul E. (Paul Edward)

Occupations:

- Painters -- Illinois -- Chicago
- Printmakers -- Illinois -- Chicago

Container Listing

Series 1: Personal and Professional Papers, 1908-1987

0.5 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found here are resumes, biographical sketches, Weinberg's statements on her career, inventories of artwork, some photos of Weinberg and her paintings, and art organization records that include newsletters, membership lists, and voting records. Correspondence includes personal and professional letters with publishers, art organizations, public libraries, galleries, and university museums about Weinberg's poetry, publication of her artwork, art awards, exhibitions, and more. Personal business records include four pages from a Weinberg exhibition guest book, calls for art submissions, price lists, contracts with the Art Rental Service, receipts, and scant correspondence. This series also includes one file on Arthur Kimball, Weinberg's father, containing photos of Kimball and his artwork, several sketches, an exhibition catalog, clippings, and other printed materials.

Box 1, Folder 1	Art Organizations, 1958-1967
Box 1, Folder 2	Biographical Materials and Resumes, 1930, 1950s-1971
Box 1, Folder 3-4	Business Records, 1954-1973
Box 1, Folder 5-8	Mixed Correspondence, 1927-1928, 1947-1970, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Exhibitions, Artwork Tags, 1959-1961
Box 1, Folder 10	Exhibitions, List of Works, 1950-1961
Box 1, Folder 11	Printmaking, List of Works, 1960
Box 1, Folder 12	Public and Private Collections, List of Works, circa 1966
Box 1, Folder 13	Lists of Works and Gifts, 1964-1987
Box 1, Folder 15	Photographic Images, Works of Art, 1953-1967
Box 1, Folder 14	Photographic Images, Helen Joy Weinberg, 1950-1969
Box 1, Folder 16	Arthur Kimball, Photos and Papers, 1908-1944

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Series 2: Writings , circa 1940s-1970

0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found here are writings on Jewish art, Weinberg's ideas for inventions, lecture notes, and a biographical sketch written by Weinberg about her father. The series includes 12 notebooks that contain Weinberg's notes on Jewish art, Israeli art, modern art, Byzantine art, art movements, her own artwork, and miscellaneous topics.

Box 1, Folder 17	Biographical Notes on Arthur Henry Kimball, by Helen Weinberg, undated
Box 1, Folder 18	Ideas for Inventions, 1945
Box 1, Folder 19	Jewish Art, 1949, undated
Box 1, Folder 20-26	Notebook I-XIII, circa 1940s-1960s
Box 1, Folder 27	Typescript for Tape on Weinberg's Biblical Work, undated
Box 1, Folder 28	Typescript, "Thoughts and Suggestions for the Art Student", undated
Box 1, Folder 29	Mixed Writings, circa 1950s-1970

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Series 3: Printed Materials, 1921-1983

0.5 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Found here are brochures and calendars that list Weinberg's exhibitions and talks; clippings and other printed materials documenting her career; gallery ephemera from Distelheim Galleries, which lists Weinberg as one of the Distelheim artists; exhibition catalogs, announcements, and invitations; a book jacket from *Low Voices* (1967) by Paul E. Pross which was designed by Helen Weinberg; and prospectuses from art competitions and juried shows.

Box 1, Folder 30	Book Jacket, <i>Low Voices</i> (1967) by Paul E. Pross, Design by Helen Weinberg, circa 1967
Box 1, Folder 31	Brochures and Calendars, 1949-1973
Box 1, Folder 32-33	Clippings, 1921-1983
Box 1, Folder 34	Distelheim Galleries, 1965-1967
Box 2, Folder 1-3	Exhibition Announcements and Invitations, 1947-1983
Box 2, Folder 4	Exhibition Catalogs, 1949-1983
Box 2, Folder 5	Prospectuses, 1948-1966

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Series 4: Sketchbooks, 1940s-1981

1.7 Linear feet (Boxes 2-3, OV 4)

Scope and Contents: This series contains 29 sketchbooks that are numbered and dated. Sketches and drawings were done mostly in marker, pen, pencil, and oil pastel, though some sketchbooks include also include watercolors.

Box 2, Folder 6-7	Sketchbooks, 1-2, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 8-9	Sketchbooks, 3-5, circa 1940s
Box 2, Folder 10-17	Sketchbooks, 7-14, circa 1950s
Box 3, Folder 1-6	Sketchbooks, 15-19, circa 1960s-1972, undated
Oversize 4	Sketchbook 21, 1969
Box 3, Folder 7-15	Sketchbooks, 22-33, 1970-1981, undated

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