



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Emerson Woelffer 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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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Emerson Woelffer papers
Date:	1937-1999
Identifier:	AAA.woelemer
Creator:	Woelffer, Emerson, 1914-2003
Extent:	0.4 Linear feet 0.6 Linear feet (Addition)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reel 1052 was lent for microfilming by Woelffer in 1976, and subsequently donated by him in 1993 with additional (unfilmed) papers. Additional papers were donated by Woelffer in 1996, and again in 1999, with more expected.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 1052 and 3482 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Restrictions

Addition: Use requires an appointment and is limited to AAA's Washington, D.C. office.

Biographical / Historical

Surrealist and Dada painter, teacher, and art collector; Los Angeles, California. Born in Chicago. Moved to Los Angeles in 1959. Taught at the Chouinard Art Institute and the Otis Art Institute. Collector of primitive art. One of Southern California's most respected senior modernists, Emerson Woelffer (b. 1914) came to Los Angeles in 1959 to teach at Chouinard Art Institute (now California Institute of Art). He later taught at various Southern California institutions, most notably at Otis School of Art and Design. In 1961 he was a Tamarind Fellow. He continued to teach at Otis until his retirement in 1992.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, printed material, and a drawing.

Scope and Contents

REEL 1052: 114 letters received relating to business matters, exhibitions, Woelffer's teaching career, and his friends. Correspondents include Robert Motherwell, Gerald Nordland, Mitchell Wilder, Matsumi Kanemitsu, Paul Jenkins, Charles Laughton, Joann & Gifford Phillips, Buckminster Fuller, Nathan Oliveira, Anne Weber, Annette Giacometti, George Wittenborn, John Baldessari, and others.

Scope and Contents

REEL 3482: Newspaper clippings and an article, 1948-1974, about Woelffer.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION (D.C.): Personal and business correspondence with artists, galleries, foundations, and others. Among the correspondents are Clinton Adams, Katharine Kuh, Robert Motherwell, Ed Ruscha, Aaron Siskind, Clay Spohn, June Wayne, and the Paul Kantor Gallery; and 2 b&w photographs of Woelffer with Mark Rothko in Boulder, Colo. taken by Woelffer's wife, Dina.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- California -- Los Angeles
Dadaism
Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- California -- Los Angeles
Surrealism

Names:

Motherwell, Robert

Occupations:

Painters -- California -- Los Angeles