



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Harold K. Zimmerman papers

Archives of American Art
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Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Harold K. Zimmerman papers
Date:	1930-1954
Identifier:	AAA.zimmharo
Creator:	Zimmerman, Harold K., 1905-1941
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet ((on one microfilm reel))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1991 by Richard Derby, who received the papers from his mother, Mrs. Hasket (Elizabeth) Derby, the widow of Harold Zimmerman.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4961 available 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.

Biographical / Historical

Painter, art instructor; Cambridge, Mass. Zimmerman developed an experimental method of teaching drawing from memory or the "visual imagination." He was the first drawing teacher of Boston Expressionists Hyman Bloom and Jack Levine in ca. 1928-1929. Denman Ross, an influential educator, art collector and painter, became the instructor and patron of Bloom and Levine shortly after he wrote his essay on Zimmerman's experiment in art teaching.

Scope and Contents

An etching by Zimmerman; photographs of Zimmerman, his wife, Spanish gypsies used as models, and of artwork by Zimmerman and Hyman Bloom; and newspaper clippings, 1933. Other material includes sympathy letters received by Mrs. Zimmerman after Harold Zimmerman's death in 1941; letters referring to sales of artwork and a possible exhibition of Zimmerman's work at the Fogg Art Museum, 1941-1954; typescript of "An Experiment in Art Teaching" by Denman W. Ross with illustrations and captions describing Zimmerman's experimental teaching method of drawing to the young Hyman Bloom and Jack Levine; and

an incomplete edited typescript with a draft of a letter by Ross to Paul J. Sachs about Zimmerman's teaching experiment, 1930.

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
- Art criticism
- Art patronage
- Boston school of painting
- Expressionism (Art)

Names:

- Bloom, Hyman, 1913-
- Levine, Jack, 1915-2010
- Ross, Denman Waldo, 1853-1935
- Sachs, Paul J. (Paul Joseph), 1878-1965

Occupations:

- Art critics
- Art patrons
- Art teachers
- Artists' models
- Painters