



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Andre Piette Collection

NMAH.AC.0129

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Andre Piette Collection
Date:	1954-1979
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0129
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Ceramics and Glass (Collector) Magdoff, Sam (Donor)
Creator:	Piette, Andre, 1934-1984 (ceramic designer, artist) (Creator)
Extent:	8 Cubic feet (8 boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection documents Andre Piette's career as an illustrator and designer. The materials include sketches, drawings, tracings, photographs (color transparencies, slides, and prints), and samples of wallpaper, designs for gift wrap, and a few textiles.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Sam Magdoff, Dean of Continuing Education, Parsons School of Design, July 29, 1985.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Ceramics and Glass (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) December 4, 1984.

Processing Information

Collection processed by NMAH Staff, undated

Preferred Citation

Andre Piette Collection, 1954-1979, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Piette, artist and designer, spent his early years studying at the Academie Royale De Beaux-Arts in Liege, Belgium. He is noted for his designs of Christmas cards, wrapping paper, and wallpaper. In 1968 he was commissioned by Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson to design a set of White House state china, consisting of 2,500 pieces.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of a wide range of materials documenting Andre Piette's career as an illustrator and designer. The materials include sketches, drawings, tracings, photographs (color transparencies, slides, and prints), and samples of wallpaper, designs for gift wrap, and a few textiles. The materials are the product of the Piette's early years in the United States (1960s) as a landscape artist in New England and as an associate of Norman Rockwell and of his later work for Tiffany & Company as a freelance designer. As an employee of Tiffany, Piette designed the White House china set for Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. Materials documenting this effort—White House China—are the largest series in the collection. Other design work includes cards, silver, parquet flooring, and china. There also are drawings and tracings not associated with specific functional products.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into four series.

Series 1: White House China, 1967-1970, undated

Series 2: Other Designs, undated

Series 3: Andre Piette Scrapbook, undated

Series 4: Oversize, undated

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Ceramics
- Ceramics -- Design
- Christmas card design
- Design -- United States
- Designers
- Porcelain -- 20th century
- Wallpaper -- Design
- White House china

Types of Materials:

- Black-and-white photographic prints -- Silver gelatin -- 1950-2000
- Christmas cards
- Clippings -- 1950-2000
- Correspondence -- 1940-2000

Design drawings -- 1950-2000
Designs
Drawings -- 1950-1990
Tracings
Wrapping materials -- Design

Names:

Johnson, Lady Bird, 1912-2007
Magdoff, Sam
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Ceramics and Glass

Container Listing

Series 1: White House China, 1967 - 1970, undated

Box 1, Folder 1	Photographs of state flower patterns, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Slides of state flower patterns, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Flowers used on china patterns, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Flowered patterns for bowls, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	State flowers—plate mock-ups, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Patterns for mugs, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Presidential seal for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	Presidential seal and state flowers for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	State flower pattern—mock-ups for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Presidential plate mock-ups, undated
Box 1, Folder 11	State flower mock-up for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 12	Bird pattern mock-up for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 13	Presidential seal mock-up for plates, undated
Box 1, Folder 14	Transparencies of birds, flowers and presidential seal for china, undated
Box 1, Folder 15	Unidentified design for plate, undated
Box 3, Folder 1	State flower designs, undated
Box 3, Folder 2	State flower designs
Box 3, Folder 3	State flower designs
Box 3, Folder 4	State flower designs
Box 3, Folder 5	State flower designs

Box 3, Folder 6	State flower designs
Box 4, Folder 1	Piette biographical materials, 1967-1970
Box 4, Folder 2	Color negatives of drawings
Box 4, Folder 3-4	Color negatives of state flowers
Box 8, Folder 1-3	Plate designs (color mock-ups)

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Series 2: Other Designs, undated

Box 2, Folder 1	China, late eastern Chow
Box 2, Folder 2	Textile prints, 1974 - 1974
Box 2, Folder 3	Bloomingdale's
Box 2, Folder 4	Textiles, fabrics, furnishings, geometric
Box 2, Folder 5	Textiles, fabrics, furnishings, florals
Box 2, Folder 6	Textiles, fabrics, furnishings, traditional
Box 2, Folder 7	Small terrine
Box 2, Folder 8	Watercolor of Gibraltar Rock, 1963
Box 2, Folder 9	Wood panel and veneer designs
Box 2, Folder 10	Miscellaneous pencil sketches
Box 2, Folder 11	Christmas Designs—scrapbook
Box 2, Folder 12	Christmas Designs—stockings
Box 2, Folder 13	Christmas Designs—trees
Box 2, Folder 14	Christmas Designs—candy canes
Box 2, Folder 15	Christmas Designs—stuffie faces (Kurt S. Adler Inc.)
Box 2, Folder 16	Christmas Designs—stained glass
Box 2, Folder 17	Christmas Designs—cork wood mushrooms
Box 2, Folder 18	Christmas Designs—wood animals
Box 2, Folder 19	Christmas Designs—Unidentified
Box 2, Folder 20	Christmas Designs—wrapping paper
Box 2, Folder 21-22	Christmas Designs
Box 2, Folder 23	Christmas Designs—scrapbook

Box 2, Folder 24	Unidentified black and white design
Box 2, Folder 25	Unidentified plate patterns
Box 2, Folder 26-27	Unidentified patterns
Box 5, Folder 1	School of Visual Arts, small patterns for chinaware
Box 5, Folder 2	New York City, plate design
Box 5, Folder 3	Tiffany & Company, exclusive designs
Box 5, Folder 4	Silverware—artwork for etchings and engravings
Box 5, Folder 5	Nautical plate designs
Box 5, Folder 6	Early Chinese design
Box 5, Folder 7	Venice XVI
Box 5, Folder 8	German Hanau Greenround, undated
Box 5, Folder 9	Southwestern Indian Acoma
Box 5, Folder 10	Rose Pompadour Duplessis
Box 5, Folder 11	Germany, Plaven
Box 5, Folder 12	Shell pattern
Box 5, Folder 13	Slides (not White House China related)
Box 5, Folder 14	Unidentified prints
Box 5, Folder 15-16	Unidentified designs
Box 7, Folder 1	Art Nouveau and portfolio document
Box 7, Folder 2	Fine line drawings
Box 7, Folder 3	Silversmith—unidentified designs
Box 7, Folder 4	Silversmith—silver tbac box
Box 7, Folder 5	Silversmith—London
Box 7, Folder 6	Design scrapbook

Box 7, Folder 7 Silversmith—Loell

Box 7, Folder 8 Silverware

Box 7, Folder 9 Watches

Box 7, Folder 10 [Unidentified Designs](#)

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Series 3: Andre Piette Scrapbook, undated

Box 6, Folder 1	Loose materials (photographs)
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Box 6, Folder 2-3	Scrapbook pages
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Series 4: Oversize, undated

Map-folder 1	Parquet flooring designs, undated
Map-folder 1	Geometric designs, undated
Box 1, Folder 4-6	Architectural drawings and renderings

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