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Atanas Tasev Collection, 1949, 1952, 1956, 1976

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Atanas Tasev Collection
Date:	1949, 1952, 1956, 1976
Identifier:	Record Unit 7337
Creator::	Tasev, Atanas
Extent:	0.58 cu. ft. (1 tall document box)
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7337, Atanas Tasev Collection

Historical Note

Atanas Tasev (1897-1991) was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, where he studied painting and had his first exhibition at age 23. He continued his education at the Academy in Prague and eventually made his home there for twenty-seven years, painting portraits, landscapes, and city street scenes. In 1946, he left Czechoslovakia for Sweden and came to the United States in 1948.

Tasev continued his portrait work in Washington, D.C., and in New York. Between 1948 and 1958, he frequently visited the National Zoological Park (NZIP) in Washington and drew pencil sketches of the animals for relaxation. He was a good friend of William M. Mann, NZIP Director from 1925 to 1956, and they often had tea together in Mann's Washington apartment.

Descriptive Entry

These papers consist of three Tasev sketches of NZIP animals drawn in 1949, 1952, and 1956. Also included is a 1976 book entitled *Washington Zoo*, a collection of Tasev's animal sketches.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art
Artists

Types of Materials:

Books
Drawings

Names:

Mann, William M., 1886-1960
National Zoological Park (U.S.)
Tasev, Atanas

Container Listing

Box 1	
Box 1 of 1	Folder 1 "Jungle Cat," 1949
Box 1 of 1	Folder 2 "Lion's Cubs," 1952
Box 1 of 1	Folder 3 "Lion's Cubs," 1956
Box 1 of 1	Folder 4 Washington Zoo by Atanas Tasev, 1976