

THE PHILLIPS --- COLLECTION

Arthur Dove: Works on Paper

1997-1998

Finding Aid

**The Phillips Collection
Library and Archives
1600 21st Street NW
Washington D.C. 20009
www.phillipscollection.org**

CURATORIAL RECORDS IN THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION ARCHIVES

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Collection Title: *Arthur Dove: Works on Paper*; exhibition records

Author/Creator: The Phillips Collection Curatorial Department. Beth Turner, Senior Curator, and Elsa Smithgall, Curatorial Assistant

Size: .8 linear feet; 2 document boxes

Bulk Dates: 1997-1998

Inclusive Dates: 1910-1998

Repository: The Phillips Collection Archives, 1600 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20009

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

Restrictions: The collection contains restricted materials. Please contact Karen Schneider, Librarian, with any questions regarding access.

Handling Requirements: none

Preferred Citation: *Arthur Dove: Works on Paper*. The Phillips Collection Archives, Washington, D.C.

Publication and Reproduction Rights: See Karen Schneider, Librarian, for further information and to obtain required forms.

SPECIAL NOTE: Most of the Research Series materials in this collection were photocopied or acquired by The Phillips Collection with the appropriate permissions and/or payments, but are **not** owned by The Phillips Collection Archives, which consequently cannot grant copying, publication or reproduction rights to these materials. For these permissions, the originating repository must be contacted, which is the sole responsibility of the researcher (see 'Related Material' below for some contact information).

ABSTRACT

Arthur Dove: Works on Paper was a one-gallery exhibition held in conjunction with *Arthur Dove: A Retrospective*. The exhibition records contain materials created and collected by the Curatorial Department of The Phillips Collection during the course of organizing the exhibition. Included are research and exhibition planning files.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The American artist Arthur Dove, among the first artists to have produced an abstract painting, has always occupied a central place in writings on early American modernism. Duncan Phillips, the founder of The Phillips Collection, was Dove's primary patron from 1926 onward. Phillips held the first retrospective of Dove's work in 1937. In 1947, as a tribute to the artist just five months after his death, Phillips organized a second retrospective of his paintings. The Phillips Collection owns fifty-four paintings by Dove and has extensive correspondence between

painter and patron. *Arthur Dove: Works on Paper* showcases Arthur Dove's use of a wide variety of materials and techniques as well as the extent of Dove's inspiration.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

Arthur Dove: Works on Paper, features a selection of 33 works on paper by Arthur Dove primarily from Washington's public and private collections. It includes examples of Dove's earliest watercolor studies from the late 1920s, his animated line and wash drawings from the 1930s, and his multi-media paintings of the 1940s.

These curatorial records were collected and created in the course of researching, planning, and executing the exhibition. The exhibition opened at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. on October 7, 1997 and continued until January 7, 1998.

The primary creators of the catalogue and exhibition planning records in this collection were Beth Turner, Senior Curator, and Elsa Smithgall, Curatorial Assistant.

The collection consists of the research and exhibition planning files of the curators interfiled. These records consist of research materials assembled and exhibition planning and execution documents such as legal and financial records, lender files (restricted), schedules, and checklists (restricted).

CUSTODIAL HISTORY AND ACQUISITION INFORMATION

This collection is owned by The Phillips Collection, and was accessioned from the curators' offices in accordance with the museum's records schedule.

PROCESSING AND DESCRIPTION INFORMATION

Date Processed: Collection processed in November 2008.

Processed By: Collection processed by Heather Meixler, Library and Archives Assistant, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian.

Processing Notes: The collection contains exhibition-related records from two curators' offices, resulting in a significant amount of duplicate documents. After meeting with the librarian and curator duplicate documents were weeded as well as materials with no informational or evidential value. When different drafts of contracts and checklists were found the decision was made to retain the signed or most recent copy of each contract or checklist. Folders containing restricted material were marked with a red dot. Boxes containing restricted folders were also marked with a red dot. The lender files were arranged alphabetically.

The Research Series has maintained original order and is housed chronologically. More extensive research may be found in the *Arthur Dove: A Retrospective* exhibition files located in The Phillips Collection Archives. There are two sub-series in the Exhibition Planning series: planning documents and lender files.

Metal paperclips and staples were removed and replaced with plastic clips. Post-Its were copied if necessary, otherwise removed. Folder headings were maintained, but were re-written in some cases for greater clarity and accuracy. All documents were re-folded in acid free folders, labeled in pencil and boxed in Hollinger low-lignin (pH 8.5 -10.0) boxes.

Finding Aid Written By: Finding Aid written by Heather Meixler, Library and Archives Assistant in November 2008, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian.

Encoded By: Sarah Osborne Bender, Cataloging and Technical Services Librarian

Encoding Method: EAD using Notetab

RELATED MATERIAL

Arthur Dove: A Retrospective special collection housed in The Phillips Collection archive.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE COLLECTION

The collection is organized as two series:

Series 1: Research

Series 2: Exhibition Planning

The Research series is arranged chronologically by article publication date. The Exhibition Planning series is alphabetical by subject with Lender files made into a sub-series of Exhibition Planning and arranged alphabetically by lender.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1: Research 1910-1997

Series 1 consists of research materials assembled in planning the catalogue and exhibition. Files are arranged chronologically.

Series 2: Exhibition Planning 1997-98

Series 2 consists of correspondence, financial, image, design, and administrative records. This series is arranged alphabetically. Included are two sub-series:

Sub-Series 2.1: Planning documents

Sub-Series 2.2: Lender files

Box Inventory

Series I: Research Materials

Box I

- Folder 1 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1910:
Hartmann, Sadakichi. "On the Possibility of New Laws of Composition." *Camera Work*. No. 30, April 1910.
- Folder 2 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1911:
Bergson, Henri, "Creative Evolution." *Camera Work*. No. 36, October 1911.
- Folder 3 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1913:
Various Authors. "Writings on F. Picabia" (with mention of Arthur Dove). *Camera Work*. No 42-43, April – July 1913.
- Folder 4 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1921
Strand, Paul. "American Watercolors at the Brooklyn Museum." *The Arts*. Vol. 2, December 1921.
- Folder 5 Dove watercolor research, newspaper article 1925
H.C. "Stieglitz Group in Anniversary Show." *The Art News*. Saturday, March 14, 1925. page 5.
- Folder 6 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1925
"Arthur Dove..." "Art Exhibitions of the Week." *The New York Times*. March 15, 1925. VIII 11:2.
- Folder 7 Dove watercolor research, newspaper article 1926
Anon. "Arthur Dove – Intimate Gallery." *The Art News*. Vol. 24 no. 15, January 16, 1926. page 7.
- Folder 8 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt, 1926
From Kandinsky: "Point and Line to Plane." 1926 in *Kandinsky: Complete Writings on Art* by K.C. Lindsay and P. Vergo. Vol. 2. Boston: G.K. Hall and Co. 1982 pps 524-700.
- Folder 9 Dove watercolor research, journal excerpt 1926
Teriade, E. "Max Ernst, Man Ray" *Cahiers d'art*. Vol 1. 1926 p 58
- Folder 10 Dove watercolor research, journal excerpt 1926
Teriade, E. "Max Ernst" *Cahiers d'art*_Vol 1 no 4, May 1926. p 80
- Folder 11 Dove watercolor research, journal excerpt 1926
Desnos, Robert. "Surrealisme." *Cahiers d'art*. Vol. 1 no 8. October 1926. pps 210-213.
- Folder 12 Dove watercolor research, newspaper article 1926
Cary, Elisabeth. "Out of a Rut: Societe Anonyme Exhibits Work of Well Known Modern." *New York Times*. November 21, 1926.
- Folder 13 Dove watercolor research, newspaper article 1926
Anon. "Societe Anonyme's Exciting Show." *The Art News*. Vol. 25 no 8. November 27, 1926. pps 1-3.

Box I cont'd.

- Folder 14 Dove watercolor research, correspondence 1926-1940
Letters between Dove, Stieglitz, Phillips
- Folder 15 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1927
Cahiers d'art. 2, 1927
- Folder 16 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1927
Transition. No. 8, November 1927.
- Folder 17 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1927
Transition. No. 9, December 1927 and copy of Joan Miro painting.
- Folder 18 Dove watercolor research, exhibition list 1927
"Arthur G. Dove Paintings, 1927." The Intimate Gallery: Room 303. December 12, 1927—January 11, 1928.
- Folder 19 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1927
Anon. "Arthur Dove: Intimate Gallery." *The Art News*. Saturday, December 24, 1927. p 9.
- Folder 20 Dove watercolor research, Dove letter descriptions 1928-1946
Descriptions of Dove letters in TPC archive – not chronological.
- Folder 21 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1928
Cahiers d'art. Vol. 3, 1928.
- Folder 22 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1928
Anon. "Francois Verheyden, Eugen Higgins, Babcock Galleries." *The Art News*. March 17, 1928. pps 11-12.
- Folder 23 Dove watercolor research, journal article 1928
De Bosschere, Jean. "Max Ernst." *Cahiers d'Art*. Vol. 3, No. 2. 1928. pps 69-73.
- Folder 24 Dove watercolor research, journal article 1928
Zervos, Christian. "Du Phenomene Surrealiste." *Cahiers d'art*. Vol 3, No. 3. 1928. pps 113-114.
- Folder 25 Dove watercolor research, journal article 1928
Croxley, Hubert. "Hans Arp." *Cahiers d'art*. Vol. 3, No. 5-6. 1928. pps 229-230.
- Folder 26 Dove watercolor research, journal article 1928
Grohmann, Will. "Paul Klee." *Cahiers d'art*. Vol. 3 No. 7. 1928. pps 295-299.
- Folder 27 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1928
Transition. No. 11. February 1928. also Yves Tanguy painting.
- Folder 28 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1928
Transition. No. 12. March 1928 w/reproductions of paintings by Andre Masson, Giorgio de Chirico & Man Ray.
- Folder 29 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1929
Cahiers d'art. Vol. 4. 1929.
- Folder 30 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1929
Transition. No. 15. February 1929. Copy of Man Ray: Eight Photographic Studies.

Box I cont'd.

- Folder 31 Dove watercolor research, list of paintings 1929
Intimate Gallery Dove Exhibition. April 9-28, 1929.
- Folder 32 Dove watercolor research, table of contents 1929
Transition. No. 16-17, June 1929. Includes copy of painting
"Combat d'Oiseaux" by G.L. Roux
- Folder 33 Dove watercolor research, cover and table of contents 1929
Transition. No. 18, November 1929. Includes copies of Paul
Klee's "Fish Man-Man Eater" and "Little Fool in Trance"
- Folder 34 Dove watercolor research, newspaper article 1930
Anon. "Exhibitions in New York: Arthur Dove,
An American Place." *The Art News*. Saturday, April 5, 1930.
page 12.
- Folder 35 Dove watercolor research, table of contents, 1930
Transition. No. 19-20. June 1930. Noted for Andre Masson
article though not included.
- Folder 36 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1931
Jewell, Edwin Alden. "Dove gives annual exhibition." *The
New York Times*. March 11, 1931.
- Folder 37 Dove watercolor research, exhibition list 1932
"Arthur G. Dove: New Paintings." An American Place.
March 14-April 9, 1932.
- Folder 38 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1932
"An Artist Coming of Age: Arthur G. Dove Exhibit Shows
Artistic Advance." *Springfield Sunday Union and Republican*.
March 20, 1932.
- Folder 39 Dove watercolor research, exhibition review 1934
"North Pier, Seneca Lake, 1934." *Springfield Sunday Union
and Republican*. June 10, 1934.
- Folder 40 Dove watercolor research, letter to Dove 1936
From Richard Berger, inquiring as to medium of works in
Dove's Whitney Show. Dated November 29, 1936.
- Folder 41 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1937
McCausland, Elizabeth. "Dove: Man and Painter."
Parnassus. December 1937.
- Folder 42 Dove watercolor research, Dove diary excerpts 1940-41
From Archives of American Art, January 1940-April 1941.
- Folder 43 Dove watercolor research, Dove diary excerpts 1940-41
Watercolor and sketch mentions June 1940-December
1941.
- Folder 44 Dove watercolor research, exhibition announcement 1949
"Watercolors by Arthur Dove" The Downtown Gallery.
April 26, 1949.

Box I cont'd.

- Folder 45 Dove watercolor research, letter to Duncan Phillips from Gene Davis, artist and writer, interested in writing article about Dove. Dated October 20, 1950.
- Folder 46 Dove watercolor research, catalogue excerpt 1954
Solomon, Alan R. "The Water Colors" from *Arthur G. Dove 1880-1946: A Retrospective Exhibition*. Andrew Dickinson White Museum of Art, Cornell University Press, 1954. pps 15-16.
- Folder 47 Dove watercolor research, exhibition announcement 1958
"Fifty watercolors by Arthur Dove" The Downtown Gallery. September 26, 1958.
- Folder 48 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt 1968
Curry, Larry. "Arthur Dove." From *Eight American Masters of Watercolor...* Los Angeles: Los Angeles Count Museum of Art, 1968.
- Folder 49 Dove watercolor research, doctoral dissertation 1970
Scholl, Phoebe Kent. "A Study of the Styles and Techniques of Some Outstanding Recent American Watercolor Painters." Excerpted section on Arthur Dove. July 21, 1970.
- Folder 50 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt 1971
"Arthur G. Dove" from *Forerunners of American Abstraction*. Pittsburgh: Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, November 1971- January 9, 1972.
- Folder 51 Dove watercolor research, exhibition checklist 1974
"Ten American Masters of Watercolor" Andrew Crispo Gallery. May 16 - June 30, 1974.
- Folder 52 Dove watercolor research, magazine article 1974
Frackman, Joel. "The Enticement of Watercolor." *Arts Magazine*. Vol. 48 No. 9, June 1974.
- Folder 53 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt 1976
Stebbins, Theodore E. Jr. *American Master Drawings and Watercolors*. New York: Harper and Row, 1976. pps 302-304.
- Folder 54 Dove watercolor research, catalogue excerpt 1977
Cohn, Marjorie B. *Wash and Gouache: A Study of the Development of the Materials of Watercolor*. Fogg Art Museum. May 12 – June 22, 1977. pps 25; 39.
- Folder 55 Dove watercolor research, bulletin excerpt 1980
Shackelford, George T.M. "Two Watercolors by Arthur Dove." *Yale University Art Gallery Bulletin*. Vol. 37 No. 3. Spring 1980.
- Folder 56 Dove watercolor research, exhibition catalogue 1991
Kushner, Marilyn, Curator. *The Modernist Tradition in American Watercolors, 1911-1939*. Mary and Leigh Block Gallery, Northwestern University. 1991.

Box 1 cont'd.

- Folder 57 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt 1993
Troyen, Carol. "A war waged on paper: watercolor and modern art in America." From Reed, Troyen and Welsh, *Awash in Color*. Boston MFA/Bullfinch Press and Little, Brown & Co. 1993
- Folder 58 Dove watercolor research, article 1997
Harrison, Helen. "Arthur Dove and the Origins of Abstract Expressionism." 1997.
- Folder 59 Dove watercolor research, book excerpt 1997
Includes forward, introduction and "Arthur Dove: Small Paintings" from *Reflections on Nature: Small Paintings by Arthur Dove 1942-43*. New York: AFA 1997 by Charles Eldredge.
- Folder 60 Dove watercolor research, Dove inventory list, undated
As given by Toni Dove to Terry Dintenfass, Inc.
Inventory of Dove's apartment and books and catalogues in his possession.

Series 2: Exhibition Planning**Sub-Series 2.1: Planning Documents****Box 2**

- Folder 1 *Dove Works on Paper Checklist* 1997
- Folder 2 *Dove Works on Paper Conservation* 1997
- Folder 3 *Dove Works on Paper Correspondence and Diary*
re: watercolors
- Folder 4 *Dove Works on Paper Correspondence w/Melanie Kirschner* 1997
re: text for Dove show
- Folder 5 *Dove Works on Paper Exhibition Layout* 1997
- Folder 6 *Dove Works on Paper Images*
- Folder 7 *Dove Works on Paper Images, Available* 1997
- Folder 8 *Dove Works on Paper Quotes, Watercolor*
- Folder 9 *Dove Works on Paper Rack Card Text* 1997
- Folder 10 *Dove Works on Paper Wall Text* 1997

Sub-Series 2.2: Lender Files

- Folder 11 Loan Letters, accepted: Archives of American Art, 1997-98
- Folder 12 Loan Letters, accepted: Corcoran Gallery of Art, 1997-98
- Folder 13 Loan Letters, accepted: Fleischman, Aaron, 1997-98
- Folder 14 Loan Letters, accepted: Hirshhorn Museum of Art, 1997-98
- Folder 15 Loan Letters, accepted: Kaplan, Linda, 1997-98
- Folder 16 Loan Letters, accepted: Kogod, Robert and Arlene, 1997-98
- Folder 17 Loan Letters, accepted: Lenkin, Edward, Katherine Meier, 1997-98
- Folder 18 Loan Letters, accepted: Lumpkins, William, 1997-98

Box 2 cont'd.

Folder 19	Loan Letters, accepted: National Gallery of Art, 1997-98
Folder 20	Loan Letters, accepted: Rehm, John and Diane, 1997-98
Folder 21	Loan Letters, accepted: Terry Dintenfass, Inc., 1997
Folder 22	Loan Letters, declined: National Museum of American Art, 1997

Restricted Folders

Box 2: folders 1; 11-22