Artist files in research: the Center for the History of Collecting in America’s Directory, a convergence of disciplines and institutions.

Samantha Deutch, Research and Program Director
Center for the History of collecting in America
The Frick Collection and the Frick Art Reference Library
Who, Where, What and Why?

• Who
  – International community of museum, academic and art professionals

• Where
  – The Frick Collection and Frick Art Reference Library’s Center for the History of Collecting in America

• What
  – Directory guiding users to information about fine and decorative art collectors, dealers, galleries, and auction houses which are often held in multiple geographic locations and institutions

• Why
  – To promote and further the scholarship in the field of the History of Collecting in America
Exploration of Directory from the user’s perspective.
Homepage

The Frick Collection

Archives Directory for the History of Collecting

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

keywords

To browse the directory by subject name click on a letter above.
For a quick keyword search (including subject names, associations, and cities) fill in the search box.
For complete searching options, go to advanced search.

About the Directory

The Archives Directory for the History of Collecting is a pioneering resource created to help researchers locate primary source material about American collectors, dealers, agents and advisors, and the repositories that hold these records. The database is a work in progress that is regularly updated with information contributed by both institutions and individuals.

For more information about the directory, contact Samantha Deutsch, Research and Program Manager for the Center for the History of Collecting in America. For other news and related activities visit the Center for the History of Collecting in America.

The Center for the History of Collecting in America gratefully acknowledges Melvin R. Seiden, the Billy Rose Foundation, Townsend F. Burden, Peter Blanck and, DeCourcy E. McIntosh, John Sabater, and an anonymous donor for their generous support of this project.

Learn more...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zabriskie, Virginia M.</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Dealer/Gallery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zadok, Charles</td>
<td>1987-1986</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Collector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zayas, Marius de</td>
<td>1900-1981</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Dealer/Gallery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeldner, Claire</td>
<td>1900-1991</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Collector Artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeri, Federico</td>
<td>1921-1950</td>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Scholar/Critic/Expert Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ziegler, William</td>
<td>1891-1950</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Collector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample Keyword search

The Frick Collection

Archives Directory for the History of Collecting

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

[Keywords]

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Florsheim, Harold M.

type: Collector Patron

dates: 1910-1967

city: Chicago

state: IL

gender: M

history: Collector, businessman and heir to the Florsheim Shoe Company, Chicago, IL.

His first wife was artist and collector Claire Zeiss, they divorced in 1943.

His second wife, Sarabel Florsheim, was also a collector in addition to being a philanthropist.

Her collection was sold via Sotheby's Auction House in 2004. Highlights included an 1800 Seine landscape by Claude Monet, "La Route de Vetheuil," as well as works by Edgar Degas, Gertrude Breit, Paul Klee, and Henri Matisse.

decades: 1910-1940

1940-1950

1950-1960

1960-1970

1970-1980

updated: 04/09/2009 01:05

bibliographic search

Search FRESCO (Frick Library Catalog)

Search ARCADE (NYARC Catalog)

Search WorldCat

Repository Description Links

see also: Zeissler, Claire, 1903-

Florsheim, Sarabel
Zeisler, Claire, 1903-

type Collector Artist

dates 1903-1991

city Chicago

state IL

gender F

history Collector and fiber artist, Chicago, Illinois.


In the 1930's, she acquired paintings by European modernist artists including Picasso, Miro, and Klee, as well as objects from many tribal cultures, among them African sculptures, South American textiles and more than 300 American Indian baskets.

Later, she added works by prominent postwar American artists, from Franz Kline and Robert Rauschenberg to Jenny Holzer.

In 1943 Mrs. Zeisler divorced her husband, and in 1946 she married Ernest Zeisler, a physician and author.

Studied with Alexander Archipenko and Louise Nevelson at the Illinois Institute of Technology, and with weaver Bea Swantich. Created floor weaving and later turned to free standing fiber sculptures.

decades

1930-1940
1940-1950
1950-1960
1960-1970
1970-1980
1980-1990

updated 04/09/2009 01:05

bibliographic search

Search FRESCO (Frick Library Catalog)
Search Arcade (NYARC Catalog)
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<tr>
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<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archives of American Art</td>
<td>Claire Zeisler papers, 1903-1992</td>
<td>see details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives of American Art</td>
<td>Oral history interview with Claire Zeisler, 1981</td>
<td>see details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Portrait Gallery Library</td>
<td>Artist file: Zeisler, Claire, 1903-1991</td>
<td>see details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Library</td>
<td>Artist file: Zeisler, Claire, 1903-1991</td>
<td>see details</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Links directly to information source

Art and Artist Files in the Smithsonian Libraries Collections

Search the Art & Artist Files

More Search Options

The Smithsonian Institution Libraries' artists' files are an exceptional resource for art historical research. Often these files are the only obtainable source of information on emerging regional and local artists. Until now, the files were largely inaccessible to those who did not travel to Washington, D.C. In 2004, several efforts were combined to produce a searchable database of artist names as the first step toward increased accessibility to these valuable files.

Smithsonian Institution Libraries

create | permissions | copyright | privacy

Smithsonian Institution
Advanced Search

Advanced Search

Fill in the form with your search criteria and click "find records".
* Click on each field below for more information.

- type
- name
- city
- state
- country (not U.S.)
- historical notes
- keywords
- decade
- gender
- repository
- repository city
- archive notes

- Find records if any fields match
- Find records if all fields match

Display: 100 Records

find records
Browsable Timeline

Timeline - Collecting in America

Below is a scrolling timeline of significant American collectors (light gray) and art dealers (dark gray) and their periods of activity. To scroll through the history, click and drag in the window or use the arrows on your keyboard to browse. Click on individual names for detailed information. To search the entire database by decade, go to advanced search.
Frick, Henry Clay, 1849–1919

**Type:** Collector

**Dates:** 1849–1919

**City:** New York

**State:** NY

**Other Cities:** Pittsburgh, PA; West Overton, PA; Mt. Pleasant, PA; Pride's Crossing, MA;

**Gender:** M

**History:** Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919), a Pittsburgh coke and steel industrialist, began forming his art collection in 1883, and continued to acquire works of art until his death in 1919. He bequeathed his New York City residence, furnishings, and art collection to be established as a public art gallery called The Frick Collection, which opened to the public in December, 1935.

Frick left the following works of art to the Hudson-Fulton Celebration, 1889:
- The Moss near Dordrecht - Albert Cuyp
- Portrait of an Artist - Frans Hals
- Cottage among Trees - Meindert Hobbeina
- Portrait of a Young Man - Rembrandt
- Self portrait - Rembrandt
- A Riderfall - Jacob van Ruisdael
- Portrait of a Lady - Gerard Terborch
- The Music Lesson - Johannes Vermeer

**Decades:**
- 1860-1880
- 1880-1900
- 1900-1910
- 1910-1920

**Website:** [http://www.frick.org/index.htm](http://www.frick.org/index.htm)
Email – opens in e-mail editor
Contribute a Record

Contribute a record or submit a subject name for further research by filling in the form below. For information about contributing groups of records, contact Samantha Deutch.

*The first three fields are required.

- your name*
- your email*
- collector/dealer name*
- type
  - Art Association
  - Artist
  - Auction House
  - Collector
  - Consultant
- life dates
- city/cities where active
- gender
- biographical/historical notes
- decades of activity
  - Pre-1700
  - 1700-1710
  - 1710-1720
  - 1720-1730
- repository
- collection title
- archives description
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Type:
- Art Association
- Artist
- Auction House
- Collector
- Consultant

- life dates
- city/cities where active

Gender:
- Male
- Female
- Other

Biographical/historical notes:

- decades of activity
- repository
- collection title

Archives descriptive summary:

Provenance:

Repository website:

Finding aid:
[link or location]

Access notes:

More information:

Submit
RSS Feed – Latest 10 postings

Latest 10 postings

raw RSS feed

Featured Archives - Center for the History of Collecting in America

Galerie Günther Franke
Franke (1900-1976) worked with J.B. Neumann in Berlin 1918-23. In 1923 Neumann opened the Munich branch of his gallery, and left for New York, leaving... read more

Mortimer, Richard
Mortimer was a collector, wool manufacturer and trader. He was born in Yorkshire, England and emigrated to the US in 1916, he retired wealthy in... read more

Peter H. Davidson & Co.
Commercial art gallery, New York, N.Y., established by Peter H. Davidson in 1971...read more

Magnin, Grover A.
Collector of fine and decorative arts, businessman, president of L.Magnin (1944-1964, west coast women's clothing store), and a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor...read more

Rifkind, Robert Gora.
In addition to being collector of German Expressionist art, Rifkind is an attorney and managing...
Purpose and Scope

The Archives Directory for the History of Collecting was created to guide art researchers to primary source materials about American collectors and those who played a role in the formation of their collections, from Colonial times to the present. Archives related to American collectors of the fine and decorative arts, including antiquities and non-Western art are included. The Directory also lists primary source materials about dealers, galleries, and auction houses. Information about collectors who concentrated exclusively on folk art, books, manuscripts, autographed documents, stamps, baseball cards, or other collectibles is not included, unless they also collected categories of art covered by the Directory. The Directory serves an international community of museum, academic and art professionals, most notably those seeking to chronicle the history of collecting in America. Each record provides information about specific archival collections, where they are located, context when available, links, and contact information. The periods of collecting activity covered by the directory depends upon the existence of subject archives and the availability of information about these resources. For a visual graph of the coverage by decade, see the Data Snapshot.

Resources

Information gathered for the Directory has been compiled from sources ranging from obituaries, newspaper articles, books, Library of Congress authority records, library public catalog records, and published archival finding aids. Examples of specific sources include the New York Times archives, NewspaperARCHIVE.com, Getty Collectors files, Library of Congress authority records, The National Gallery of Art provenance search and Google searches. The following sources were also consulted in locating specific archival collections: The National Union Catalog of Manuscripts (NUCMC), WorldCat, as well as individual repository online public access catalogs such as the Smithsonian Institution Research Information System, the Getty Research Institute Research Library Catalog, and the New York Art Resources Consortium’s Arcade. Researchers are advised to contact relevant local surrogate’s courts for obtaining copies of wills and estate inventories concerning specific art collectors as this information is not recorded in the Directory.

Data Structure

The directory database consists of three related data tables: 1) a collectors file (includes dealers, galleries and auction houses), 2) a repository file, and 3) an archival holdings file. The collectors and the repository files function as authorities while the archival holdings file comprises collection-level information about archival holdings as described by repositories in online MARC catalogs and publications. Library of Congress authority record headings are applied where available. Where Library of Congress headings are not available, subject and institution names comply with AACR2 standards. Records for collectors, dealers, and advisors include life dates of the individuals when known, whereas records for institutional entities such as galleries and auction houses provide dates of operation when known.

Search Fields

The Directory can be searched by keyword in the search box available on every page or by going to the Advanced Search page. The Keywords search field includes subject names, associations, and cities—but not repository information unless it appears in the record description itself.

Type of record refers to subject category which includes among others “dealer,” “gallery,” “artist,” and
Data Snapshot

The graph above shows the number of dealer and collector archives listed in the directory by decade of the subject's collecting activity. These figures were compiled by doing a database search by decade.
Search Fields Defined

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The Directory can be searched by keyword in the search box available on every page or by going to the Advanced Search page.

The Keywords search field includes subject names, associations, and obies—but not repository information unless it appears in the record description itself.

Type of record refers to subject category which includes among others “dealer,” “gallery,” “artist,” and “patron” and “collector.”

Name refers to subject name and can be searched by full name (first and last), first name, or last name. A truncated name will return the closest match. For example, “wild” will return Wildenstein and “ken” will return both Kennedy Galleries and Mitchell Kennerley.

City refers to city of the subject’s activity and can be searched by all or part of the city name. For example, “bos” will return records for dealers and collectors who were active in “Boston”.

State names are abbreviated (e.g. “NY”).

Country names are not abbreviated (n.b. This search will only find countries outside of the United States. “United Kingdom” is used instead of England or Great Britain).

The Historical Notes fields includes the biography section of records and historical notes taken directly from the collections finding aid.

Decade refers to the decades that a dealer, gallery, collector, auction house, etc. were active in their respective roles in the art world. For example, Louise Waldron Elder Havemeyer’s life dates are 1855-1929, but she did not begin collecting art until the 1870s while traveling through Europe. She continued to collect until the decade of her death. Therefore, her activity decades in the directory are listed as 1870-1889, 1890-1899, 1890-1900, 1900-1910, 1910-1920, and 1920-1930.

Individuals are divided by Gender. Associations, galleries, and auction houses are listed as “N/A”.

Repository refers to the location of the archival material. Repository name and Repository City may be searched by either the full name or part of the name.

Archive Notes includes information from the “scope and content” notes in the catalog records of the archive.
Sample: Collector/Dealer with Artist Files
Sample: Art Dealer and Artist
Sample: Artist File Records

- **Title:** Artist file: Bard, Joellen; miscellaneous uncataloged material.
  - **Repository:** The Museum of Modern Art
  - **Description:** The folder may include announcements, clippings, press releases, brochures, reviews, invitations, small exhibition catalogs, and other ephemeral material.
  - **Location:** MoMA Queens Artist Files
  - **Call Number:** Bard, Joellen
  - **Extent:** 1 folder
  - **Access:** Contact repository for restrictions and policies.
  - **Source:** http://arcade.nyarc.org:80/record=b698367-s1
  - **Updated:** 01/23/2009 11:50:23

- **Title:** Artist file. Bard, Joellen.
  - **Repository:** The Brooklyn Museum Libraries and Archives
  - **Description:** The file may include any of the following materials: announcements, clippings, photographs, press releases, brochures, reviews, invitations, small exhibition catalogs, resumes, other ephemeral material.
  - **Location:** Found in BMA artist files
  - **Call Number:** AP BMA B
  - **Extent:** 1 folder
  - **Access:** Contact repository for restrictions and policies.
  - **Source:** http://arcade.nyarc.org:80/record=b779490-s1
  - **Updated:** 04/02/2009 16:30:24

- **Title:** Artist File: Bard, Joellen
  - **Repository:** National Portrait Gallery Library
  - **Description:** Folder(s) may include exhibition announcements, newspaper and/or magazine clippings, press releases, brochures, reviews, invitations, illustrations, resumes, artist’s statements, exhibition catalogs.
  - **Extent:** Contact repository for further details
Links to information source
Convergence, Collaboration and Content contribution by users and professionals alike are the keys to its success and sustainability.
INSTITUTIONS CURRENTLY IN THE DIRECTORY W/ ARTIST FILE HOLDINGS

- Archives of American Art
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Baltimore Museum of Art
- Columbia University Libraries
- Detroit Public Library
- Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
- Getty Research Institute
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Library
- Huntington Library
- Indiana Historical Society
- Johns Hopkins University
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Lehigh University
- Library of Congress
- Keeneland Association Library
- National Museum of African Art
- National Portrait Gallery Library
- Prints and Photographs Study Room (308)
- The Brooklyn Museum Libraries and Archives
- University of Pennsylvania
- Yale University Library