

Finding Aid to the Rabin and Krueger Gallery Collection, 1903-2003 (bulk: 1935-1961)



Special Collections Division
The Newark Public Library
5 Washington Street, PO Box 630, Newark, New Jersey 07101-0630
Phone: (973) 733-7745; Email: specialcollections@npl.org
URL: <http://npl.org/special-collections/>

© 2011 All rights reserved.

Title: Rabin and Krueger Gallery Collection

Dates: 1903-2003 (bulk: 1935-1961)

Location: Special Collections

Extent: 6.17 lin. ft. (2 file drawers & 1 oversize flat box)

Processed: Processed by Whit Waterbury, November 2010 – February 2011.

Abstract: Collection of papers, photographs, etc. pertaining to artists represented by the Cooperative Gallery and later the Rabin and Krueger Gallery in Newark, New Jersey.

Provenance: Gift of Bernard Rabin, ca. 1974.

Restrictions on Access

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

Photocopying of materials is limited and no materials may be photocopied without permission from library staff.

Use Restrictions

Researchers wishing to publish reproduce, or reprint materials from this collection must obtain permission.

Preferred Citation

Rabin and Krueger Gallery Collection, Special Collections Division, Newark Public Library.

Scope and Content

The Rabin and Krueger Collection is comprised of the contents of the files from the two galleries operated by Bernard Rabin and Nathan Krueger. These contents include correspondence,

photographs and negatives, both of artists, their works, and their installations, gallery notices, gallery brochures, clippings, artist book project materials, and holiday cards. The gallery represented contemporary artists, and most of them were painters. The artists were from both the United States, mostly New Jersey, and Europe, mostly Italy, and included Bernard Gussow, Henry Gasser, Raphael Soyer, and Joseph Stella.

Processing Note

With the exception of some material concerning a 1981 exhibit about Rabin and Krueger, materials dated after the gallery closing were presumed to be added by library staff and were removed to the artists' information files.

Biographical Note

Nathan Krueger – born 1916; died October 29, 1961, Newark, NJ.

Krueger was known for his assistance to and encouragement of young artists, but also as a strong promoter and supporter of the Newark Museum. In 1938 he was instrumental in their acquisition of Joseph Stella's five panel *New York Interpreted* (1922), which the Museum owns to this day. Krueger was a patron of Rafael Soyer, about whom Krueger edited and published a book called: *Raphael Soyer Paintings and Drawings*. In addition to his work with Bernard Rabin, Krueger was a leader in establishing the American Arts Congress in New Jersey, as well as sponsoring several art groups in New York.

Bernard Rabin – born November 1, 1916, Bronx, NY; died March 24, 2003, Boynton Beach, FL.

Mr. Rabin studied at Newark State Teachers College (now, Kean University) but was expelled for exhibiting a nude painting. He was later awarded an honorary degree by the university. In addition to his work with Nathan Krueger and their gallery he was renowned for his work in art restoration.

He studied with Brooklyn Museum conservators Sheldon and Caroline Keck. He was credited with developing a method for removing a painting from its original canvas and transferring it intact to a new support.

Mr. Rabin led the American team of restoration experts at the Uffizi Galleries in Florence after the floods of November 1966. He also was credited with saving a waterlogged collection of early musical instruments at Florence's Bardini museum.

He refurbished the Brumidi fresco inside the Capital dome in Washington, D.C. and restored the ceiling at the U.S. Library of Congress. He restored a portrait of Andrew Jackson in the White House. He worked on many works at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and Museum of Modern Art, including Monet's *Water Lilies*.

He was a Fellow of the American Institute of Conservation and the International Institute of Conservation. He taught conservation and restoration at Princeton, where he was conservator of the university's art collection.

Together they established the Rabin and Krueger American Drawing Fund at the Newark Museum.

Historical Note

Bernard Rabin and Nathan Krueger met in 1927 at an art class at Fawcett School (later the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts). They began what would be a 26 year partnership as

Newark art dealers on November 1, 1935. They established their first gallery, The Cooperative Gallery, May 1, 1936, at 120 Washington Street, to reflect the "American scene as local artists portrayed it." The gallery also offered framing and restoration services.

Their first show included works by John R. Grabach, Bernard Gussow, Raphael Soyer, Diego Rivera, Joseph Stella, and Bertram Hartman. In 1937 they showed the works of six photographers, including Berenice Abbott, Margaret Bourke-White and Irving Rusinow. In 1937 they also sponsored, with the American Artists Congress, the "First Annual New Jersey Competitive Exhibition."

In 1939 they changed the name to the Rabin and Krueger Gallery and relocated to 95 Halsey Street. The gallery moved for the last time in 1946 to 47 Halsey Street, Newark, where they continued exhibitions and the framing and restoration business. In 1947 they hired James Nutile, a young artist who started as a part-time framer. He moved to full-time and helped Krueger design special frame moldings.

After their 20th anniversary in 1956 Rabin began to focus on art conservation. This interest took him on a work–study program at the Uffizi Galleries. Krueger began work on a monograph on Raphael Soyer entitled Raphael Soyer Paintings and Drawings that was published in 1961.

On October 29, 1961 Nathan Krueger died. Rabin was deeply involved in his conservation but decided to keep the gallery open and offered gallery partnership to James Nutile who accepted. After the riots in the summer of 1967 Newark fell on severely hard times, with business and home-owners fleeing the city. Nutile considered moving the gallery but decided, instead, with Rabin, to close its doors in 1974.

Bernard Rabin continued with his conservation and restoration work until his death March 24, 2003.

Related Collections

Bernard Rabin's papers concerning his conservation work, beginning ca. 1957, are held by The Winterthur Library.

Access Points

The entries below represent persons, organizations, topics, forms, and occupations documented in this collection.

Subject Names:

Burliuk, David, 1882-1967
Gasser, Henry M., 1909-[1981]
Gussow, Bernard
Hartman, C. Bertram, 1882-1960
Kollwitz, Käthe, 1867-1945
Konrad, Adolf, 1915-[2003]
Krueger, Nathan, 1916-10/29/61
Rabin, Bernard, 1916-2003
Soyer, Raphael, 1899-1987
Stella, Joseph, 1877-1946

Subject Topics:

Art, Modern
Art Galleries – New Jersey – Newark – History

Artists – New Jersey – 20th Century
Artists – U.S. – 20th Century
Artists – Italy – 20th Century
Social Realism

Document Types:

Brochures
Clippings
Drawings
Letters
Negatives
Photographs
Watercolors

Bibliography

"Bernard Rabin, 86, Restorer of Artwork in U.S. and Italy," New York Times,, March 30, 2003.
"Bernard Rabin of Cranbury, well-known art restorer, 86," Star-Ledger [Newark, N.J.] , April 10, 2003.
De Salvo, Donna M. and Rizzo, Nicholas F., Jr. Rabin & Krueger Gallery 1935-1974: Reconstructed. Union, NJ: Kean College of New Jersey, 1981.
"Krueger Death Cost N.J. Art a Staunch Advocate," New Jersey Music and Arts, December, 1961.
"N. Krueger, Art Dealer," Newark Evening News, October 30,1961.
"Nathan Krueger, 45, Newark Art Dealer," New York Times, October 30, 1961.

Container List

Folder	Contents	Dates
1	Rabin & Krueger folder: Index of Names & A Brief History of the Gallery	
2	Rabin & Krueger folder: Gallery Clippings, Catalogs, Krueger 1961 Obit, Rabin 2003 Obit, Exhibition Material for 1981 "Rabin & Krueger Gallery 1935 – 1974: Reconstructed" exhibit at Kean College	1938-1981
3	Rabin & Krueger folder: Clippings from newspapers unrelated to the gallery (source material for drawings?)	1935-1939
4	Rabin & Krueger folder: Krueger, Nathan – Correspondence (1942-60), photos of art	1942-1960
5	Rabin & Krueger folder: (Personal/Family) – Misc. Documents, Correspondence, Photos & Children's Art	1949-1960
6	Rabin & Krueger folder: Correspondence (Personal & Gallery-related)	1953-1961
7	Rabin & Krueger folder: Unattributed Drawings (charcoal, pencil, pen), water color	1947+
8	Rabin & Krueger folder: Rabin, Bernard ---Correspondence, much with Nathan Krueger	1953-1961
9	Rabin & Krueger folder: I.F., Photographs & negatives	1939-1962
10	Ault, George – holiday card with 1924 illustration; 1950 Memorial Exhibition Milch Gallery brochure	1924?-1950
11	Ayaso, Manuel – letter	1961
12	Baizerman, Saul – gallery brochures, teaching & exhibition notices	1936-1939

13	Barnet, Will – gallery brochure and notice	1960+
14	Bell, Enid – letter and CV	1958
15	Ben-Samuel, Ahron – correspondence	1936
16	Benn, Ben – gallery brochure, letter & Britannica biography	1949-1960(?)
17	Bluemner, Oscar – 2 copies of B&W photograph of painting, "Landscape"	ca. 1939
18	Boumeester, Christine – gallery notices, booklet, correspondence, original watercolor (see also Christine Goetz, Henri Goetz)	1952-1958
19	Brecher, Sam – letter	1952
20	Brouwers, W. – correspondence	1956
21	Brzostoski, John – gallery notices	ca. 1957
22	Burliuk, David – gallery brochures and notices (see also oversize Rabin & Krueger box)	1931-1959
23	Burliuk, David – gallery notices, correspondence, photographs of paintings, Color and Rhyme magazine index (see also oversize Rabin & Krueger box – 3 issues of Color and Rhyme magazine: #'s 13, 18, & 31)	
24	Canade, Vincent – correspondence, Britannica bio, artist photo gallery notice	1937-1959
25	Cappello, Emanuele – correspondence, photographs of paintings	1960-1961
26	Carlin, James – correspondence, gallery notices & brochure	1949-1959
27	Chapin, James – bio	1938
28	Citron, Minna – photographs of paintings, gallery brochure	1959
29	Courlander, David – clippings, photographs of paintings, press release	ca. 1953
30	Dailey, Frank – catalog bio	ca. 1939
31	Davis Galleries – gallery notices & brochures, letter	1954-1959
32	Davis, Hubert – clippings, photographs of paintings, correspondence, gallery notices & brochures	1937-1951
33	Davis, James F. – clipping, gallery notice	1940
34	Dinnerstein, Harvey – letter	1961
35	Dobbs, John B. – letter and gallery notice	1957-1959
36	Dovgard, David – photographs of paintings, gallery brochure	1937
37	Drewes, Werner – gallery brochure	1936
38	Eilshemuis, Louis M. – correspondence	1937-1941
39	Eilshemuis, Louis M. – correspondence, gallery brochures & notices	1937-1959
40	Epstein, Jacob – clippings, photocopy of photograph of artist's family	1955-1961
41	Feldman, Hilda – photographs of paintings, gallery notice	1940
42	Fiene, Ernest – correspondence, gallery notice	1938- ca.1952
43	Flynn, Roger A. – gallery brochure	1954
44	Frank, Helen – gallery notices, original watercolor	1956-1960
45	Gasser, Henry – photographs of paintings, book, gallery brochures	1940-1966
46	Gasser, Henry – layout of dummy for book "Picture Making," p 1-50	ca. 1920-70
47	Gasser, Henry – layout of dummy for book "Picture Making," p 51-80	ca. 1920-70
48	Gasser, Henry – layout of dummy for book "Picture Making," p 81-128	ca. 1920-70
49	Gasser, Henry – photocopy of layout of dummy for book "Picture Making"	ca. 1920-70
50	Gauss, Eugene – gallery notice & brochure	1960
51	Goeller, Charles – gallery notice, bio	1940

52	Goetz, Christine – correspondence, 3 original works (see also Christine Boumeester, Henri Goetz)	1954-1957
53	Goetz, Henri – correspondence, signed books, clipping, gallery notice & brochures	1954-1961
54	Gorman, William & Gary, Jan – clippings, gallery program, holiday cards, 8 photographs of paintings	1957
55	Grabach, John R. – correspondence, clippings, notices, gallery brochures, photographs of paintings and gallery	1938-1953
56	Grazzini, Renzo – gallery brochure and notice (Italian), clipping (Italian), photographs of paintings	1959-1960
57	Gropper, William – catalog, gallery list, correspondence	1938- 1958
58	Groshans, Werner – postcard	1945
59	Gross, Chaim – correspondence, gallery brochures, clippings, movie brochure, photographs of sculptures	1937-1953
60	Guidi, Ugo – correspondence	1959
61	Guidi, Ugo – photographs of sculpture, mailing envelope	1959
62	Gussow, Alan – correspondence, gallery brochure	1961
63	Gussow, Bernard (listed variously as Bernar Gussow; see also oversize Rabin & Krueger box) – gallery notices & brochures	1917-1958
64	Gussow, Bernard – clippings	1928-1959
65	Gussow, Bernard – scrap book & photocopy of scrapbook	1918-1928
66	Gussow, Bernard – correspondence	1910-1960
67	Gussow, Bernard – correspondence, death notice, notebook, photographic plate, speech, clippings, holiday cards	1905-1960
68	Gussow, Bernard – photographs of art and negatives, artist's pin	1938-1950
69	Gussow, Bernard – photographs of art and negatives, 3 original (?) drawings	ca. 1920-70
70	Gussow, Bernard – personal photographs & negatives	1903-1935
71	Hartman, Bertram – photographs, photocopy of envelope	ca. 1920-70
72	Hartman, Bertram – gallery notices and brochures, correspondence	1918-1939
73	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of stained glass, hooked rug, sculpture, design, & girls life class Art Institute of Chicago 1909	1909-1929
74	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of batiks and batiks at a gallery	ca. 1924
75	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of urban paintings & 1 negative	1926-1938
76	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of nautical paintings	ca. 1937
77	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of paintings – people & portraits	1937-1941
78	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of still-life paintings	ca. 1940(?)
79	Hartman, Bertram – photographs of rural paintings	ca. 1920-70
80	Hayward, Peter – 2 photographs of one painting, envelope inscribed "New York Pic"	ca. 1920-70
81	Hering, Harry – gallery notices & brochures, original watercolor with envelope	1944-1961
82	Hilowitz, Eleanor – correspondence, gallery notice	1955-1961
83	Hoffman, H.O. – photograph of painting, "The Beggars"	ca. 1920-70
84	Jones, Joe – one letter	1939
85	Josende, Leo. P. – one letter	1956
86	Kaufman, Stuart – 3 slides of paintings, correspondence, gallery notices & brochures	1958-1961

87	Kent, Rockwell – correspondence, MOMA notice	1953-1954
88	Kollwitz, Käthe – correspondence, gallery notice, clippings	1948-1960
89	Konrad, Adolf – correspondence, gallery notices, 2 original works	1947- 1966(?)
90	Krigstein, Bernie – correspondence	1957-1959
91	Kruse, Alexander – clipping	1949
92	Laurent, Robert – correspondence	1938-1957
93	Lenney, Annie – correspondence, gallery notices	1956-1958
94	Leon, Ralph – clippings, correspondence, gallery notices	1953-1961
95	Loffredo, Silvio – gallery notice (Livorno, Italy)	1952
96	Loughran, William S. – photograph of painting, gallery biography	ca. 1939
97	Louis, Lynn – letter and gallery notice	1960
98	Lozowick, Louis – correspondence, gallery notices	1953-1961
99	Lucchesi, Bruno – correspondence	1959
100	Ludwig, Amalia – gallery notices	1938
101	Mager, Gus – correspondence	1933-1960
102	Mager, Gus – clippings, photographs of paintings, gallery brochures & notices, Britannica biography	1937-1956
103	Mariani, Leonardo – one letter, one holiday card (original painting)	ca. 1954
104	Marma, Rodolfo – correspondence, photographs of sculpture & painting	1949-1961
105	Marsh, Anne Steele – correspondence, clipping, gallery brochure	ca.1939- 1951
106	Masieri, Enzo – correspondence, clippings (Italian)	1953-1959
107	Maurer, Leonard – correspondence, gallery brochure, photographs of Paintings, clippings	1953-1960
108	Mosca, August – correspondence, gallery brochures & notices	1942-1960
109	Moser, Kurt – one letter	1959
110	Mostaccio, V. – receipt	1958
111	Muse, Issac Lane – clippings, photographs of paintings, biography	1933- ca.1939
112	Naeve, Lowell – correspondence, book notices	1959
113	Picken, George – one letter	1936
114	Pielage, Josef – correspondence	1941
115	Pollack, Max – one letter	1960
116	Polloni, Silvio – correspondence, photographs of paintings, gallery notice (Italy), photograph of artist	1959-1960
117	Rist, Luigi – gallery brochure	ca. 1920-70
118	Rivera, Diego – photographs of paintings	1906-1956
119	Rose, Herman – gallery brochures, original print, Britannica biography	1946-1960
120	Rosmini, John – gallery brochure	ca.1946
121	Rothman, Max – correspondence, photographs of paintings, gallery brochure & notice	ca. 1939- 1942
122	Russinow, Irving – written draft of gallery notice	[1937]
123	Russell, Gordon – one letter, one clipping	1958
124	St. Lawrence, Joseph – one letter	1959
125	Sandol, Maynard – gallery invitation	ca. 1920-70

126	Schaffer, Rose – correspondence, clipping	1957-1961
127	Schonwalter, Jean – correspondence, gallery brochures	1956-1957
128	Schwartz, Lillian – gallery brochure	1967
129	Scolamiero, Peter – gallery notice	ca. 1920-70
130	Scudder, Antoinette – correspondence	1940-1941
131	Sebastian, Gonzalo – gallery brochure	1958
132	Sibirnyi, Alex – clippings, gallery brochure	1959
133	Simpson, Marshall – correspondence, gallery brochures, photographs of paintings, clippings	1938-1948
134	Simpson, Maxwell – correspondence, gallery brochure, clippings, holiday cards	1936-1960
135	Sloan, John – clipping, one letter	1936-1940
136	Smith, Vern – correspondence, holiday cards, one with original painting gallery notice	1957-1961
137	Sopher, Aaron – correspondence, biography	1956
138	Soyer, Moses – correspondence, gallery brochures, photographs of paintings, photograph of artist signed by artist, holiday cards	1938-1960
139	Soyer, Raphael – correspondence, extract from 1960 speech	1936-1961
140	Soyer, Raphael – dummy layout for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings, pages 1-70; envelope with all loose text blocks	ca. 1920-70
141	Soyer, Raphael – photographs of models, book, gallery notice	1946-1950
142	Soyer, Raphael – dummy layout for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings, pages 71-112;	ca.1959-1960
143	Soyer, Raphael – dummy layout for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings, pages 113-156	ca.1959-1960
144	Soyer, Raphael – dummy layout for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings, pages 157-190	ca.1959-1960
145	Soyer, Raphael – photocopy of dummy layout for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings	ca.1959-1960
146	Soyer, Raphael – page proofs of art for book: Raphael Soyer, Paintings and Drawings. More in Rabin And Krueger Oversize box	ca.1959-1960
147	Soyer, Raphael – gallery brochures and notices	1935-1961
148	Soyer, Raphael – photographs of paintings	1959
149	Soyer, Raphael – clippings, Britannica biography	1937-1961
150	Sozio, Armando – correspondence, gallery brochures	1960
151	Spindler, Louis – gallery notices, photograph of painting: "House of Moliere, Montmartre, Paris"	1952-1957
152	Stella, Joseph – correspondence, gallery brochures, Britannica bio, photographs of paintings, clippings (4/30/39 Newark Evening News article mentions other Rabin & Krueger artists: Gus Mager, Bernar Gussow, Vincent Canade, John R, Grabach, & Maxwell Simpson)	1937-1960
153	Sternberg, Harry – correspondence	1936-1939
154	Tielkemeir, Ken – correspondence, gallery brochure, photographs of paintings and artist	1957-1959
155	Tielkemeir, Ken – photographs of paintings by Dino Caponi and of artist	1956-1958
156	Toppi, Mario – correspondence, negative and photographs of paintings, gallery	1923-1960
157	Triano, Anthony T. – clipping, correspondence, gallery notice	1956-1958
158	Van Den, Boomer H. – correspondence, photographs of paintings	1954-1959

159	Van Ramp, Joe – correspondence, original pen drawings, gallery notices, artist photo, original water color. More in Rabin and Krueger oversize box.	1937-1961
160	Walkowitz, Abraham – clipping	1930
161	Weingartner, Hans – correspondence, gallery notice	1936-1940
162	Wickey, Harry – gallery brochures, catalog copy	ca. 1939
163	Wiggins, Guy – correspondence	1956
164	Zimmerman, Perry – correspondence	1958-1959