

---

## **Max Yavno Photograph Collection, circa 1945 - 1950**

Ella Strong Denison Library

© 2020

Scripps College. All rights reserved.

1090 Columbia Ave

Claremont 91711

Email: [denison@scrippscollege.edu](mailto:denison@scrippscollege.edu)

URL: [www.scrippscollege.edu/offices/denison](http://www.scrippscollege.edu/offices/denison)

---

## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Yavno (Max) Photographs Collection

**Dates:** circa 1945-1950

**Collection number:** D.Mss.0975

**Creator:** Yavno, Max (1911 - 1985)

**Extent:** 2 boxes

**Repository:** Scripps College. Ella Strong Denison Library. Claremont, CA 91711.

**Abstract:** The Max Yavno photograph collection contains photographs taken by Yavno of the Scripps College campus and of Scripps student life from 1945 to 1950. Some of the photographs were published in 1950 in *The Los Angeles Book*, which Yavno co-created with Lee Shipley.

**Physical location:** Please consult repository.

**Language of materials:** Languages represented in the collection: English.

### **Access**

Collection is open for research.

### **Publication Rights**

All requests for permission to publish must be submitted in writing to Denison Library.

### **Preferred Citation**

Max Yavno Photographs. Ella Strong Denison Library, Libraries of The Claremont Colleges.

### **Acquisition Information**

Commissioned by Scripps College, circa 1945.

### **Processing History**

Processed by Lorain Wang in 2003. All of the photographs were received mounted and have been maintained in its original format. In processing the collection, each photograph was assigned a unique identification number.

### **Biography**

Max Yavno was born in New York City on April 26, 1911. He is known for his work in fine art and commercial photography and for his ability to capture urban life in his photographs. After earning his Bachelor of Social Science from the City College of New York in 1932, he attended the School of Business Administration at Columbia University and a year later, enrolled in Columbia's political science graduate program. In 1935, Yavno worked briefly as a social worker at the New York City Home Relief Bureau. It was during the mid-1930s that Yavno became involved in photography professionally, working for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as a photographer. He also joined the Photo League and later served as president of the organization in 1938. During World War II, Yavno served in the United States Army Air Force as a photography instructor. After returning from the war, Yavno moved to Los Angeles in 1945 where he worked as a freelance photographer for magazines such as *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*. In 1948, he collaborated with Herb Caen to create *The San Francisco Book*, which contained photographs taken by Yavno. In 1950, another compilation of Yavno's photographs was published in *The Los Angeles Book*, with text written by Lee Shipley. During the 1950s, Yavno devoted his skills to commercial photography and was awarded the New York Art Directors Gold Medal in 1954 and 1955. In 1954, he opened a commercial photography studio in Los Angeles. During the 1960s, Yavno's *The Story of Wine in California* and *Natzler Ceramics* were published. In 1975, Yavno turned away from commercial photography to focus on creating artistic photographs, traveling to Death Valley in California and to other countries including Israel, Egypt, Mexico, and Morocco. Solo exhibitions of his work were held at various galleries around the country. In 1981, *The Photography of Max Yavno* was published. At the age of 74, Max Yavno passed away on March 4, 1985. Citations:

"A Biography of Max Yavno." UCR/California Museum of Photography. 23 June 2003  
[www.cmp.ucr.edu/exhibitions/yavno/bio.html](http://www.cmp.ucr.edu/exhibitions/yavno/bio.html).

"The Artists and Their Visions." Center for Creative Photography. 23 June 2003  
[www.library.arizona.edu/branches/ccp/education/guides/sisyavgd/artguid.htm](http://www.library.arizona.edu/branches/ccp/education/guides/sisyavgd/artguid.htm).

"Max Yavno Chronology." Center for Creative Photography. 23 June 2003  
[www.library.arizona.edu/branches/ccp/education/guides/sisyavgd/yavchrn.htm](http://www.library.arizona.edu/branches/ccp/education/guides/sisyavgd/yavchrn.htm).

### **Scope and Content of the Collection**

The collection is comprised of photographs taken by Max Yavno around the Scripps College campus from 1945 to 1950. Most of the photographs capture student life both in and outside the classroom as well as members of the Scripps faculty interacting with students. Some of the photographs were published in 1950 in Yavno's book, *The Los Angeles Book*.

---

Box 1, Folder 1	<p><b>Drama production circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.2 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> students working on props</p>
Box 1, Folder 2	<p><b>Athletics - equestrian circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 24.2 x 19 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> students riding horses</p>
Box 1, Folder 3	<p><b>Students gathered around fireplace circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 23.6 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 4	<p><b>Tea time circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Virginia Judy Esterly having tea with students</p>
Box 1, Folder 5	<p><b>Students playing field hockey circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 22.7 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 6	<p><b>Students dancing circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 21 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 7	<p><b>Athletics - diving circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> students at pool</p>
Box 1, Folder 8	<p><b>Athletics - Fencing circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.2 x 24 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> students fencing</p>
Box 1, Folder 9	<p><b>Art class circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> seated model with art students in background</p>
Box 1, Folder 10	<p><b>Millard Sheets teaching art class 1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Millard Sheets in background with students sketching art model</p>
Box 1, Folder 11	<p><b>Outside art class circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 23.8 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Millard Sheets teaching art class outside</p>
Box 1, Folder 12	<p><b>Child care class circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.2 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> children painting in child care class in Mary B. Eyre School</p>
Box 1, Folder 13	<p><b>Class Lecture circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 18.9 x 23.2 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> students listening to professor lecture</p>

---

---

Box 1, Folder 14	<p><b>Students eating in Grace Scripps Clark Dining Hall circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 20.6 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 15	<p><b>Students studying in Denison's Main Reading Room circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 23 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 16	<p><b>North Reading Room in Denison Library circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 18.6 x 20.6 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> two students studying in North Reading Room (now Rare Book Room) in Denison Library</p>
Box 1, Folder 17	<p><b>Lang Art Gallery circa 1945-195</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 23.7 x 19.3 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Millard Sheets looking at paintings with students in Lang Art Gallery</p>
Box 1, Folder 18	<p><b>Millard Sheets in Lang Art Gallery circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Millard Sheets with students gathered in front of paintings</p>
Box 1, Folder 19	<p><b>East view of Toll Hall circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 21.2 cm</p>
Box 1, Folder 20	<p><b>Students in Toll Browsing Room circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 21 x 19.3 cm</p>
Box 2, Folder 1	<p><b>Albert Britt holding informal lecture circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 22.8 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Albert Britt holding informal lecture in classroom in Lang Art Gallery</p>
Box 2, Folder 2	<p><b>Waldo Hilary Dunn circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.1 x 24 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Waldo Hilary Dunn with 2 students</p>
Box 2, Folder 3	<p><b>Lee Pattison and music students circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.1 x 24.1 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Lee Pattison playing the piano while looking to his right at student playing the piano next to him</p>
Box 2, Folder 4	<p><b>Music with Lee Pattison circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 22.5 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Lee Pattison in foreground playing the piano looking to his left at student playing the piano next to him</p>
Box 2, Folder 5	<p><b>Music circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 24.1 x 19 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Lee Pattison with students playing the piano</p>
Box 2, Folder 6	<p><b>Lee Pattison circa 1945-1950</b>  <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.1 x 24 cm  <b>Abstract:</b> Lee Pattison seated at piano looking to his right at student playing the piano next to him</p>

---

---

Box 2, Folder 7	<b>Millard Sheets in front of one of his paintings circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 24.4 x 18.7 cm
Box 2, Folder 8	<b>Graffiti Wall - Class of 1939 circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 23.8 cm <b>Abstract:</b> two students standing in front of Class of 1939 Graffiti Wall
Box 2, Folder 9	<b>Graffiti Wall - Class of 1945 circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 23.8 cm <b>Abstract:</b> two students in front of Class of 1945 Graffiti Wall
Box 2, Folder 10	<b>Alfredo Ramos Martinez painting fresco in the Margaret Fowler Garden circa 1945-1946</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 24 x 19 cm
Box 2, Folder 11	<b>Gardens and grounds circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 24.2 x 19.4 cm <b>Abstract:</b> 9th Street entrance to Scripps campus
Box 2, Folder 12	<b>Two students playing tennis circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24 cm
Box 2, Folder 13	<b>Swimming pool circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.3 x 24.1cm
Box 2, Folder 14	<b>Scripps College President, Frederick Hard circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19 x 24 cm <b>Abstract:</b> close-up of Frederick Hard, president of Scripps College
Box 2, Folder 15	<b>Scripps College President, Frederick Hard circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19 x 24 cm <b>Abstract:</b> close-up of a smiling Frederick Hard, president of Scripps College
Box 2, Folder 16	<b>Students in bedroom circa 1945-1950</b> <b>Physical Description:</b> 19.8 x 19.2 cm