Guide to the J. Paul Getty Museum, Department of Manuscripts, Photographs of Unpacking the Ludwig Collection, 1983

Finding aid prepared by Sue Luftschein
Descriptive Summary

Title: Photographs of unpacking the Ludwig Collection

Date (inclusive): 1983

Number: IA20002

Creator/Collector: J. Paul Getty Museum. Dept. of Manuscripts

Physical Description: 0.1 linear feet (1 box)

Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Institutional Records and Archives
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, California, 90049-1688
(310) 440-7390
archives@getty.edu

Abstract: Records comprise photographs, and photocopies of the photographs, of the opening and unpacking of the Ludwig Collection of illuminated manuscripts purchased by the J. Paul Getty Museum, 1983.

Request Materials: To access physical materials at the Getty, go to the library catalog record for this collection and click "Request an Item." Click here for general library access policy. See the Administrative Information section of this finding aid for access restrictions specific to the records described below. Please note, some of the records may be stored off site; advanced notice is required for access to these materials.

Language: Collection material is in English

Administrative History

The early 1980s were a pivotal moment in the Getty Trust's development. The settlement of J. Paul Getty's estate precipitated lengthy discussions about the future directions of the Museum's collections. In 1983, the J. Paul Getty Museum was offered one of the finest private collection of illuminated manuscripts in the world, that of German chocolate manufacturer Peter Ludwig and his wife, Irene Ludwig. It provided the opportunity to acquire a world-class collection with a single purchase, and broadened the scope of collecting by the Getty Museum. The collection consisted of 144 illuminated manuscripts, selected with the advice of book dealer Hans P. Kraus, covering more than eleven hundred years and representing virtually every region of Europe. Particularly strong in German, central European, and later Flemish manuscripts, the collection was among the few private collections of manuscripts formed in the second half of the twentieth century that was still intact. The Trustees approved the purchase in 1983, and the Department of Manuscripts was formed with Thomas Kren, formerly Associate Curator of Paintings, as its head.


Restrictions on Access

The records described in accession 1986.IA.33 are available for use by qualified researchers.

The following types of records are permanently closed: records containing personal information, records that compromise security or operations, legal communications, legal work product, and records related to donors. The J. Paul Getty Trust reserves the right to restrict access to any records held by the Institutional Archives.

Publication Rights

Contact Library Rights and Reproductions.

Preferred Citation

[Cite the item (as appropriate)], Photographs of unpacking the Ludwig Collection, 1983, Dept. of Manuscripts, J. Paul Getty Museum. Institutional Archives, Getty Research Institute, Research Library, Finding aid no. IA20002.

Acquisition Information

The material originated in accession no. 1986.IA.33.

Processing History

Initial inventory created by intern post-2003; records were processed and finding aid was created by Sue Luftschein, April 21, 2005.

Scope and Content of Collection
Records comprise 42 3x5 inch color photographs, and 41 photocopies of the photographs, of the opening and unpacking of the Ludwig Collection of illuminated manuscripts donated to the J. Paul Getty Museum, 1983. Pictured in the photographs are the Ludwigs, Hans P. Kraus, Hanni Kraus, and Mary Ann Mitchell, New York representatives in the sale of the Ludwig Collection; Jake Zeitlin, Los Angeles book dealer who represented the Getty in the sale, and partner of H.P. Kraus in the sale; and Thomas Kren, Associate Curator of Paintings, John Caswell, Registrar's Office, and Jimmy Evans, museum preparator, J. Paul Getty Museum.

**Arrangement**
The photographs are organized in no apparent order.

**Subjects - Names**
- Kraus, Hanni
- Kraus, Hans Peter, 1907-1988
- Kren, Thomas, 1950
- Ludwig, Irene
- Ludwig, Peter, 1925-1996
- Zeitlin, Jake, 1902-

**Subjects - Corporate Bodies**
- J. Paul Getty Museum
- J. Paul Getty Trust

**Subjects - Topics**
- Art objects--Collectors and collecting
- Art--Collectors and collecting
- Art--Handling
- Museums--Acquisitions

**Genres and Forms of Material**
- Administrative records
- Manuscripts
- Photographs

**Photographs of unpacking the Ludwig Collection, 1983**

| Box 1986.IA.33-1, Folder 1 | 41 photos, Ludwig Collection unpacking (photocopies), 1983 |
| Box 1986.IA.33-1, Folder 2 | 39 photos, Ludwig Collection unpacking (originals), 1983 |