
Finding aid for the Ulrich Alexander Middeldorf papers, 1925-1981

J. Gibbs.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Ulrich Alexander Middeldorf papers

Date (inclusive): 1925-1981

Number: 840024

Creator/Collector: Middeldorf, Ulrich Alexander

Physical Description: 71.72 Linear Feet(172 boxes)

Repository:

The Getty Research Institute

Special Collections

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100

Los Angeles 90049-1688

reference@getty.edu

URL: <http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref>

(310) 440-7390

Abstract: German-American art historian who specialized in the areas of sculpture, bronzes, and the applied arts. The bulk of the collection consists of Middeldorf's research files: clippings and bibliographic notations about the arts, particularly sculpture, drawings, Renaissance medals, and applied arts such as costumes, textiles, furniture, and metalwork.

Request Materials: Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the [catalog record](#) for this collection. Click here for the [access policy](#) .

Language: Collection material is in English and German.

Biographical/Historical Note

Ulrich Alexander Middeldorf, born in 1901, was a German-American art historian who specialized in the study of sculpture, medals, and the minor and applied arts. He was director of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Longhi Institute, and then served as the director and librarian of the Kusthistorisches Institute until his death in 1983.

In addition to his research specializations, Middeldorf had an abiding interest in Italian art, and a collector's passion for the connection between art and fiction. He assembled a collection of fiction, much of it popular, paperback works, which include characters or plot lines that relate to art (artists, art history, forgery, etc.). This collection of Art in Fiction was acquired by the Getty Research Institute Library in 1984. Middeldorf's correspondence with Sybille Pantazzi about his art in fiction collecting and other interests (1966-1983) may be seen in Special Collections Accession no. 950004.

Access

Open for use by qualified researchers.

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Preferred Citation

Ulrich Alexander Middeldorf Papers 1925-1981, Getty Research Institute, Research Library, Accession no. 840024.

<http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa840024>

Acquisition Information

Acquired in 1984.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Ulrich Alexander Middeldorf papers contain some correspondence, many clippings, also photographs, postcards, bibliographic and research notes, as well as articles, offprints and annotated books, dating from ca. 1925 -1981. These papers document his research interests and contacts with other art historians and some students. His interests in Italian art, sculpture, medals and the applied arts are evident in the research files which cover costume, architecture, textiles, graphic arts, Italian artists, decorative arts, as well as sculpture and medals. The collection comprises ca. 55 linear ft.

Arrangement note

The papers are organized in five series: Series I. Clippings files (boxes 1-17); Series II. Letters and bibliographic notes (boxes 18-21); Series III. Journals and offprints (boxes 22-38); Series IV. Annotated books (boxes 39-48, 167-172); Series V. Bibliographic files (boxes 49-166).

Series I. **Clippings files, ca. 1925-1981**

Physical Description: 7.09 Linear Feet

Scope and Content Note

Series contain articles, photographs and other printed images taken from publications, and very occasionally, notes and letters, organized by subject (ca. 9 linear ft.). Subjects include individual costumes, textiles and other minor arts, decorative arts, drawings, sculpture, medals.

- box 1 **Costumes: 17th century**
box 2 **Costumes: 18th century**
box 3 **Ceramics: (pre-history, ancient, antiquity)**
box 4 **Ceramics: Italy- 15th and 16th centuries, porcelain, majolica**
box 5 **Embroidery: (incl. middle ages, 15th - 17th centuries)**
box 6 **Textiles: lace, 15th - 18th centuries**
box 7 **Textiles: general, 15th - 18th centuries**
box 8 **Furniture: gothic, baroque, rococo, 17th - 18th centuries**
box 9 **Drawings and prints: German - 15th - 18th centuries, Durer, prints, drawings - modern**
box 10 **Drawings: England, Dutch, Flemish - 17th -18th centuries, France - up to 1600, France - 17th - 18th centuries, Spain**
box 11 **Drawings: Italy (by artist A-Z)**
box 12 **Drawings: Old Masters, drawings with net, various drawings, drawings - Hamburg, drawings - private**
box 13 **African art**
box 14 **Various subjects: Pre-columbian and American Indian; Metalwork - ancient and near East; Stained glass; Wall paintings; Seals (primarily middle ages); Ormolu; Greece - 14th century musical instruments**
box 15 **Greece: archaic, 4th century, 5th century, Cyclades - Crete - Mykonos, Hellenistic, Italic and Etruscan, Antique small scale, Pre-history, Glass, Roman**
box 16 **Various subjects: Bookbinding; International modern art; Scandinavia; Photography; Exotic - various (incl. American Indian, South Seas, Latin America); Egypt; Ancient Middle East**
box 17 **Iconography**

Series II. **Letters and bibliographic notes, ca. 1925-1981**

Physical Description: ca. 2 lin. ft.

Scope and Content Note

Series contains letters from scholars and colleagues and bibliographic notes, most of which were pulled from Middeldorf's books, now in the Getty Research Library. One file of ca. 30 items consists of photocopies of letters between Bernard Berenson and J. Paul Getty, 1956.

- box 18-19 **Letters and bibliographic notes**
box 20-21 **Bibliographic notes (unsorted)**

Series III. **Journals and offprints, ca. 1925-1981**

Physical Description: 8.5 Linear Feet

Scope and Content Note

Publications sent to and collected by Middeldorf contain articles by colleagues, reviews of books, and articles of interest to Middeldorf for his research.

- box 22-38 **unsorted**

Series IV. **Annotated books, ca. 1925-1981**

Physical Description: ca. 7.5 lin. ft.

Scope and Content Note

Series includes items from Middeldorf's library which contain significant or extensive annotations. Annotations are by Middeldorf unless otherwise noted. Also includes some notes, mss and printed matter, including scant correspondence, found in the books in his library.

- box 39 **Armand. *Les Médailleurs Italiens*. vol. 1, vol. 2**
- box 40 **Armand. *Les Médailleurs Italiens*. vol.3**
- box 41 **Plates, correspondence, pamphlets relating to Stothard, R.A. *Antiken Munzen* by H. Grote, 1842, heavily annotated by Grote.**
- box 41 **German transcription (by Middeldorf) of p.7, *Pasional Abatyse Kunhut* by Jan Stenc, 1922.**
- box 41 **Lavin, Marilyn Aronberg. *Art in context: Piero della Francesca***
- box 41 **Kreytenberg, Gert. *Der Dom zu Florenz*, 1974.**
- box 41 **G.F. Hill's autobiographical notes, annotated by Middeldorf**
- box 41 **Ms. about Bernardo Rosselino by Maryla Tysckiewicz, trans. from Polish by Rosa Rosmaryn.**
- box 41 **Coxhead, A.C. *Thomas Stothard R.A.*, 1906. With reading notes and some correspondence**
- box 42 **Origin and development of Porcelain in China, by Hyulton Armond Thomas. Ph.D. diss (University of Chicago, 1943).**
- box 42 **Book review and notes by Middeldorf for book, *Old Master Drawings* by Charles de Tolnay, 1943. (Book now in Research library).**
- box 42 ***Famous Foreigners in Florence 1400-1900* by C. L. Dentler (1964). With correspondence, notes and clippings regarding the author.**
- box 42 **Typescript of a story (based on an analysis of a painting) by Philipp P. Fehl, inscribed to Middeldorf, Christmas 1979.**
- box 42 **Letter from the Gallerie St. Etienne referring to its continuation despite death of O. Kallir, dated 21 Feb 1979.**
- box 42 **Creighton Eddy Gilbert mimeograph bibliography for art history.**
- box 42 **Prel. printed draft of a memoir about Koehler (Koehler Evangelist Portraits) by Prof. David Wright.**
- box 42 **Copies of letters by Thomas Patch. With publication by Middeldorf *Due Inediti di Thomas Patch* in offprint, and letter from F. J. B. Watson on Patch.**
- box 42 **"Rudolf Ebershtadt Neue Shrdren (?) uber Stadtebarn und Wokunnngseusen I" in ms. With article "Numismatica e Sfragistica" by Francesco Panvini Rosatti and book review of Justus Bier's *Tilmann Riemenschnei der: Die Spaten Werke in Stein* by Middeldorf, from the *Renaissance Quarterly* (v.29, #1, Spring 1976)**
- box 42 ***La Donazione Loeser in Palazzo Vecchio* by Alfredo Lensi, 1934). With letter from Charles Loesser.**
- box 42 **Armand. *Les Medailleurs Italiens*, 1897.**
- box 43 **Uncorrected galley proofs of *More Memoirs of an Aesthete* by Harold Acton, signed by author, 1970.**
- box 43 **Article: "Der Meister von 1515 und das Bambaja-Skizzenbuch in Berlin" by Peter Dreyer and Matthias Winner, with notes by Middeldorf.**
- box 43 ***Youth of Michelangelo* vol.I, *The Medici Chapel* vol.III, by De Tolmay, 1943.**
- box 43 ***Bronzetti Italiani de Rinascimento* (exhibition catalog), with letters and notes.**
- box 43 ***Die Verwendung des Naturgusses in der Italienishchen Protratplastik der Renaissance* by Joseph Pohl, 1938.**
- box 43 **Middeldorf's review of *Le Placchette Italiane Secolo XV - XIX* by Eugenio Imbert, offprint from *Art Bulletin*, with notes and annotations.**
- box 44 ***Die Deutschen Renaissance: Plaketten der Sammlung A. Walcher*, 1918.**
- Gaetano Ballardini: l'uomo, il maestro, lo studioso, il realizzatore* by Guiseppe Liverani (report from convention on study of ceramics, Faenza, Italia, 1978)**
- "Michelange et la France." typescript (not by Middeldorf) 1964.**
- Typescript of "Storia della Critica su Michelangelo" by Eugenio Battisti, with handwritten corrections.**
- Typescript with annotations "Italienische Plastik" by Martin Weinberger, between 1934 and 1936?**
- box 45 **Diderot. *Oeuvres Complètes*, v. 1, v. 2, v.3.**
- box 46 **Part printed, part ms book with pasted in illustrations and annotations: *Kreis Brilon* by Paul Michels, 1952.**

box 46	La Pittura Bizantina by Paolo Muratoff, 1928, not annotated but with anonymous enclosed notes regarding the text.
box 46	"A Nollekens Bust in the Art Institute of Chicago," typescript by Clifton B. White, 1940.
box 47	Papers pulled from books:
box 47	3 letters to C.R. Rudolf re his drawings collection.
box 47	1 folder of letters, most to Middeldorf, regarding offprints he sent to others to read and material others sent to him. Includes letters from: Irwin Panofsky, Elizabeth Jastrow, John Pope Hennessy, ca. 10 letters, scattered dates, 1936-1962.
box 47	Clippings, re: Michelangelo.
box 47	Various offprints, typescripts about Michelangelo.
box 48*	G. F. Hill. A Corpus of Italian Medals. 2 vol, text and plates.
box 167	Annotated books
box 168	Annotated books
box 169	Annotated books
box 170	Annotated books, with some correspondence, & studies
box 171	Annotated books
box 172	Annotated books

Series V. **Bibliographic files, ca. 1925-1981**

Physical Description: 117 box(es)ca. 25 lin. ft.

Scope and Content Note

Series comprises a bibliography on index cards, small photographs and postcards organized by subject. Topics include: Italian art and artists, Renaissance medals, minor arts (textiles, wood, ceramics, metal), sculpture, drawings, iconography, decorative arts, art in fiction, architecture, painting, and historiography.

box 49	Postcards, Sculpture: Germany up to 1450
box 50	Postcards, Sculpture: Germany 1450- 1880
box 51	Postcards, Sculpture: not German and Italian.
box 52	Postcards Furniture and Metal
box 53	Postcards, Dec Arts
box 54	Postcards, Minor Arts, Costume
box 55	Postcards, Dwgs. Minor Arts Foreign and Late Copies
box 56	Postcards Siena, Pavement. Drwgs. Prints
box 57	Postcards: Painting Classic Middle Ages
box 58	Postcards Painting Various Countries.
box 59	Postcards Modern and to be filed
box 60	Postcards Architecture Town Planning
box 61	Postcards Architecture Various Countries
box 62	Postcard Architecture Germany H - Z Austria etc.
box 63	Related Fields
box 64	Collecting Dealing
box 65	Museums Protection Forgery
box 66	History of Art History Critics A - K
box 67	Critics L - Z
box 68	History General Antiquity Countries
box 69	Art in Fiction
box 70	Law Artist and Society Academies
box 71	Bibliographies Dictionaries
box 72	Collectanea
box 73	History Aides
box 74	Method Style Art Theory
box 75	Dec. Arts Sources Theory Techn. Sources
box 76	Arch. Theory 'til 18th C.
box 77	Arch. Theory 1800 ft. Gardens Sources Theory
box 78	Techn. Treatises Painting
box 79	Tech. Treatises Painting Special Problems Graphics

box 80	Hist. Sources France
box 81	18th C. Napoleon General, Middle Ages, 15th C., 17th C. around 1700's
box 82	Hist. Sources England
box 83	Hist. Sources Germany
box 84	Hist. Sources Italy
box 85	Est. Sources Collectanea till 17th C.
box 86	Est. Sources 19th C. Hist. Sources Varia
box 87	Hist. Est. Topics Est. Sources 20th C. Towns
box 88	Top Sources General and Outside Italy
box 89	Top Sources Outside Italy Rome
box 90	Top Sources Italy (not Rome)
box 91	Travel
box 92	Iconography General
box 93	Iconography Portrait
box 94	Iconography History, Culture, Lit., Book III.
box 95	Icon. Religion General Hist. Liturgy
box 96	Icon. Bible Old and New Test
box 97	Icon. Trinity Christ
box 98	Icon. Late Cycles Saints
box 99	Icon. Symbols
box 100	Iconography Symbols (Nature)
box 101	Icon. Allegory Astrology, Mythology
box 102	Drawings
box 103	Graphic Arts Paper
box 104	Minor Arts General
box 105	Goldsmiths
box 106	Goldsmiths Italy
box 107	Minor Arts Metal General
box 108	Minor Arts Textiles
box 109	Minor Arts Textiles II
box 110	Minor Arts Textiles III
box 111	Minor Arts Wood
box 112	Minor Arts Ceramics
box 113	Minor Arts Ceramic Countries
box 114	Minor Arts Miscellanea
box 115	Study of Sculpture
box 116	Study of Sculpture II
box 117	Study of Sculpture III
box 118	Study of Sculpture IV
box 119	Study of Sculpture Technique
box 120	Study of Sculpture VI
box 121	Sculpture Italy General
box 122	Sculpture Italy Ren.
box 123	Sculpture Italy Ren. Relation with Antiquity
box 124	Sculpture Italy Ren. Problems
box 125	Founders
box 126	Decor. Bronzes
box 127	Medals
box 128	Wood
box 129	Ammanati
box 130	Amorotti
box 131	Bandinelli
box 132	Benedetto
box 133	Bologna
box 134	Bresciano
box 135	Caraffe
box 136	Ciona
box 137	Donatello

box 138	Desiderio
box 139	Ferrucci
box 140	Gagini
box 141	Giovanni
box 142	Gabriele
box 143	Jacquierio
box 144	Liberale
box 145	Michelangelo
box 146	Mabila
box 147	Matera
box 148	Modesto
box 149	Occhio
box 150	Pilacorte
box 151	Portigiani
box 152	Robbia
box 153	Rossimini
box 154	Scacciera
box 155	Verroccio
box 156	Tabacchetti
box 157	Topography
box 158	Topography Veneto
box 159	Topography South of Apennine
box 160	Jumbled notes
box 161	Italy Topography
box 162	Arch. I
box 163	Italy Ren. Arch
box 164	Italy Ren. Arch. II
box 165	Photos, Medals
box 166	Jumbled Notes Possibly Sculptors
box 167-172	Annotated Books -adds (See Series IV.)