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](http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref) for this collection. Click here for the [access policy](http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref).

**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.

**Publication Rights**

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**Preferred Citation**


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

**Acquisition Information**


**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 an 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
Greek: archaic, 4th century, 5th century, Cyclades - Crete - Mykonos, Hellenistic, 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, ms and printed matter, including scant correspondence, found in the books in his library.
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 Kunhuty* by Jan Stenc, 1922.
box 41  Lavin, Marilyn Aronberg. *Art in context: Piero della Francesca*
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 Rosmarny.
box 41  Coxhead, A.C. *Thomas Stothard R.A.*, 1906. With reading notes and some correspondence
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  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  "Rudolf Ebershardt Neue Shrdren (?) uber Stadtebarn und Woknungseusen I" in ms. With article "Numismatica e Sfragistica" by Francesco Panvini Rosatti and book review of Justus Bier’s *Tilmann Riemenschnel 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 43  Article: "Der Meister von 1515 und das Bambaja-Skizzenbuch in Berlin" by Peter Dreyer and Matthias Winner, with notes by Middeldorf.
box 43  *Bronzetti Italiani de Rinascimento* (exhibition catalog), with letters and notes.
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.
box 44  *Gaetano Ballardini: l'uomo, il maestro, lo studioso, il realizatore* by Guiseppe Liverani (report from convention on study of ceramics, Faenza, Italia, 1978)
box 44  "Michelange et la France." typescript (not by Middeldorf) 1964.
box 44  Typescript of "Storia della Critica su Michelangelo" by Eugenio Battisti, with handwritten corrections.
box 44  Typescript with annotations "Italienische Plastik" by Martin Weinberger, between 1934 and 1936?

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Series IV. Annotated books, ca. 1925-1981

La Pittura Bizantina by Paolo Muratoff, 1928, not annotated but with anonymous enclosed notes regarding the text.

"A Nollekens Bust in the Art Institute of Chicago," typescript by Clifton B. White, 1940.

Papers pulled from books:

3 letters to C.R. Rudolf re his drawings collection.

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.

Clippings, re: Michelangelo.

Various offprints, typescripts about Michelangelo.

G. F. Hill. A Corpus of Italian Medals. 2 vol, text and plates.

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.

Postcards, Sculpture: Germany up to 1450

Postcards, Sculpture: Germany 1450-1880

Postcards, Sculpture: not German and Italian.

Postcards Furniture and Metal

Postcards, Dec Arts

Postcards, Minor Arts, Costume

Postcards, Dwgs. Minor Arts Foreign and Late Copies

Postcards Siena, Pavement. Drwgs. Prints

Postcards: Painting Classic Middle Ages

Postcards Painting Various Countries.

Postcards Modern and to be filed

Postcards Architecture Town Planning

Postcards Architecture Various Countries

Postcard Architecture Germany H - Z Austria etc.

Related Fields

Collecting Dealing

Museums Protection Forgery

History of Art History Critics A - K

Critics L - Z

History General Antiquity Countries

Art in Fiction

Law Artist and Society Academies

Bibliographies Dictionaries

Collectanea

History Aides

Method Style Art Theory

Dec. Arts Sources Theory Techn. Sources

Arch. Theory 'til 18th C.

Arch. Theory 1800 ft. Gardens Sources Theory

Techn. Treatises Painting

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       Jacquerio  
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.)