Finding aid for the Alois Schardt papers and photographs
Descriptive Summary
Title: Alois Schardt papers and photographs
Date (inclusive): 1917-1983, undated (bulk 1917-1956)
Number: 910172
Creator/Collector: Schardt, Alois J. (Alois Jakob), 1889-1955
Physical Description: 6.5 Linear Feet (18 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: This collection is comprised of photographs, negatives, lectures, transcripts, correspondences, and other ephemera documenting Alois Schardt's career as a German art historian and museum director before, during, and after World War II. After being forced from job at the National Gallery of Berlin in 1933, Schardt was censored by the Nazi party. He left for the United States in 1940 with his photographs. The bulk of this collection consists of photographs and negatives, primarily of Christian art and architecture. His photographs for publication can also be found in the collection. Also present are lectures in English, transcripts of Schardt's published and unpublished manuscripts, and personal and professional correspondence.
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 German
Biographical / Historical Note
Alois Schardt was a German art historian and museum director. He was already serving as director of the Moritzburg Museum in Halle in 1933 when he was appointed director of the National Gallery in Berlin, replacing Ludwig Justi, who was forced from his job by the Nazis. Schardt was dismissed within months, and his newly-hung galleries, like those of Justi before him, were not opened to the public. Later he was forbidden to teach at the Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, to speak in public, or to publish. He left for the United States in 1940, bringing some installation photographs with him.
Access
Open for use by qualified researchers.
Publication Rights
Contact Library Reproductions and Permissions.
Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa910172
Processing History
Cataloging (brief) completed January 29, 1993 by JMD.
Cataloging (full) completed August 19, 1994 by JMD.
Scope and Content of Collection
Schardt's papers document part of the Nazis' movement against Expressionist art in the 1930s. Included are approximately 30 photographs of galleries he had hung in the Kronprinzen-Palais and the Moritzburg Museum, and roughly 100 photographs of works by Expressionist artists such as Willi Baumeister, Paul Klee, and Wilhelm Lembruck. Some of these photographs, like that of Klee's Wintergarten, may be unique images of a now lost or destroyed work. The papers also contain correspondence related to his dismissal from the National Gallery Berlin, as well as manuscripts of his published and unpublished writing on many aspects of art history and art criticism. Also present is limited professional and personal correspondence up until his death in 1955, and a wide variety of photographs of Christian art and architecture (mainly German) from the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods.
Arrangement
Arranged in three series: , , . Series I. Correspondence and ephemeraSeries II. Writings and lecturesSeries III. Photographs and negatives

Subjects - Corporate Bodies
National-Galerie (Germany).
Städtisches Moritzburg-Museum.

Subjects - Topics
National socialism and art
Christian art and symbolism -- Germany.
Art museum directors -- Germany.
Expressionism (Art) -- Germany.

Genres and Forms of Material
Photographs, Original
Negatives -- 20th Century.

Contributors
Schardt, Alois J. (Alois Jakob), 1889-1955
Rust, Bernhard
Barlach, Ernst, 1870-1938.
Baumeister, Willi, 1889-1955.
Feininger, Lyonel, 1871-1956.
Gurlitt, Hildebrand.
Justi, Ludwig
Lehmbruck, Wilhelm
Marc, Maria
Nierendorf, Karl
Klee, Paul

Series I. Correspondence and ephemera, 1917-1963, 1983, undated
Physical Description: 0.42 Linear Feet(1 box)

Scope and Content Note
Series I. Correspondence and ephemera: approximately 60 items, including carbon copies of Schardt's outgoing correspondence, detailing his increasing difficulties with the Nazi government; and correspondence with Bernhardt Rust (Reich minister of science, education, and popular culture) and the bureaucrats in Halle, especially from 1933 to 1940. Includes four letters from Ernst Barlach (1922-1934). A few letters date from after the war and are from others involved in the controversies surrounding Expressionist art, such as the dealers Hildebrand Gurlitt and Karl Nierendorf. Also included is correspondence with Franz Marc's widow Maria; letters covering Schardt's difficulties finding employment in the Los Angeles area (1940-1956), where he had settled with his family upon emigrating; and letters regarding his involvement in the local arts community.

Arrangement
Arranged by topic.

box 1, folder 1 Official correspondence enumerated in inventory, 1917-1956
box 1, folder 2 Official correspondence, 1931-1936
box 1, folder 3 Official papers and translations, 1934-1946, 1956
box 1, folder 4 Professional correspondence and papers, 1934-1946, 1983
box 1, folder 5 Correspondence and announcements regarding teaching and lecturing, 1942-1955
box 1, folder 6 Correspondence regarding Friedrich Loos paintings, 1934-1960
box 1, folder 7 Personal correspondence, 1933-1952
Series I. Correspondence and ephemera, 1917-1963, 1983, undated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1, 8</td>
<td>Ernst Barlach letters received, 1922-1934, 1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 9</td>
<td>Brochures for Bildungszanstalt Hellerau undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 10</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, Entartete Kunst, 1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>1, 11</td>
<td>Janet Flanner's New Yorker article on Hitler's looting of art, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 12</td>
<td>American Society for Aesthetics, 1948-1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 13</td>
<td>Miscellaneous, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series II. Writings and lectures, 1921-1967

Physical Description: 2.92 Linear Feet (7 boxes)

Scope and Content Note

Series II, Writings and lectures: contains much of Schardt's published writing, including fourteen pieces for the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung (1921); offprints of articles, manuscripts, typescripts, and preparatory material for his books Franz Marc and Das Initial. Unpublished materials include two versions of his dissertation on human proportion in Egyptian and Greek sculpture; a typescript for a book on the principal characteristics of German art (1933); a manuscript and typescript for a book on Lyonel Feininger, and an (unfinished?) manuscript and typescript for a book on German art from 1900 to 1940. Schardt also wrote approximately eighty occasional or course lectures in English on a wide variety of topics in the arts.

Arrangement
Arranged by topic.

Das Initial, undated

- Manuscript
- Photographs of illustrations

Die Kunst des Mittelalters, undated

- Manuscript
- Photographs
- Plates

Franz Marc materials, 1936-1967, undated

- Papers
- Photographs

Maria Marc correspondence, 1946-1955

Lyonel Feininger material, undated

- Manuscript
- Transcript

Proposed dissertation, 1917

Dissertation, 1917

Notes on humor, bibliography, undated

Published Materials, 1900-1940, undated

- Articles on artists and criticism, undated
- Eingruppierung der Jazzmusik, undated
- German Art (typescript), 1900-1940
- Kunsterlebrusse, 1926
- Offprints, 1921-1934
- Project for tour for German art books 1939
- Wesensmerkmale der deutschen Bildenden Kunst, 1933

Lectures and photographs, 1947, undated

- "Art Under the Nazis," undated
- "Berlin," undated
- English lectures, 1947
- "What Is Art?" 1947
- "What Makes Art Expressive," undated
- Various subjects, undated
- Miscellaneous notes and transcripts, undated
Series III. Photographs and negatives, 1936-1950, undated

Physical Description: 4.17 Linear Feet (10 boxes)

Scope and Content Note

Series III contains images of the galleries in the Kronprinzen-Palais of the National Gallery, the Moritzburg Museum, and of individual Expressionist works already described. Includes approximately 1,500 photographs of Christian art and architecture, much of it unidentified and unsorted, principally of churches and their decoration, paintings and plastic arts, and Medieval manuscripts. Also includes approximately 700 negatives matching some of the photographs.

Arrangement

Arranged by topic.

box 8, folder 8-9  Berlin exhibition installation photographs, undated
box 9, folder 5  Christian exhibition installation photographs, undated
box 9, folder 7  Christian art: cathedrals, basilicas (exterior and interior), undated
box 9, folder 6  Christian art: mignonettes, undated
box 9, folder 2  Expressionist art, 20th century (not Berlin or Halle), undated
box 9, folder 4  Franz Marc Ausstellung, 1936 August 19
box 9, folder 8  Glass plate - G. Marcks, undated
box 9, folder 3  H. J. Kallman photographs and letter, 1950
box 9, folder 1  Moritzburg Museum, Halle, undated
box 13  Painting, drawings, etchings, architecture, sculpture, and illuminated manuscript pages, undated
box 18, folder 2  Negatives, undated
box 11, folder 1  Photographs of architecture undated
box 11, folder 2  Architecture, 12th - 16th century
box 10, folder 1  Architecture, architectural elements (exterior and interior), 12th - 16th century
box 12, folder 1  Photographs of cathedrals undated
box 12, folder 2  Cathedral interiors
box 14  Christian art undated
box 15  Cathedral interior, decorative objects, paintings, sculpture
box 17, folder 1  Paintings, sculpture
box 17, folder 2  Paintings, frescoes
box 17, folder 1  Paintings, illuminated manuscripts, tapestries
box 16, folder 1  Sculpture, carved objects
box 18, folder 1  Negatives