Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: John and Jane Adams Artwork Collection
Dates: 1890-1936
Identification: MS-0052
Physical Description: 5.00 linear ft
Language of Materials: English French German Japanese
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives
5500 Campanile Dr. MC 8050
San Diego, CA, 92182-8050
URL: http://library.sdsu.edu/scua
Email: seref@rohan.sdsu.edu
Phone: 619-594-6791

Access Terms
This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Personal Name:
Adams, Jane Ford -- Art collections
Adams, John R., 1900-1994 -- Art collections

Title:
Art, American -- 19th century Art, European -- 20th century

Topical Term:
Art -- Private collections -- California -- San Diego
Art, American -- 20th century

Accruals:
1989

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This collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation:
Identification of item, folder title, box number, John and Jane Adams Artwork Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.

Scope and Contents
The collection contains a number of pieces of artwork (etchings, oil, watercolor, acrylic, and others) by early twentieth century American and European artists.

A San Diego contingent of landscape artists is headed by Charles Arthur Fries (1854-1940), called the “Dean of San Diego Painters.” Ivan Messenger (1895-1983) was a member of the San Diego Moderns and was also a printmaker of some renown. Rounding out the San Diego scene is Helen Johnston Balfour (1847-1925) known for her watercolors of California.
Also included in the collection is a piece by one of the most prominent western artists in United States history, Charles Marion Russell (1864-1926). The final American artist of note represented in the collection is George Taylor Plowman (1869-1932), best known for his etchings of covered bridges in New England.

Represented in the collection are pieces by two European artists of particular interest. The first is a piece by Pierre Bonnard (1867-1947), who has been compared to Henri Matisse (1869-1954). There is a color etching by German expressionist Conrad Felixmuller (1897-1977), whose companion piece to this, “Einsame Frau,” is not in this collection.

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### Box 1
- **Priboscis, Viktor Von.** "Chimpanzee." Works Progress Administration art work, unframed circa 1936
- **Helny, [Untitled image of sea coast],** undated. Color etching
- **Unknown, "William Henry Harrison."** Print on fabric with embroidery. circa 1890
- **Unknown, [Cottage in forest],** undated. Oil or acrylic on wood.
- **Plowman, George Taylor.** [Notre Dame, Paris, from the river Seine, right bank], undated. IIIustravit et imp[rimavit], black & white etching.
- **Farington, Joseph.** "Court Garden and Great Marlow." Undated reproduction of etching published by J & J Boydell June 1, 1793
- **Russell, Charles Marion.** [Cowboy]. Color print. 1904
- **Unknown.** [Pastoral scene of Mt. Fuji or unidentified volcano]. Color painting on cloth. Undated
- **Bonnard, Pierre.** "Illustration pour Sainte Monique," lithographie originale. Black and white lithograph. Undated
- **Kumchika.** [Color Japanese woodblock print] circa 1930
- **Felixmuller, Conrad.** "Einsamer Mann [Lonesome Man]." Farbiger holzschnitt [color woodcut]. Unframed. 1920
- **Balfour, Helen.** "Spring in Arroyo." Watercolor 1932
- **Braun, Maurice.** [California Foothills]. Color reproduction of an oil painting. Undated
- **Unknown.** [Portrait of a Woman]. Color oil or acrylic on canvas, unframed. Undated
- **Fries, C.A.** "Bed Time." Oil on canvas. Undated

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### Box 2
- **Scope and Contents**
- **Vault**

### Box 3
- **Fries, C.A.** "The Desert Sea." Oil on canvas. Undated

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### Box 4