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## **Finding Aid for the Fritz Block papers, 1889-1995 0000112**

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Architecture and Design Collection, Art, Design & Architecture Museum

Arts Building Room 1434

University of California

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**Title:** Fritz Block papers

**Identifier/Call Number:** 0000112

**Contributing Institution:** Architecture and Design Collection, Art, Design & Architecture Museum

**Language of Material:** German

**Physical Description:** 7.0 Linear feet(4 record storage boxes and 1 flat file drawer)

**Date (inclusive):** circa 1918-circa 1955

**creator:** Block, Fritz, 1889-1955

**Access**

Partially processed collection, open for use by qualified researchers.

**Custodial History note**

Gift of Ingrid Levy-Huneberg, 1986.

**Preferred Citation note**

Fritz Block papers, Architecture and Design Collection. Art, Design & Architecture Museum; University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Biographical/Historical note**

Fritz Block was born in Hamburg Germany in 1889. He studied under Wilhelm Kreis and in 1921 opened an architectural office in Hamburg with Ernst Hochfeld. Block & Hochfeld were dedicated to the functional building style of the 1920s. Block documented his work extensively with photography. He traveled extensively to North Africa, France, Asia, North America, and the Dalmatian coast producing, with the help of his wife Anna Sophia, travel reportages that were published in Hamburg magazines. In 1938, Block liquidated his architectural firm and moved to Los Angeles, California to focus exclusively on photography. Two years later in 1940, Block started his own color slide company in Hollywood, California called Dr. Block Color Productions where he sold 2 x 2 in. kodachrome sets of slides on the subjects of modern architecture, modern ceramics, and nature. His major clients were museums and universities. Fritz Block died in 1955.

**Scope and Content note**

The Fritz Block papers span 7 linear feet and date circa 1918 to circa 1955. The collection is composed of pencil drawings of furniture designs, presentation and working drawings primarily of apartment residences located in Germany, pencil drawings of tombstone lettering and design, sketches of building exteriors, slides, glass plate negatives, newspaper and magazine clippings, correspondence, scrapbooks, lecture notes, and black-and-white photographs taken by Block documenting architecture, interior design, nature, and people. The Fritz Block papers also include a folder of reprographic copies of other architects work: Ain, Johnson, Day; Clark & Frey; Richard E. Lind; and R.M. Schindler. The majority of material is in German.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Block, Fritz, 1889-1955

Architectural drawings

Furniture design

Photographic prints

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