Acquisition Information
Gift of Barry Downes

Extent
3.3 linear feet

Processed
Sarena Fletcher, 2005

Contents
Correspondence, clippings, financial records, and exhibition material

Access Restrictions
Unrestricted

Contact Information
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Delaware Art Museum
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Preferred Citation
Jerome Myers Papers, 1904-1967, Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum
Table of Contents

Chronology of Jerome Myers
Scope and Contents Note
Organization of the Papers
Description of the Papers

Chronology of Jerome Myers

1867  Born Petersburg, Virginia on March 20.

1876  Family moved to Philadelphia.

1879  Left school to work in a cork factory to help the family. Myers was one of five children. Their father was one of the “Forty-niners”, away from home for long periods.

1880  Went to work as office boy in a law office where, in the library, he read the Greeks in translation.

1881  Moved with the family to Baltimore, Maryland. Worked at various jobs, sign painting, etc. and posed as a model at the Baltimore Academy.

1886  Moved to New York City, and began to work full time as a scene painter under the influence of his brother Harry, who was interested in show business. Painted the interiors of several New York theaters.

1887  Began art studies at Cooper Union at night after work. Painted his first New York picture.

1888  Began serious art study at the Art Students League. Began his direct contact with city life by going around sketching life as he saw it.

1889  Gave up scene painting and started to free lance with the Moss Engraving Company. Spent more time studying at Cooper Union and at the Art Students League under George DeForest Brush.

1891  Moved to a studio on 32nd near Broadway. Painted a portrait of his mother.

1893  Sold a painting for the first time. While making an oil sketch of the Essex Canal near Jersey City, a woman from a nearby houseboat watched him work. When the picture was completed, she asked him if he would see it to her for two dollars – a memorable day for the young artist.

1894  Moved into the old University Building on Washington Square.

1895  Mother died. Myers found work in the art department of the Tribune.
1896 With funds saved from the Tribune job, Myers went to France for a few months. Opened his first studio on his return at 232 West 14th Street, where he lived for about five years. At this time he was doing mainly East Side scenes and continued to use the medium of pencil or pastel.

1900 William Macbeth encouraged Myers to paint in oil, and began to show a few of his paintings at the Macbeth Gallery.

1902 Moved from 14th to West 50th Street and began a prolific period of painting, working from the many drawings he had sketched from life over the past ten years.

1903 Began exhibiting in group exhibitions at the Macbeth Gallery.

1904 Exhibited at the Society of American Artists, the Municipal Art Society, at the National Arts Club, the Lotus Club and the Colonial Club. Won the bronze medal at the Universal Exposition in St. Louis for “Night Concert.” Met Ethel Klinck, Assistant Director of the Chase School (William Merritt Chase) who was later to become his wife.

1905 Myers and Ethel Klinck were married in a small church ceremony in October, and began their married life in a studio on 59th Street.

1906 A daughter, Virginia, was born and the family moved to a studio on West 23rd Street across from John Sloan.

1908 The first one-man show was held at the Macbeth Gallery from January 2 through January 18. He also exhibited in group shows at the Art Institute of Chicago, National Academy and the Print Gallery in New York.

1909 A bad financial year caused Myers to move to a one-room studio on the lower west side. Myers refused to paint “pretty ladies” as he had been counseled to do.

1910 Exhibited in the Exhibition of Independent Artists. A sale of a painting permitted a move to a new studio at 7 West 42nd Street.

1911 Exhibited with Walt Kuhn and Elmer MacRae at the Madison Gallery in an exhibition called “The Pastellists.” Several others were invited to exhibit and on December 14, in a postmortem of the exhibit, the embryo idea of the Armory Show was born. Henry Fitch Taylor, Elmer MacRae, Walt Kuhn and Myers later, on December 19, met with the others in a more formal meeting where minutes were taken and the plans for what resulted in the Armory Show were begun.

1912 The Metropolitan Museum of Art bought Myers painting, “The Mission Tent.” This sale made it possible for the Myers family to more into the studio in the “new” Carnegie Hall building.
1913 Myers worked actively in the formation of the Armory Show and both he and Mrs. Myers exhibited work in that show. At the same time he was holding art classes at the Finch School.

1914 Myers took his family to Europe and stayed in both London and Paris. Left Paris the night before war was declared and the story of their adventures in documented in drawings and an article, “The Innocent Bystander,” published in the *Edison Monthly*.

1915 Several articles were written for the *Edison Monthly* on European and war experiences illustrated by his own drawings. Began to etch and produced about twenty plates this year. Continued to exhibit actively. Rented a house in Carmel, New York.

1916 Began lifelong friendship with Arthur F. Egner, Newark, New Jersey attorney, a collector of American Contemporary Art. Also began to build a cottage at Carmel. Ethel Myers began to design dresses and continued in this manner to supplement the family income for many years.

1917 Wrote a magazine series, “Confidences of an Errant Artist” for *Arts and Decoration*. Both Miss Julia Peck and Duncan Phillips purchased several pictures.

1919 Exhibited “Summer Night” in the Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture by American Artists at Luxembourg Museum in Paris. Won the Clarke Prize at the National Academy. Elected as associate member of the National Academy.

1920 Exhibited at the National Academy, Kraushaar Galleries and at the Society of American Painters, Sculptors and Gravers of which he was a member.

1921 The Memorial Museum in Rochester purchased “Italian Procession.”

1923 One-man exhibition at the Rehn Gallery.

1926 Exhibited at the New Society of Artists, Chicago Art Institute. Received the Clarke Prize for “Evening.”

1927 Three pictures by Myers were sold from the John Quinn Collection at the sale of that collection at the American Art Galleries.

1928 Exhibited at Babcock Gallery, Brooklyn Museum, Grand Central Art Gallery and the National Academy.

1929 Elected a full member of the National Academy.

1931 Won the second Altman Prize, Carnegie Institute, for “Street Shrine.”


1936 Exhibited at the Carnegie Institute and won the Carnegie Prize.
1939  Won second Altman Prize.

1938  Isidor medal.


**Scope and Contents Note**

The papers of painter Jerome Myers were donated by his grandson Barry Downes. They include correspondence, clippings, financial records, and exhibition material. Grant Holcomb used the Myers Papers as the basis of his master’s thesis, Delaware Art Museum exhibition, and catalog.

**Organization of the Papers**

Series I. Biographical and Personal  
Series II. Correspondence  
Series III. Exhibitions  
Series IV. Clippings  
Series V. Audio, Video, and Slides  
Series VI. Estate Records  
Series VII. Other Collections
Description of the Papers

Series I. Biographical and Personal

Box 1 – Biographical and Personal

Folder
1   Collection guide
   Box list and guide to lists and papers
   Chronological notes
   One-man exhibitions
   Bibliography
   Ethel Myers’ handwritten records of individual Myers pictures

2   Biographical

3   Writings, 1917

4   Writings, 1937

5   Miscellaneous

6   Collectors’ names

7   “Jerome Myers – Black & White Drawings”

The “Myers Package” consists of additional biographical information, research, and reviews collected and compiled by Barry Downes (given in November 2012)

8   Myers Package 1 – “Artist in Manhattan” and CD-R of files

9   Myers Package 1 – “Artist in Manhattan – New Additions”
   “Color Portfolio Arranged By Subject”
   “40 Years of Reviews & Articles”
   “Myers Chronology, etc.”

10  Myers Package 2 – “More About Jerome Myers: His Art and Accomplishments”

11  Myers Package 3 – “Additional Research and Reviews”
**Series II. Correspondence**

**Box 2 – Correspondence, 1904-1967 and undated**

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21 Correspondence, 1931
22 Correspondence, 1936
23 Correspondence, 1939
24 Correspondence, 1940
25 Correspondence, 1941
26 Correspondence, 1942
27 Correspondence, 1943-1945
28 Correspondence, 1950-1951
29 Correspondence, 1952
30 Correspondence, 1957-1958
31 Correspondence, 1960-1964
32 Correspondence, 1966-1967
33 Correspondence, Undated

Box 3 – Correspondence from Jerome Myers

Folder
1 Correspondence, 1912-1916
2 Correspondence, 1917-1918
3 Correspondence, 1919
4 Correspondence, 1934-1940
5 Correspondence from Myers to miscellaneous, undated
6 Correspondence from Myers to Ethel Myers, undated
7 Correspondence from Myers to Virginia Myers Downes, undated
Series III. Exhibitions

Box 4 – Exhibitions, 1908-1942

Folder

1 Exhibitions, 1919-1922

Exhibition of Paintings by Jerome Myers, Milch Galleries, New York, February 18-March 1, 1919 - 3 copies

Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings by Jerome Myers, C.W. Kraushaar Art Galleries, New York, April 12-May 1, 1920 - 2 copies

An Important Collection of Paintings and Bronzes by Modern Masters of American and European Art, C.W. Kraushaar Art Galleries, New York, December 3-31, 1921

Locataires et Propriétaires by Honoré Daumier, C.W. Kraushaar Galleries, New York, November 6-22, 1922

An Important Collection of Paintings and Bronzes by Modern Masters of American and European Art, C.W. Kraushaar Art Galleries, New York, December 4-30, 1922

17th Annual Loan Collection of American Paintings, State Fair of Texas, Dallas, October 6-15, 1922

2 Exhibitions, 1923-1925

Catalogue of an Exhibition of Paintings by Contemporary Artists, at the Art Gallery, Toronto, January 27-March 4, 1923

Exhibition of Recent Painting By Jerome Myers, Galleries of Frank K. M. Rehn, New York, October 22-November 10, 1923

Exhibitions of Painting and Sculpture Contributed by The Founders of the Galleries, Grand Central Art Galleries, New York, June 27, 1923- ? - 2 copies

An Illustrated Catalogue of An Important Collection of Paintings, Marbles, Bronzes, C.W. Kraushaar Art Galleries, New York, January 15-February 16, 1924 - 2 copies

3 Exhibitions, 1926

The Winter Exhibition of the National Academy of Design, Vanderbilt Gallery Paintings Nos. 295-393 Inclusive, New York, Winter 1926

Paintings: Newark Museum, Second List, 1926

Recent American Paintings Shown at the Opening of the Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey, 1926
4  Exhibitions, 1927
   National Academy of Design Winter Exhibition, New York, November 29-December 18, 1927
   A Bulletin of the Phillips Collection: Tri-Unit Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture, Washington D.C., February and March 1927
   The John Quinn Collection, Sale at the American Art Galleries, February 9-12, 1927

5  Exhibitions, 1928
   Milch Gallery Art Notes, E.A. Milch Incorporated, New York, Season 1928-1929
   Exhibition of Portrait Drawings by Jerome Myers, Babcock Galleries, New York, April 9-21, 1928
   Exhibition of Drawings by Jerome Myers, The Macbeth Galleries, New York, November 28-December 11, 1928
   Twenty-Seventh International Exhibition of Paintings, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 18-December 9, 1928
   The 103rd Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, March 21-April 8, 1928

6  Exhibitions, 1929-1933
   American Paintings and Sculpture, Forty-Second Annual Exhibition, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, October 24-December 28, 1929 - 2 Copies
   Twenty-Second Annual Exhibition of Paintings and a Collection of Prints by American Artists, Fort Worth Museum of Art, Carnegie Public Library Building, Fort Worth, Texas, January 13-February 15, 1931
   One Hundred and Sixth Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, March 15-April 5, 1931
First Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Sculpture, Watercolors, And Prints, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, December 5, 1933-January 11, 1934


Catalogue of American and European Paintings in the Gellatly Collection, National gallery of Art, Washington D.C., 1933

American and European Paintings from the Estate of the Late L.H. Wustemann, The New England Galleries, New York, December 6, 1933

American Paintings and Sculpture, Forty-Fifth Annual Exhibition, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, October 27, 1932-January 2, 1933

First Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, November 22, 1932- January 5, 1933

College Art Artists’ Cooperative Presents Seven Men in Seven Shows, The New School for Social Research, New York, September 6–30, 1933

Exhibitions, 1934

Exhibition of Water Colors, Drawings & Prints by Jerome Myers, N.A., Grand Central Art Galleries, New York, November 21-December 1, 1934

Exhibition of Recent Painting By Jerome Myers, The Galleries of Frank K. M. Rehn, New York, October 22-November 10, 1934


109th Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, 1934

Etchings, Engravings, Prints, Watercolors, and Drawings, the Property of George I. Lehman, Union Art Galleries, New York, March 10, 1934

Exhibition of Portraits by Members, National Academy of Design, New York, January 4-26, 1934

One Hundred and Ninth Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, March 14-April 15, 1934

The 1934 International Exhibition of Paintings, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 18-December 9, 1934
Exhibition of Portraits by Members, National Academy of Design, January 4-26, 1934

The Mr. and Mrs. Preston Harrison Galleries of American Art, Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, 1934

8 Exhibitions, 1935-1936

One Hundred and Tenth Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, 1935


The 1936 International Exhibition of Paintings, The Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 15-December 6, 1936

9 Exhibitions, 1937-1939

The Fifteenth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Oil Paintings, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., March 28-May 9, 1937

113th Annual Exhibition, National Academy, New York, March 16-April 13, 1938

American Paintings and Sculpture, Forty-Ninth Annual Exhibition, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, October 20-December 4, 1938

Exhibit of Original Work by Contemporary Artists, Dr Harry H. Shapiro, New York, 1938


National Academy Special Exhibition, May 8-July 25, 1939

10 Exhibitions, 1940

The Print Room’s Year, Advance Copy, New York Public Library Bulletin, May 15, 1940

Catalog of American and European Paintings in the Gellatly Collection, Washington D.C., 1940

1940-41 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, November 27, 1940-January 8, 1941

Artist in Manhattan by Jerome Myers, American Artists Group, Inc., New York, 1940

11 Exhibitions, 1941

Catalogue of the One Hundred and Thirty-Sixth Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 26-March 2, 1941

Jerome Myers; Painter of the East Side, Illustrated Lecture by Mrs. Jerome Myers, Carnegie Chamber Music Hall, New York, April 28, 1941

Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, April 22-May 29, 1941 – 2 copies

Special Exhibition of Paintings, Drawings and Etchings by Jerome Myers, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., December 4-28, 1941 – 2 copies

This is Our City, Whitney Museum of American Art, March 11–April 13, 1941

12 Exhibitions, 1942

A Memorial Exhibition of the Work of Jerome Myers: Virginia-Born Master, The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia, January 26-February 27, 1942 – 2 copies

Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition; Paintings, Drawings and Prints, The J.B. Speed Memorial Museum, Louisville, Kentucky, April 12-26, 1942

Fiftieth Anniversary Exhibition 1892-1492, Macbeth Gallery, New York, Through April 30, 1942 – 2 copies

French XVIII Century Art Including Important paintings & Tapestries: Collection of the Late James Speyer, Parke-Bernet Galleried Inc., New York, April 10, 11, 1942

Box 5- Exhibitions, 1943-present

Folder

1 Exhibitions, 1943

Memorial Exhibition of Etchings and Lithographs by Jerome Myers, Smithsonian Institution, Smithsonian Building, Washington D.C., August 30-September 26, 1943 – 2 copies
Exhibition of Sculpture, Paintings, Drawings, and Prints by Artists Associated with the University Settlement and the Life of the Lower East Side, Children’s Art Center of University Settlement, New York, April-May 1943 – 2 copies

Traveling Exhibitions, Handbook No. 7: Thirty-Third Season, National Exhibition Service, American Federation of Arts, 1942-1943

A Group of Oil Paintings from the Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition, May The Arnot Art Gallery, Elmira, New York, May 1943 – 2 copies

University Settlement, The First American Settlement, Founded 1886, New York, 1943

Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition, The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, March 4-20, 1943

2 Exhibitions, 1944

Report of the United States National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., for Year ending June 1944

Modern Art: Paintings-Bronzes, Collection of Mr. & Mrs. William F. LaPorte, Parke-Bernet Galleries Inc., New York, March 30, 1944

3 Exhibitions, 1945

Prints and Drawings by Old & Modern Masters From the Collections of The Late Arthur F. Egner and of Charles R. Miller, Parke-Bernet Galleries Inc., New York, March 27, 1945

Modern Paintings Mainly By American Artists Also Sculptures, Furniture, Decorations from the Collection of the Late Arthur F. Egner, Parke-Bernet Galleries Inc., New York, May 4, 1945

4 Exhibitions, 1946


5 Exhibitions, 1947

Modern Paintings Property of John F. Kraushaar, Mrs. Isaac La Boiteaux, Mrs. Millicent H. Rogers, and other owners, Parke- Bernet Galleries Inc., New York, April 9-10, 1947

Exhibition of Paintings Depicting the East Side, Arranged by the Educational Alliance Art School, The Neighborhood Art Gallery, New York, March 17-April 24, 1947
6 Exhibitions, 1951
- Recent Past: Demuth, Dickinson, Dove, Flannigan, Hartley, LaChaise, Maurer, Myers, Pascin, Prendergast, Fort Worth Art Association, Fort Worth, Texas, January 24-February 22, 1951
- The American Art Tradition 1800-1900, National Academy of Design, New York, December 3-16, 1951

7 Exhibitions, 1952-1955
- Modern French and American Paintings and Drawings, Also Modern and Primitive Sculptures - Prints, Property of Gomez De Vaez, James Sauter, and others, Parke-Bernet Galleries Inc., New York, February 21, 1952
- An Exhibition of American Drawings Assembled for the United States Information Agency by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, The Cooper Union Museum, January 29-March 6, 1954 – 2 copies

8 Exhibitions, 1958
- The 1913 Armory Show in Retrospect, Sponsored by the Departments of Fine Arts and American Studies, Mead Arts Building, Amherst College, February 17-March 17, 1958

9 Exhibitions, 1960
- The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Exhibition of Independent Artists in 1910, Delaware Art Center, Wilmington, Delaware, January 9-February 21, 1960

10 Exhibitions, 1963-1967
- Paintings, Pastels, Water Colors, Drawings, And Prints by the American Artist Jerome Myers, 1867-1940, Storm King Art Center, Mountainville, New York, May 5-June , unknown year – 2 copies

11 Exhibitions, 1970
- Jerome Myers 1867-1940, Kraushaar Galleries, New York, April 13-May 2, 1970 – 9 copies
Exhibitions, 1971-2014
Jerome Myers: Raising Hope in the New World, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University, February 1 – May 4, 2014
Series IV. Clippings

Box 6 – Clippings, 1914-1963

Folder
1  Clippings, 1914
2  Clippings, April – June 1915
3  Clippings, September – December 1915
4  Clippings, 1916, 1917, 1919
5  Clippings, 1920, 1921, 1922
6  Clippings, 1923
7  Clippings, 1924, 1925, 1926
8  Clippings, 1927, 1928, 1929
9  Clippings, 1936, 1937
10  Clippings, 1940
11  Clippings, 1941
12  Clippings, January – June 1942
13  Clippings, July – December 1942
14  Clippings, 1943, 1944
15  Clippings, 1948, 1963
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Series V. Audio, Video, and Slides

Box 8

Scotch recording tape: Jerome Myers recorded by Ethel Myers

Videocassette: “Artist in Manhattan: The Art of Jerome Myers”, 1987 - 2 copies

35mm slides
Series VI. Estate Records

Box 9 – Estate Records

Jerome Myers Estate Records, 1965: Volume No. I - Selected Group of Pictures That Have Been Photographed:
   1. Including records of each picture, and where possible, latest known ownership
   2. Photocopy of Mrs. Myers’ statement of signature
   3. Photocopies of pictures 1-65

Jerome Myers Estate Records, 1965: Volume No. II - Selected Group of Pictures That Have Been Photographed: Photocopies of pictures 66-114 (descriptive index in Volume I)

Jerome Myers Estate Records, 1965: Volume No. III
   1. Museum representation
   2. Official list (3 pages) of the Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition, 1941
   3. Incomplete list of pictures without photographs
   4. Artist’s widow’s handwritten complete records of Jerome Myers’ color drawings, self-portraits, and black and white drawings
Series VII. Other Collections

Box 10 – Jerome Myers papers, 1911-1943, Archives of American Art
(Material not owned by Delaware Art Museum)