

Margaretta M. Salinger records, 1941-1974

Finding aid prepared by Museum Archives Volunteer Karol Pick.

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The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives
1000 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY, 10028-0198
212-570-3937
archives@metmuseum.org

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Summary Information

Repository	The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives
Title	Margaretta M. Salinger records, 1941-1974
Dates	1941-1974
Extent	0.75 Linear feet 2 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	Margaretta Salinger was a long-serving curator of European Paintings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. In addition to her curatorial work, Salinger was active on various Museum committees related to publications, most notably the Editorial Advisory Committee, which is the focus of the bulk of these records. Included are proposals for publications, notes from meetings, budget documents, memoranda and correspondence.

Biographical Note

Margaretta M. Salinger had a long and distinguished career at The Metropolitan Museum of Art spanning over 40 years. Born in New York City, she graduated Cum Laude from Bryn Mawr College. In 1928 she went to Munich on fellowship to study art. In 1930 she joined the Met's Department of Paintings in the capacity of Special Cataloguer, going on to become a Research Fellow then Senior Researcher. This was followed by her appointment as Associate Curator and in 1970 Salinger was named Curator of the Department of European Paintings. Upon her retirement in 1972, she was named Curator Emeritus.

Ms. Salinger's contributions to the Met were both noteworthy and varied. She was a superior and animated speaker. In the 1950's Ms. Salinger offered a series of lectures entitled: "Enjoying Painting." Though simply titled, the talks were filled with slides and along with her extensive knowledge in the field and her enthusiasm towards her subject, they drew a large and dedicated audience. Her goal, she once stated, was to 'help people who enjoy paintings to enjoy them more'.

Margaretta Salinger was on the Board of the Scientific Publication Committee. The Chair was Gisela M.A. Richter, Curator of the Department of Greek and Roman Art, and Ms. Salinger became chairman in 1949. From 1966-1971, Salinger was the Chair of The Editorial Advisory Committee. Its purpose, similar to the Scientific Publication Committee, was to review and recommend scholarly works for publication. Those recommendations could come from either inside or outside the Museum. Thomas Hoving (Director, MMA 1966-1977) proposed a separate Journal with its own Editorial Advisory Board. The focus was to publish specifically on Met holdings and the hope was to produce the Journal annually. This new venture was to be known as The Metropolitan Museum Journal. Margaretta Salinger served on this Board as Chair and advisor. Starting in 1967, Salinger was involved in the committee called Scholarly Programs. The aim of this group was to encourage programs focused on art for public schools, and it encompassed Salinger's interests as educator which was always at the forefront of her contributions to the art world and the general public.

Margaretta M. Salinger died in 1985 at the age of 77.

Scope and Content

The records reflect primarily the activity of the Editorial Advisory Committee and Salinger's role in that capacity. Included are proposals for publications, notes from

meetings, budget documents, memoranda and correspondence. There are several files from other committees on which Salinger served, mostly related to Museum publication projects.

Arrangement

Files are arranged alphabetically by title.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Transferred to Museum Archives, date unknown.

Indexing Terms

Subjects - Topics

- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) Publishing

Collection Inventory

Box	Folder	
1	1	Ancient Near East, n.d.
1	2	Arno Project - Reprints, 1970. 1970
1	3	Bulletin - Index, 1968. 1968
1	4	Centennial Publication - Trescher, George, 1966-1970. 1966-1970
1	5	Clock and Watch Designs - Ittman, 1968. 1968
1	6	Curator's Projects, 1966-1970. 1966-1970
1	7	Editor, 1967. 1967
1	8	Editorial Advisory Committee - For meeting, 1968. 1968
1	9	Editorial Advisory Committee - Masser - Della Bella, 1968. 1968
1	10	Editorial Advisory Committee - Memo, December 5, 1960. 1960
1	11	Editorial Advisory Committee, 1966-1972. 1966-1972
1	12	Editorial projects, 1966. 1966
1	13	Egyptian Art, 1943. 1943
1	14	Expedition - Kharga, 1912 - Photographs, 1969-1974. 1969-1974
1	15	Faxon - Weaving book, 1941-1943. 1941-1943
1	16	Freeman Embroideries, 1966-1967. 1966-1967
1	17	Goya paintings, 1967. 1967
1	18	Harlem on My Mind - Background - Research material, 1969. 1969
1	19	Industrial Design Survey, 1953. 1953
1	20	Lace book - Mabegg, 1943. 1943
1	21	Lippe, Aschwin - Chola sculpture, 1968-1970. 1968-1970
1	22	Mailey, Jean - Chinese rug chapter, 1968. 1968
1	23	Medieval Monuments, 1967. 1967
1	24	MMA Journal, 1967-1971. 1967-1971
1	25	Mount book - William and Cowdrey, 1942-1943. 1942-1943
1	26	Ostoya, Vera, 1968. 1968
1	27	Print Department, 1969. 1969
2	1	Publications Committee - Centennial, 1967. 1967
2	2	Pushkin Museum - 100 Masterpieces from MMA - Photographs, n.d.
2	3	Reports - Scientific Publications Committee, 1949. 1949
2	4	Rugs, 1968-1969. 1968-1969
2	5	Sachs, Howard - Mermaids, 1968. 1968
2	6	Scholarly programs, 1967. 1967
2	7	Scientific Publications Committee, 1941. 1941

2	8	Scientific Publications Committee, 1942. 1942
2	9	Scientific Publications Committee, 1943. 1943
2	10	Scientific Publications Committee, 1944-1948. 1944-1948
2	11	Svinin Watercolors, 1967. 1967
2	12	Ten Year Plan, 1945. 1945
2	13	Tietze, Dr., 1941-1943. 1941-1943
2	14	Unicorn Tapestries, 1966-1967. 1966-1967
2	15	Vidal, Pierre, 1967. 1967
2	16	Wyatt album, 1967. 1967