

Center for Creative Photography

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Finding aid for the
Christel Gang Collection, 1932-1967

AG 47

Christel Gang Collection, 1932-1967

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Creator

Gang, Christel (1892-1966)

Abstract

Correspondence, 1932-1956, primarily to Christel Gang from Edward Weston (1886-1958), photographer. Also includes correspondence from Edward Weston to Seymour Stern; four letters from Brett Weston to Gang; and clippings and brochures relating to Edward, Brett, and Cole Weston, ca. 1950-1967. Gang was a friend of Edward Weston and briefly provided secretarial services to him.

Quantity/ Extent

Fraction of a linear foot

Language of Materials

English

Biographical/ Historical Note

Christel Gang was born in Germany in 1892 and later immigrated to Los Angeles in 1906, where she worked as a stenographer and translator. In 1925, she met photographer Edward Weston who hired her to take dictation of his original daybooks. Gang and Weston became lovers and he photographed her frequently. Even after their romantic relationship ended they continued to be friends, writing letters to each other regularly. Gang died in 1966.

Scope and Content Note

Consists primarily of correspondence from Edward Weston to Christel Gang, 1932-1956. These letters are expressions of love, thanks, and greetings in response to Gang's annual letters to Weston on their "anniversary" August 9, on Weston's birthday March 24, and on Christmas. Other topics mentioned are: Museum of Modern Art exhibition, Guggenheim Fellowship project, personal and family activities during the war, and the national elections in the 1940s. Correspondence in the 1950s is chiefly about Weston's failing health, gratitude for Gang's regular letters and shipments of fruit, and news of family and friends.

(36 letters and 28 postcards)

Also includes 4 letters from Brett Weston; 9 brochures, pamphlets, and announcements; 13 clippings about Edward Weston (many about his death); 2 photocopies of Brett Weston portraits of Christel Gang.

All correspondence are arranged in chronological order.

Arrangement

Series 1: Correspondence (Box 1)

Series 2: Photocopies of portraits of Christel Gang by Brett Weston, n.d. (Box 1)

Series 3: Printed material (Box 1)

Names and Subject Terms

Gang, Christel

Weston, Edward

Correspondence

Restrictions

Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

Conditions Governing Use

Literary rights to the Edward Weston letters are held by the Center for Creative Photography.

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

Provenance

The Christel Gang Collection was purchased from the Witkin Gallery in 1980.

Preferred Citation

Christel Gang Collection, 1932-1967. AG 47. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

Processing Information

Inventory revised July 1989, Leslie Calmes.

Finding aid updated by Meghan Jordan in May 2016.

Container List

Series 1: Correspondence

Arrangement: Chronological

Box	1	Folder		
		1	1	1932
			2	1930s ?
			3	1936
			4	1937
			5	1938
			6	1939
			7	1940
			8	1941
			9	1942
			10	1943
			11	1944
			12	1945
			13	1946
			14	1947
			15	1948
			16	1949
			17	1950
			18	1951
			19	1952
			20	1953
			21	1954
			22	1955

- 23 1956
- 24 1959; 1967
- 25 Photocopies of portraits of Christel Gang by Brett Weston,
n.d.
- 26 Printed material