

Center for Creative Photography

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Finding aid for the
Yasuo Kuniyoshi Collection, 1935-1941

AG 85

Yasuo Kuniyoshi Collection, 1935-1941

AG 85

Creator

Kuniyoshi, Yasuo (1889-1953)

Abstract

Photographic materials of Yasuo Kuniyoshi (1889-1953), Japan-born painter and photographer who worked in New York from 1910 until his death. Includes 35mm black and white negatives, 1935-1941, and work prints of portraits and scenes at Woodstock, New York.

Quantity/ Extent

1.5 linear feet

Language of Materials

English

Biographical Note

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|-----------|--|
| 1889 | Born in Japan. |
| 1906 | Immigrated to the United States. |
| 1907 | L.A., studied art in night school. |
| 1910 | Moved to New York. |
| 1916-1920 | Studied with Kenneth Hayes Millar at the Art Students League. |
| 1918-1922 | Spent summers studying at Hamilton Easter Field's Ogunquit (Maine) School of Painting and Sculpture. |
| 1919 | Married Katherine Schmidt. |
| 1920's | Commercial photographer of works of art. |
| 1922 | First one man exhibition of painting at the Daniel Gallery, New York. |
| 1925 | Spent 10 months in Europe traveling with his wife.
Exhibition at the Daniel Gallery. |
| 1928 | Second trip to Europe. |

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1929 | Built a home at artist's colony in Woodstock, New York. |
| 1932 | Divorced from Katherine. |
| 1933 | Begins teaching at the Art Students League, New York. |
| 1935 | Marries Sara Mazo. |
| 1936 | Served on the national executive committee of the American Artists Congress, later elected one of its five Vice-Presidents. |
| 1937 | Sets up a darkroom in his Woodstock studio. |
| 1940 | Speech at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, "What is American in American Art." |
| 1941 | Surrendered his camera to the United States government. |
| 1942 | Retrospective exhibition of his works for the benefit of the United China Relief at the Downtown Gallery, New York; designs war posters for the Office of War Information. |
| 1946 | Organized a Harvest Festival Dance at Woodstock to benefit Japanese in American relocation camps. |
| 1947-1951 | First President of Artists Equity. |
| 1948 | Recipient of the Whitney Museum's first one-man retrospective show of a living artist's work. |
| 1953 | Dies. |

Scope and Content Note

Photographic materials of Yasuo Kuniyoshi (1889-1953), Japan-born painter and photographer who worked in New York from 1910 until his death. Includes 35mm black and white negatives, 1935-1941, and work prints of portraits and scenes at Woodstock, New York.

Series one contains 1554 nitrate negatives created from 1935 to 1941. Please note that all negatives in this collection were moved for isolation to the small room next to the Conservation lab (9/4/2015). These negatives are separated into five boxes labeled A-E. Box E specifically houses published portraits and nudes. Series two is made up of eight work prints in a single folder.

Arrangement

Series 1: Negatives, 1935-1941

Series 2: Work prints, 1935-1941

Names and Subject Terms

Kuniyoshi, Yasuo, 1889-1953
Photography
New York City
Woodstock
Japan

Restrictions

Conditions Governing Access

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

The nitrate negatives are restricted.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright is held by Stephen Diamond.

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

This collection was a gift of Kuniyoshi's widow, Sara Mazo Kuniyoshi, in 1987.

Preferred Citation

Yasuo Kuniyoshi Collection, 1935-1941. AG 85. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

Processing Information

Finding aid updated by Meghan Jordan in May 2016.

Inventory

- I. Nitrate negatives, 1935-1941 (1554 negatives) **NOTE: Restricted. All negatives in this collection were removed and placed into isolation by conservation.**
- II. Work prints, 1935-1941 (8 prints)

NEGATIVES (all nitrate)

Box A

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exposure No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
Rockport	35	35
Edith's visit (8/4/38)	35	30
Atlantic City	35	39
Lifes Point	35	31
E. Kingston	35	38
Yas Portrait	31	39
Kaz Uniars (?)	33	34
Kath El Pax	35	36
School Picnic	29	33
Rockport	19	37
At Goldsmiths	20	33

Box B

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exposure No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
[unidentified]	35	44
Class picnic	35	49
Class, Wm. Gropper, Philadelphia	34	40
Katherine finished	35	43
Katherine	35	45
[unidentified]	35	46
Pickens	29	42
[unidentified]	29	48
[unidentified]	20	41/52
[unidentified]	28	38-40, 44-46,49

Box C

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exposure No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
[unidentified]	23	54
[unidentified]	14	55
[unidentified]	35	50
his wicker rocker in Woodstock studio in this lot	35	53
[unidentified]	28	51
Loretta Knight & Julien Levi party	31	52

Box D

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exposure No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
box 17	35	-----

Gulis L., Yas:K	35	27
box 16	26	-----
box 3	35	-----
box 10	32	-----
Coney (Island)	35	28
box 6	10	-----
box 5, 7	31	-----
[unidentified]	35	26
box 1	35	-----
box 14	35	-----
box 2, 4, 13	26	-----
box 18	35	-----
box 15	21	-----
box 11, 25, 13, 17	27	-----
box 8, 9, 20	20	-----
box 13	35	-----
box 11	35	-----
box 9	13	-----
[unidentified]	25	26-31

Box E: published portraits and nudes

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Exposure No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
Stock Book - nude II	18	-----
Stock Book - portraits 1	25	-----
Stock Book - portraits 2	20	-----
Stock Book - portraits 3	24	-----
Stock Book - portraits 4 & 5	24	-----
Stock Book - portraits 5 & 6	23	-----
Stock Book - portraits 7, 8, 9	29	-----

WORKPRINTS

Folder 1

- "Life" Party - Woodstock – 1938 (YK.45.0884.C) 106
- "Life" Party - Woodstock – 1938 (YK.199.1084.C) 101
- Doris Lee (artist) (YK.40.0884.C) 299
- Jo Jenk's daughter – 1937 (YK.170.1084.C) 252
- Paul Burlin (YK.75.0884.C) 309
- Jack Markow – 1939 (YK.164.1084.C) 39
- SMK – 1938 (YK.42.0884.C) 85
- [untitled] (YK.64.0884.C)