

Fischer Collection (RG-31)

Records of the Fischer Collection (RG-31)

1967-2013

Title Statement

Fischer Collection (RG-31) Finding Aids to the Institutional Records of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in the VMFA Archives | Records of the Fischer Collection RG-31

Subtitle: Record Group 31 (RG-31)

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

RG-31

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/265

Unit Date

1967-2013

Mixed Materials

RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Language

English .

Abstract

The collection was artificially created in order to bring together records about the Fischer collection residing in multiple collections in the VMFA Archives, as well as in the museum's records at the Library of Virginia. As such, the collection is entirely comprised of photocopies of records from the 1960s to the 2010s. To date, the museum has not located a collection of contemporaneous Fischer family records within its collections.

Creator

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Extent

1.25 Linear Feet 1 box; 34 files

Repository

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The collection is subject to all copyright laws. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by copyright, beyond that allowed by fair use, requires the researcher to obtain permission of copyright holders.

Preferred Citation

Records of the Fischer Collection (RG-31). VMFA Archives, Richmond, Virginia.

Historical Note

Ludwig and Rosy Fischer acquired examples of German Expressionism between 1905 and 1925 and their collection included works by artists who were key figures in the Die Brücke movement: Max Beckmann, Peter August Böckstiegel, Otto Dix, Conrad Felixmüller, Erich Heckel, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, and Emil Nolde. Die Brücke ("the Bridge") was a pivotal movement within German Expressionism, comprised of artists who responded subjectively to the changing world around them. Their style was defined by vivid colors, strong lines, and distorted forms—characteristics that have come to symbolize German Expressionism as a whole.

The Fischer's collection was divided evenly between their sons, and after Ernst and his wife, Anne, left Germany and settled in Richmond, Virginia, their half of the collection was preserved for more than 70 years in their home. In 2009, the Fischer Collection became the last refugee collection of German Expressionism to enter a U.S. museum when it was acquired by VMFA through a gift-purchase agreement with Ernst's widow, Anne Fischer.

Source: German Expressionist Work is Reunited with Ludwig and Rosy Fischer Collection at VMFA

Scope and Contents

The collection's inclusive dates are 1967-2013, with the bulk of the material dating from 1985-1987. The collection is comprised of correspondence, memorandums, clippings, publicity, copies of photographs and slides and other ephemeral material.

Keywords

Art, German -- 20th century
Expressionism (Art) -- Germany
Art -- Private collections -- Germany
Art -- Private collections -- Virginia -- Richmond
Prints -- Private collections -- Virginia -- Richmond
Fischer, Rosy, 1869-1926
Fischer, Ludwig, 1860-1922
Fischer, Anne, 1902-2008
Fischer, Ernst, 1896-
Simon, Hermann, 1900-1990
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Related Materials: VMFA Library - Rare Books

These titles belonged to Ludwig and Rosy Fischer, and were donated to the museum in December 1995 by Anne Fischer.

J. B. Neumanns Bilderhefte, 19--? Max Liebermann: Mit einem Porträt nach einer Photographischen Aufnahme und Vierzig Tafeln mit 100 Abbildungen nach Gemälden, Zeichnungen und Radierungen, 1906? Hans von Marées: Sein Leben und Sein Werk, 1909 Fritz Boehle, 1909 Noa Noa, 1912 Auguste Rodin die Kunst: Gespräche des Meisters, 1913 Handbuch der Kunstgeschichte, 1915 Hiob: Ein Drama, 1917 Genius: Zeitschrift für Werdende und Alte Kunst, 1919-1921 Archipenko-Album, 1921 Das Egon Schiele

Buch, 1921 Neben der Heerstrasse, 1923 Umbra Vitae: Nachgelassene Gedichte, 1924 Dei Graphik Ernst Ludwig Kirchners bis 1924, 1924-1926 Kirchner-Zeichnungen: 100 Tafeln und Zahlreiche Holzschnitte im Text, 1925 Kommende Baukunst, 1926 Das Werk Ernst Ludwig Kirchners, 1926

Related Materials: VMFA Library - Catalogs

E.L. Kirchner: German Expressionist: A Loan Exhibition, 1958 German Expressionism, Die Brücke: Paintings, Prints and Watercolors from the Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Ernst Fischer: University of Virginia Art Museum, 1978 Conrad Felixmüller, 1897-1977: Prints and Drawings from the Collection of Dr. Ernst and Anne Fischer, 1979 The Passionate Collectors: Ludwig and Rosi Fischer and German Expressionism: Essays, 1985 German Expressionist Art: The Ludwig and Rosy Fischer Collection, 1987 Expressionismus und Exil: Die Sammlung Ludwig und Rosy Fischer, Frankfurt am Main, 1990

Related Materials: VMFA Library - Exhibition Files

German Expressionist Art: Selections From The Ludwig And Rosy Fischer Collection, 1987 German Expressionist Art: Selections from the Fischer Collection, 2010

Related Materials: VMFA Library - Subject Files

VMFA Donors: Fischer Family VMFA Collections: Special Collections: Fischer, Ludwig and Rosy: German Expressionist Art

Related Materials: Virginia Holocaust Museum

Fischer Family Papers, 1900s-2009 (Record Group 23)

Related Materials: Leo Baeck Institute

Guide to the Papers of Anne Fischer, 1884-1982 (Coll. No. AR 10519/MF 992)

Related Materials: Library of Virginia

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Exhibition Files, 1986-1987 (Coll. No. 34679)

Custodial History

The collection was artificially created by the VMFA Archives in February 2016.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into seven series, and items are generally arranged chronologically within each series.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series 1: History Files

Unit ID RG-31-01

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45062

Unit Date 1986-2013

Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of correspondence about the ongoing search for the Fischer family archives as well as documentation of the extensive gift of library books from Ernst and Anne's private library collection in 1995. In addition, there are DVD copies of three oral history/interviews conducted with the Fischer family over the past 30 years: Anne Fischer with Fred Brandt, February 2, 1986; Anne Fischer with Fred Brandt, October 7, 1994; George Fischer and Eva Fischer Marx with John Ravenal and Sarah Eckhardt, June 5,

2013.

Fischer Archives, 1989-2005

Unit ID RG31.01.0.001

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45069

Unit Date 1989-2005

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 1

Container RG31.01.0.001 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Gifts to Library, 1995

Unit ID RG31.01.0.002

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45070

Unit Date 1995

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 2

Container RG31.01.0.002 (Item)

Language English

Oral Histories/Interviews, 1986-2013

Unit ID RG31.01.0.003

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45071

Unit Date 1986-2013

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 3

Container RG31.01.0.003 (Item)

Language English

Whereabouts Unknown: Living an Artful Life in a Ruthless World

Unit ID RG31.01.0.004

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/71790

Unit Date 2009

Mixed Materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container RG31.01.0.004 (folder)

Series 2: Director's Files

Unit ID RG-31-02

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45063

Unit Date 1984-2004

Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records of Directors Paul Perrot (1984-1991) and Michael Brand (2000-2005) related to the 1987 exhibition of the collection and later correspondence with Anne. Restricted documents from those files were not copied. Permission from the Director or Archivist is required to view restricted documents.

Paul Perrot: Exhibitions: Fischer Collection 1987, 1987-1991

Unit ID RG31.02.0.001

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45072

Unit Date 1987-1991

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 4

Container RG31.02.0.001 (Item)

Language English

Paul Perrot: Exhibitions: Fischer Collection 1987, 1984-1987

Unit ID RG31.02.0.002

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45073

Unit Date 1984-1987

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 5

Container RG31.02.0.002 (Item)

Language English

Michael Brand: Fischer, Anne, 2001-2004

Unit ID RG31.02.0.003

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45074

Unit Date 2001-2004

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 6

Container RG31.02.0.003 (Item)

Language English

Series 3: Collections Files

Unit ID RG-31-03

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45064

Unit Date 1985-1998, undated

Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records of Assistant/Associate Curator Ashley Kistler (1987-1998) mainly related to the 1987 exhibition of the collection. Other restricted files from the Collections Department (RG-03) were not copied. Permission from the Director or Archivist is required to view restricted documents. Additional files related to the Fischer collection are still held by the Collections Department and include information about appraisals, publication history, 1987 exhibition, 1994 interview, and correspondence with Hermann Simon. Permission from the Department is required to view these documents.

Ashley Kistler: German Expressionist Works from the Fischer Collection, 1985-1987

Unit ID RG31.03.0.001

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45075

Unit Date 1985-1987

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 7

Container RG31.03.0.001 (Item)

Language English

Ashley Kistler: Fischer Prints, 1985-1998

Unit ID RG31.03.0.002

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45076

Unit Date 1985-1998

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 8

Container RG31.03.0.002 (Item)

Language English

Ashley Kistler: Fischer Slides

Unit ID RG31.03.0.003

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45077

Unit Date undated

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 9

Container RG31.03.0.003 (Item)

Language English

Series 4: Registration Files

Unit ID RG-31-04

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45065

Unit Date 1987-1989

Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records of Affiliate Loans related to the 1987 exhibition of the collection. Additional files related to the Fischer collection are still held by the Registration Department. Permission from the Department is required to view these documents.

German Expressionist Art: Selections from the Ludwig and Rosy Fischer Collection, 1987-1989

Unit ID RG31.04.0.001

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45078

Unit Date 1987-1989

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 10

Container RG31.04.0.001 (Item)

Language English

Series 5: Communications and Marketing Files

Unit ID RG-31-05

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45066

Unit Date 1995

Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records related to publicity about the donation of the collection.

Fischer Collection, 1995

Unit ID RG31.05.0.001

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45079

Unit Date 1995

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 11
Container RG31.05.0.001 (Item)
Language English

Series 6: Collectors' Circle Files

Unit ID RG-31-06
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45067
Unit Date 1972-1987
Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records related to a declined invitation to Ernst Fischer to participate as 1973 Collector of the Year, as well as events honoring Anne Fischer in connection with the 1987 exhibition.

1971-1972 Season, 1972

Unit ID RG31.06.0.001
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/49181
Unit Date 1972
mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)
Container Folder 12
Container RG31.06.0.001 (Item)
Language English.

1986-1987 Season, 1987

Unit ID RG31.06.0.002
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45080
Unit Date 1987
mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)
Container Folder 13
Container RG31.06.0.002 (Item)
Language English

Series 7: Exhibition Files

Unit ID RG-31-07
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45068
Unit Date 1967-1987, undated
Language English

Scope and Contents

This series is comprised of copies of files from the records of Curator/Curatorial Chair Frederick Brandt (1984-1996) related to the 1987 exhibition of the collection. The original material is located at the Library of Virginia. Proofs of the catalog and exhibition labels were not copied, as well as multiple copies of checklists. Other restricted files from the Exhibitions Department (RG-23) were not copied. Permission from the Director or Archivist is required to view restricted documents.

Fischer Collection: Correspondence, 1967-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.001
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45081
Unit Date 1967-1986
mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)
Container Folder 13
Container RG31.07.0.001 (Item)
Language English

Fischer Collection: Home Collection, Frankfurt, Germany, 1977-1985

Unit ID RG31.07.0.002

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45082

Unit Date 1977-1985

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 14

Container RG31.07.0.002 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Mrs. Ernst Fischer Interview, February 6, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.003

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45083

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 15

Container RG31.07.0.003 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Simon, Fischer, Brandt Meeting, April 7, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.004

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45084

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 16

Container RG31.07.0.004 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Correspondence, 1985

Unit ID RG31.07.0.005

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45085

Unit Date 1985

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 17

Container RG31.07.0.005 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Correspondence, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.006

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45086

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 18

Container RG31.07.0.006 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Correspondence, 1987

Unit ID RG31.07.0.007

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45087

Unit Date 1987

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 19

Container RG31.07.0.007 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Correspondence with Eleanor Hight, 1985-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.008

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45088

Unit Date 1985-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 20

Container RG31.07.0.008 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Publications/Translations, 1985-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.009

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45089

Unit Date 1985-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 21

Container RG31.07.0.009 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Catalogue Correspondence, 1985-1987

Unit ID RG31.07.0.010

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45090

Unit Date 1985-1987

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 22

Container RG31.07.0.010 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Master List, 1981-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.011

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45091

Unit Date 1981-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 23

Container RG31.07.0.011 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Lists of Works, 1985-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.012

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45092

Unit Date 1985-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 24

Container RG31.07.0.012 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Catalog: Text and Footnotes, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.013

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45093

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 25

Container RG31.07.0.013 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Catalog: Text

Unit ID RG31.07.0.014

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45094

Unit Date undated

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 26

Container RG31.07.0.014 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Installation, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.015

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45095

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 27

Container RG31.07.0.015 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Interview, February 6, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.016

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45096

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 28

Container RG31.07.0.016 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Dinner/Event, 1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.017

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45097

Unit Date 1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 29

Container RG31.07.0.017 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Loan to Allegheny Highlands Arts and Crafts, 1985-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.018

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45098

Unit Date 1985-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 30

Container RG31.07.0.018 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Framing, Conservation, Invoices, 1985-1986

Unit ID RG31.07.0.019

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45099

Unit Date 1985-1986

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 31

Container RG31.07.0.019 (Item)

Language English

Fischer Collection: Articles / Research (Note: copied title pages only)

Unit ID RG31.07.0.020

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/45100

Unit Date undated

mixed materials RG-31 Box 1 (box)

Container Folder 32

Container RG31.07.0.020 (Item)

Language English