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Lester M. Chace papers13222633

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Chace, Lester M., Jr., 1925-2005
Title:	Lester M. Chace papers
ID:	13222633
ID:	UA#0138
Date [inclusive]:	1931-2007
Physical Description:	1 linear feet 1 record carton
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Lester M. Chace papers; Box and Folder; University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries.

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Biographical Note

A native of Pekin, Illinois, Lester Merton Chace, Jr. graduated from Columbia College in 1950. At the College, he served as art editor and managing editor of the yearbook, *Columbian*; was a member of staff at the humor magazine, *Jester*; worked at the student radio station WKCR; and was a member of the University Christian Society. Chace attended the Graduate School of Painting and Sculpture for two years.

As a student in 1949, Chace made a portrait of Columbia College Dean Harry J. Carman, who was soon to retire. The portrait appeared in color in the 1950 *Columbian*. After graduation, Chace continued to focus on portraiture and some of his works were commissioned for and donated to the University. Chace was commissioned by Marcellus Hartley Dodge to paint a portrait of Lou Gehrig (1954), which hung over the Hartley Hall fireplace. A year later, Chace's copy of John Trumbull's portrait of Alexander Hamilton hung in in the Columbia College Admissions Office. In 1956, Chace's copy of Irving R. Wiles's portrait of the late Frederick Coykendall was presented to the Columbia University Press. In 1964, Edmund

A. Prentis presented University President Grayson Kirk with Chace's portrait of George Washington, which hung in room 210 Low Library. In addition to these works, the Art Properties Department also holds Chace's portraits of Clement Clarke Moore, Frederick A.P. Barnard and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Outside of Columbia, Chace painted portraits of the Malcolm Forbes family, presidents John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, and first ladies Betty Ford and Jacqueline Kennedy, which once hung at the White House. Chace died in 2005.

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Summary

This collection consists of photographs, articles, reviews, and correspondence related to portrait artist Lester Merton Chace, Jr. CC 1950. The materials were collected and organized by Anne Battley Phipps, BC 1948 and it includes some reminiscences recorded by Anne Phipps.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Published full finding aid. (JR) 2021-07-09

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located offsite. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Accrual

No additions are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

2007.019: Source of acquisition--Anne Battley Phipps. Method of acquisition--Gift.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Joanna Rios in July 2021.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

For information about the Lester M. Chace portraits in the Columbia University art collection, please contact [Art Properties](#).

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Controlled Access Headings

- Portrait painters
- Columbia University -- : Alumni and alumnae

Collection Inventory

Series I: Lester M. Chace papers, 1931-2007

Title/Description	Instances	
Chace, Lynwood M., 1931-1992	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents (Lester Chace's uncle, nature photographer. Animal photographs, prints and in articles. Includes photos of Lester Chace, Jr. and Selma Chace Ballentine by Lynwood Chace. Portrait of Lynwood Chace by Lester Chace.)		
Columbia University, 1946-2007	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents (Press clippings, residence hall receipts, correspondence, alumni magazine articles. Portraits of Clement Clarke Moore, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton.)		
Forbes family, 1962-2006	box 1	folder 3-4
<u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders Scope and Contents (Portraits of Malcolm Forbes's five children and later, correspondence with Christopher Forbes.)		
Letters and articles, 1933-2006	box 1	folder 5-6
<u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders Scope and Contents (Includes biographical sketch, list of known works, newspaper clippings, etc.)		
Portraits, Inc., 1954-1962	box 1	folder 7-8
<u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders		

Scope and Contents

(Photographs of portraits (mostly of children), commissions and sample works for Portraits, Inc. Also includes Portraits, Inc. commission statements.)

Portraits, other, 1971-2007

box 1

folder 9

Scope and Contents

(Photographs of portraits: Anne Phipps, Everett Dickson, Winsor Gale, John Wesley, Jesus Christ, Teddy Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan, Jackie Kennedy, and other Pekin, IL subjects.)

Shelburne Museum, 1962-2007

box 1

folder 10-11

Physical Description: 2 folders

Scope and Contents

(Correspondence with James Watson Webb, Jr. Museum in Shelburne, VT. Portraits of Henry Osborne Havemeyer, Louisine Waldron Elder Havemeyer, James Waston Webb, Electra Havemeyer Webb.)

Sketches, undated

box 1

folder 12

Scope and Contents

(Mostly women's bodies, athletes and dancers, in motion and in repose. One car and one bridge view. On paper and on napkins.)

World War II, 1943-1947

box 1

folder 13

Scope and Contents

(Service photographs, War Department correspondence, allotment envelopes, honorable discharge certificate.)

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